



Livestock & Meat Advisory Council

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OVERVIEW

The milestone 50th National Breed Sale organised by Zimbabwe Herd Book (ZHB) last month sent a positive signal across the economy. It was an important reflection of confidence in the future of agriculture, as well as recognition of the value of improved genetics to national livestock productivity.

This was reflected in the large attendance and strong investment in top livestock genetics. A Brahman bull fetched the highest price of \$24 000, (almost three times last year's top price) with the second highest at \$10 250 for a Tuli bull. The average bull price was \$3 626. Other highest prices were \$2 700 for a Dorper ram; \$1 900 for a Boer goat buck and \$1 600 for a Kalahari Red buck.

Zimbabwe's premier livestock sale offers the cream of the crop of beef and dairy cattle, sheep and goats. This year, 172 stud animals went under the hammer - Brahman, Tuli, Simmental, Santa Gertrudis, Simbrah, Beefmaster and Boran cattle, the Holstein dairy breed, Dorper rams and ewes, Boer goat and Kalahari Red goat buck and does. All animals on sale underwent a strict selection process and veterinary inspection.

ZHB had the vision to incorporate sheep and goats on the National Breed Sale and this has ensured that top livestock genetics are made available annually at one sale for the improvement of the three ruminants that are the mainstay of rural life in Zimbabwe – cattle, sheep and goats.

The 50th Sale took place at a time when herd rebuilding is underway across the country and there is a national drive to realise the full economic benefits of commercial livestock production. Good genetics are an important foundation for livestock productivity.

Globally, genetics are recognised as a key driver in animal productivity. Working hand in hand with ZHB, and using latest global breeding programmes and techniques, Zimbabwe's animal breeder industry is continually improving the productivity potential of different livestock breeds.

Zimbabwe Poultry Association: Poultry Information Day



The Council of the Zimbabwe Poultry Association cordially invite all chicken producers and stakeholders in the poultry sector to a Poultry Information Day

Date: **Wednesday 19th September**

Venue: **ART Farm, Calgary Close, Pomona**

Time: **08.30am**

Cost: **\$15 per person which includes teas and a hot lunch**
Swipe, ecocash and transfer options are available

The draft programme is attached.

Schedule of forthcoming meetings and events: September

Thursday 6 th	Council meeting of the Zimbabwe Poultry Association
Friday 7 th	Council meeting of the Meat Processors Association of Zimbabwe
Thursday 13 th	Open meeting of the Pig Producers Association
Friday 28 th	Council meeting of the Zimbabwe Fish Producers Association

Enclosures

- Draft programme, Zimbabwe Poultry Association Poultry Information Day
- Updates on Foot and Mouth Disease taken from the website of World Animal Health