



Livestock & Meat Advisory Council

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LivestockZimbabwe Update: 24th May 2018

OVERVIEW

The Second Round Crop and Livestock Assessment report has been released and maize production for the 2018/19 season is 776,635mt, 54% less than last season's figure of 1,7 million tonnes. Stocks at the Grain Marketing Board are estimated at 700,000mt and total maize supplies for 2019 is therefore 1,4 million tonnes. Soya bean and cotton production have also declined and it is expected that import support for the deficit will be required much earlier in the year than has been traditionally been the case.

Breeding animals comprising beef bulls and heifers and Boer Goat and Kalahari Red bucks and does, will go under the hammer at the 51st National Breed Sale on July 31st at the Mount Hampden Sale pens. This event is held under the auspices of Zimbabwe Herd Book (ZHB).

ZHB will also be hosting the annual Beef School and in October 2019, the School will be held in Bulawayo under the theme "Innovation and Technologies in the Beef Industry".

Meeting of the Stockfeed Manufacturers Association

The supply of raw materials dominated the discussion at the Council meeting held on 22nd May. An increasing dependence on imports is expected against the backdrop of falling export earnings, making the shortage of hard currency on the open market even more acute. Forward planning will be essential to survive the difficult macro-economic headwinds.

The supply of raw materials to the feed industry is erratic and driven by exchange rate volatility, resulting in price distortions on the market. Prices of stockfeed have risen by at least 20%, also pushing up prices for animal proteins such as chicken and pork.

Annual General Meeting of the Zimbabwe Herd Book

At the AGM, Keith Swales recently stepped down as Chairman of ZHB after 16 years in office. He guided ZHB through the period of the land reform programme and the economic changes in 2008. His hard work and commitment to re-building and growing ZHB is testament to his vision. His stewardship of ZHB through many difficult years has been characterised by innovative ideas, strategic thinking and tireless efforts to increase the visibility and credibility of the Herd Book. The relationships that have been fostered

with breeders ensures that ZHB will continue to prosper and the farming community are indebted to his adept leadership and wise counsel.

John Crawford takes over as Chairman and has been passionately involved in cattle farming from a very tender age and represents three generations of stud breeding in Zimbabwe. He has both shown and judged cattle at agricultural shows and has a genuine desire to improve cattle farming in this country.

Livestock Diary

Monday 17th June: Dorper Society “Hands on Sheep Day”

Thursday 4th July: Poultry Indaba 2019 hosted by the Zimbabwe Poultry Association

Wednesday 17th July: First Goat Indaba hosted by the Goat Breeders Association of Zimbabwe

Wednesday 31st July: National Breed Sale, Mt Hampden Sale Pens

Enclosures

- Notification of the forthcoming Dorper Society Field Day
- Flyer about the forthcoming Fish Farming Training