

AGRI-

Proble

Research and news magazine of the Western Cape Department of Agriculture
Nuus en navorsingstydskrif van die Wes-Kaap Departement van Landbou
UPhando neemagazine zeendaba zeSebe lezoLimo leNtshona Koloni

VOL 2 NO 1 JULIE 2005



Veldverbetering:
wat werk?

LandCare

Agriculture's
budget

Academic achievements

REditorial REdaksioneel

Probe (v) explore or examine; investigate; intended to discover the truth; searching.

As diverse as the activities within the agricultural sector are in wintertime, as diverse are the articles in this issue of AgriPROBE.

We take a closer look at the service delivery priorities of the Department as indicated by the allocation of its annual budget (p 4) - one of the priorities being taking care of our environment through the very successful LandCare programme (p 7).

An important part of the agricultural scene that has been neglected for a long time is the farm worker body. It is undoubtedly true that the mighty agricultural machine would grind to a halt without the more than 220 000 farm workers in this Province. The Department has decided to change this situation by creating a special programme to cater for their needs and to facilitate their development. This programme will not endeavour to address all their needs but will ensure that they are heard and that the relevant government structures, be it Health, Education or Local Government, respond to them. Read more about this programme and its mandate on p 18.

May you enjoy a cosy winter.
Agricultural greetings



Charlene Nieuwoudt
Editor

Indien u enige van die artikels in hierdie tydskrif in een van die ander amptelike tale van die Wes-Kaap benodig, kan u ons gerus kontak om die vertaling daarvan vir u te reël. Kontak die Redakteur op Tel. (021) 808 5008.

If you need any of the articles in this magazine in another of the official languages of the Western Cape, we would be happy to arrange translation for you. Please contact the Editor on Tel. (021) 808 5008.



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Elsenburg Biblioteek

- *kosbare bron van inligting*

Elsenburg Biblioteek voorsien in die inligtingbehoefte van die Departement. Dit is 'n spesiale biblioteek, wat spesialiseer in 'n spesifieke veld - in ons geval landbou en sy verwante terreine. Gebruikers bestaan hoofsaaklik uit landbouwetenskaplikes van die Departement, studente van die Kaapse Instituut vir Landbou-opleiding: Elsenburg en die algemene publiek, insluitende die boerderygemeenskap, skoolkinders, werknemers van landbou-verwante instansies en navorsers van ander tersiêre inrigtings.

Spesiale dienste

"Ons hou Elskat, 'n gerekenariseerde katalogus van alle biblioteekmateriaal beskikbaar in Elsenburg Biblioteek, in stand," sê Wilna Brink, bibliotekaresse. "Dit behels die katalogisering en klassifikasie van alle nuwe en bestaande biblioteekmateriaal. Ons doen ook indeksing van gesikte tydskrifartikels, meestal uit Landbouweekblad en Farmer's Weekly, vir gebruik deur studente, asook artikels wat deur landbouwetenskaplikes van die Departement geskryf is. Alle departementele publikasies word ook in Elskat opgeneem. Daar is tans net meer as 10 000 items in Elskat beskikbaar."

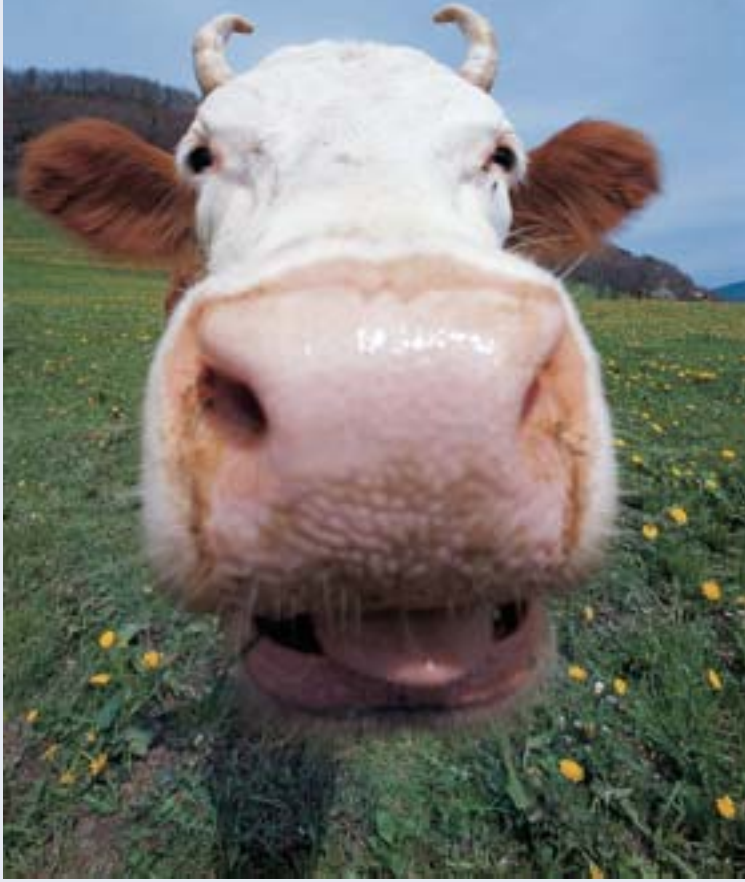
Die biblioteek hanteer daagliks navrae oor 'n wye verskeidenheid van onderwerpe wat verskeie tipes inligting vereis wat wissel van elementêr tot gesofistikeerd. "Ons doen ook inligtingsoektogte op versoek van gebruikers. Die biblioteek het toegang tot SACAT, ISAP (Index to South African Periodicals), CAB-Abstracts, Internet en die katalogus van die J.S.Gericke Biblioteek van die Universiteit van Stellenbosch. Ons is ook lid van Infobank wat aan ons gebruikers maklik en vinnig toegang gee tot die bronne van die Universiteit van Stellenbosch."

Vir nadere besonderhede kontak Wilna Brink by Tel. (021) 808 5390, of wilnab@elsenburg.com

Hunting in Namibia

The season stretches from 1 May to 31 August 2005 for game farms and 1 June to 31 July for other farms. Hunters visiting Namibia are urged to note that a fee of N\$50.00 will be levied for all veterinary health certificates issued. This implies that a fee will be levied for venison over 25kg for which a veterinary health certificate is required.

A closer look... at the budget



Minister Cobus Dowry recently delivered his annual budget speech to Cabinet explaining how the Department of Agriculture's R238 million budget for 2005/06 will be allocated. AgriPROBE brings you a selection of important points.

Daar is een faktor wat landelike ontwikkeling – enige ontwikkeling, enige vorm van vooruitgang en groei – in sy spore sal stuit: 'n gebrek aan water.

'n Studie oor klimaatsverandering en die effek daarvan op landbou sal vanjaar deur die Departement geloods word. Dit sluit onder andere 'n ondersoek na alternatiewe

waterbronne en die ontginning daarvan in. Alternatiewe boerdery metodes en -gewasse sal ook ingesluit word by die studie.

Met 'n uiters lae eenheidsprys vir kleingraan en steeds stygende produksie kostes, loop veral die boere in die Swartland geweldig deur. Die Departement se navorsing is uiters toepaslik om oplossings vir hierdie en soortgelyke situasies te vind. Die fokus bly steeds om deur middel van wisselbou, bewaringsbewerking en die inskakeling van alternatiewe graangewasse soos canola en lupiene, die risiko te verlaag en volhoubare langtermyn-produksiestelsels daar te stel. Resultate toon dan ook duidelik dat ten spyte van die droogte, die wisselbou-bewaringsbewerkingstelsels aansienlik beter finansiële resultate as monokultuur stelsels lewer, asook dat produsente wat die stelsel toepas na 'n droogte, finansiël weer vinniger kan herstel.

Ontledings wys dat die waterverbruik van die Kaapse Metropol binnekort die voorsiening vanuit beskikbare waterbronne gaan oortref. Kompetisie tussen die verskillende verbruikersektore om die beskikbare water gaan dus toeneem. Die besproeiingssektor is verantwoordelik vir ongeveer 50% van totale huidige verbruik en moet dus betrokke raak by die vind van gebalanseerde oplossings.

Die Departement tree pro-aktief op met onder andere 'n program om die werklike waterverbruik deur besproeiing in die belangrikste sektore in die Wes-Kaap te bepaal en vas te stel hoe die waterverbruiksdoeltreffendheid verbeter kan word. Die koste van die projek beloop R615 000 per jaar.

'n Verdere R3 miljoen word spandeer om te bepaal hoe die beskikbare waterbronne in die Oudtshoorn area beter benut kan word tot voordeel van die gemeenskap en wel op so 'n manier dat die houvas van armoede op die voorheen benadeelde gedeelte van die gemeenskap spesifiek aangespreek en verlig word. Die resultate hiervan word teen die einde van die jaar verwag.

“Man - despite his artistic pretensions, his sophistication and his many accomplishments – owes his existence to a six inch layer of topsoil and the fact that it rains.”

WATER

Emerging sector and infrastructure

Approximately a third of the Department's total budget of R238 million is allocated to the Programme for Farmer Support and Development (FSD), while the rest of the programmes also make their contribution to the emerging sector through various projects. The R74,7 million for FSD includes conditional grants such as CASP, the Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme, of R17,2 million which goes towards financing 47 projects for emerging farmers and groups. An additional R11,5 million from the Provincial Infrastructure Grant (PIG) will be spent on approximately 120 food security and land reform projects, while a further R5,6

Approximately a third of the Department's total budget of R238 million is allocated to the Programme for Farmer Support and Development.

million will be used mainly for animal watering structures, contours and drainage projects for communities such as Elim, Suurbraak, Upper-Kouga, Mamre and Ebenhaezer. R 7,6 million will fund other rural infrastructure projects including the upgrading of irrigation canals for the community of Matjiesrivier, an investigation into building a storage dam for Wuppertal and irrigation infrastructure for emerging farmers near Wolseley.

A further R570 000 has been allocated to promote market access for the emerging sector which will encourage sustainable job creation.

Een van die hoekstene van landbou se bydrae tot die ekonomie is doelgerigte voorpunt navorsing. Vir hierdie doel is byna R46 miljoen vir Tegnologie, Navorsing en Ontwikkeling bewillig.

Wat navorsing betref is dit belangrik om te beklemtoon dat dit langtermyn van aard is, met uitkomst gerig op die bevordering van die mededingendheid en volhoubaarheid van die landbousektor van die Provinsie, met ander woorde op ekonomiese groei wat weer werkskepping en – instandhouding tot gevolg het. Inligting, soos gegeneer deur die navorsingsaktiwiteite van die Departement, vorm dan ook die hoeksteen van tegnologie-oordrag en boerderyondersteuningsprogramme aan die totale landbou-gemeenskap van die Wes-Kaap.

“Biotechnology based scientific applications are regarded as the cutting edge frontier in many scientific fields, including agricultural production. The advancement of Biotechnology in South Africa is also a national and provincial priority.

The Western Cape is fortunate to be well endowed with knowledge based scientific institutions and is committed to enhance its status as an African knowledge and science hub.

The Western Cape has an excellent brain trust. However, it can be argued that this brain trust is not yet used to its full

Bykans R46 miljoen is vir navorsing bewillig. Die bevordering van bio-tegnologiese navorsing is 'n provinsiale prioriteit.

NAVORSING

potential to explore next generation possibilities. It follows that an appropriately structured agricultural innovation fund should be established in order to identify and explore those ideas and technologies that will determine the next generations' competitive edge.”

R25,4 miljoen word aangewend vir die befondsing van direkte navorsing, waarvan R9,8 miljoen spesifiek vir diereproduksienavorsing, R8,8 miljoen vir plantproduksienavorsing en R2,6 miljoen vir hulpbrongerigte navorsing aangewend word. 'n Verdere bedrag van ongeveer R2 miljoen

word spesifiek geormerk vir die ontwikkeling en opgradering van navorsingsinfrastruktuur op die sewe proefplase van die Departement. Die rol wat hierdie proefplase as buitelug laboratoria speel vir die demonstrasie van beste landboupraktyke, kan nie onderskat word nie. Dit speel ook 'n sleutelrol in die opleiding van die groeiende opkomende landbousektor van die provinsie.

'n Verdere R18,0 miljoen van die totale begroting word aangewend om die plaas- en geboue-infrastruktuur van die Departement te befonds en in stand te hou.

Veterinary Services: Food Safety

The demands from the growing clientele brought about by increased urbanisation and the ruralisation of the urban environment are also addressed by the Department. People moving into informal settlements from rural areas also bring in many instances their animals along with associated diseases. The Department has for that reason, purchased 90 000 doses of rabies vaccine for this financial year at a cost of R250 000 to vaccinate at least 75% of the susceptible dogs and cats within the informal settlement areas throughout the province.

R580 000 annually will help manage a Provincial Veterinary programme that will address food safety concerns and certification of products from animal origin for export.

The Department embarked on a programme to seek international partners to establish a diagnostic programme to detect dangerous and unwanted chemical and toxic residues in food from animal origin. This programme will be managed by the Provincial Veterinary Laboratory at an estimated annual cost of R580 000. It will help to address growing consumer concerns and demands for food safety assurances and help meet the high standards needed for the certification of products from animal origin intended for export.

LandCare

for the people and the environment



Area wide planning is a comprehensive problem solving process which addresses social, economical and ecological issues in a certain geographical area. The objective of the process is to preserve and improve the condition of the environment through a thorough approach towards the natural resources which integrates and direct local initiatives.

More people are nowadays involved with and are interested in how our natural resources are being managed and protected. Issues that were previously limited to the agricultural community are now becoming important to the wider community. Competition for our natural resources are increasing and area wide planning (LandCare) helps these communities to identify and manage these claims on the resources. In this way needs of the individual, as well as the community, can be addressed through a co-ordinated approach.

“It addresses the state of the environment on a larger scale than an individual conservation plan would,” says Francis Steyn, head of LandCare at the Western Cape Department of Agriculture. “It gives the community the opportunity to identify the value of their natural resources and to determine which actions should be necessary to ensure the sustainability of the area. Slanghoek is a very good example of where exactly this is happening and the whole community is benefiting.”

People and the Environment

Slanghoek LandCare – more than just conservation

Slanghoek - the fertile valley between the mountains behind Goudini near Worcester. The community of this valley has identified various environment related problems which are being addressed as LandCare projects by a team of partners including the Western Cape Department of Agriculture, local land owners, businesses and citizens.

One of these needs is the creation of a footpath of approximately 5km along the main road from Goudini past the Slanghoek cellar. This urgent need was identified after numerous children were hurt or killed on this busy road. The footpath will simultaneously serve as tourism draw card for people who wish to investigate the area by bicycle. Farmers in the region have pledged to make available free labour and equipment for the building of the path, while the District Municipality has promised in the region of R75 000.

Building gabions in the Hoeks River to guard against the heavy winter rains.

Teams in the process of clearing land of invader plants and trees.



The Department is also involved with the rehabilitation of the Hoeks River where valuable agricultural land is annually being washed away during the winter floods. Last year the Department spent approximately R230 000 on rock structures (gabions) to strengthen the walls of the river and to manage the flow of water. This year an additional R165 000 will be allocated towards this highly labour intensive work.

The eradication of alien plants and trees also enjoys priority attention especially in 12 units in the valley that have been set aside for conservation. The Department spends more than R300 000 of which about 82% are for salaries - a significant



Slanghoek LandCare

contribution to the creation of employment. The labourers also receive first aid training as well as training in the identification and eradication of alien vegetation. Their details are then captured in a database to enable farmers or other parties, who also wish to eradicate aliens on their properties, can use already qualified workers.

Another project involves a local primary school. This project started with the rehabilitation of an old 4x4 route where aliens were being eradicated. The primary school has consequently started a nursery where close to 70 000 indigenous plants are being grown to replace these aliens. Trees will also be made available to other schools for Arbour Day. Kirstenbosch,

Nature Conservation, Department of Agriculture and the Department of Forestry are partnering this project.

In an effort to farm this valley sustainably, but also to protect the environment, a comprehensive botanical study was completed on 36 farms. The objective was to determine where there are farming activities, where farmers plan to expand and where the hotspots regarding endangered species are. Consequently 12 pieces of land were identified where farmers plan to expand and which should actually be protected. Various options are being developed in order to motivate farmers to view conservation as first priority.

Readers interested in LandCare can contact Francis Steyn at 021 808 5090 or franciss@elsenburg.com

Groot groentetuin vir Nuwe Begin Skuiling

Die Nuwe Begin Skuiling op Worcester bied op enige gegewe oomblik slaapplek en kos aan tussen 70 en 200 haweloses. Dié instansie is afhanklik van vrywillige bydraes vir hul voortbestaan, maar het onlangs met behulp van insette van die Wes-Kaapse Departement Landbou en ander vennote vanuit die gemeenskap 'n eie groentetuin begin om self in hul behoeftes te voorsien. Departement Landbou het verlede jaar sowat R50 000 vir besproeiing en ander infrastruktuur bygedra en het ook opleiding in groenteverbouing aan die personeel en inwoners gegee. Die Departement se Veldreserwe buite Worcester kweek ook saad sodat groter onmiddellike sukses behaal kan word.



Learners meet Mother Nature

Cobus Dowry, Western Cape Minister of Agriculture recently addressed 150 Grade 6 learners from various schools in the Oudtshoorn district on the farm Minwater of Louis Jordaan. The camp was organised as part of the Department's Junior LandCare programme. The aim of this programme is to create awareness amongst the youth regarding the uniqueness of their environment and how to get involved in the conservation of all natural resources. Learners gained first hand experience regarding the biodiversity of their environment, plants and their medicinal value and various animals of the region.

Familie-emmertuine reusesukses

'n Drupbesproeiingstelsel wat in 'n A4-koevert pas? Voeg slegs 'n 20liter emmer by en jy het 'n stelsel wat 'n groentetuin van sowat 5x6m genoegsaam nat hou om gesonde groente te lewer. Hierdie konsep is onlangs deur Departement Landbou in tien familiegroentetuine in die Zwelentemba-gemeenskap van Worcester geïmplementeer om die eienaars te help om water te bespaar en terselfdertyd groente van kwaliteit te kweek vir hul eie gesinne of om te verkoop. 'n Verdere 25 tuiniers sal eersdaags van hierdie stelsel voorsien word.



Economic Modeling of Wheat Import Tariffs



*Melt van Schoor
Senior Researcher
PROVIDE Project*

It is a difficult time for wheat farmers in the Western Cape, who are faced with lowered yields per hectare due to insufficient rainfall, combined with lower revenue per ton as a result of cheap imports. There are fears of a large-scale collapse in the industry.

Wheat farmers have lobbied government to impose protective import tariffs, arguing that cheap imports are caused by subsidized production in developed countries, and that tariffs are much lower than is necessary given our international commitments. They also point to the large population of farm workers and dependents that will suffer if the farmers cannot survive financially.

The other side of the argument is the one that has been responsible for opening up the SA economy to foreign competition in the first place: free trade, as a rule, makes economic sense and leads to higher national welfare.

The PROVIDE project, funded by the provincial and national departments of agriculture, and situated at Elsenburg, is currently undertaking a study that could help put the latter argument into perspective.

Using a computable general equilibrium model and a detailed economic database, higher wheat tariffs are simulated for

the SA economy. It is essential to model the entire economy, and not just the wheat industry, because of economic interconnectedness. Apart from increasing wheat producers' revenue, higher wheat tariffs have other effects:

- ▷ Downstream industries are hurt because their input costs rise.
- ▷ Higher cost of living, particularly low-income households.
- ▷ By reducing imports, the trade balance is improved and the Rand strengthens, which hurts export industries.
- ▷ Paradoxically, levying higher tariffs may lead to *reduced* tariff revenue to government, because of declining imports.
- ▷ Scarce capital is drawn towards the protected sector, implying forgone investment in other, more intrinsically profitable sectors.

The model simulation, taking a long-term view, identifies and quantifies these effects. The picture that emerges is that of highly concentrated benefits to wheat farmers and farm workers, with widely dispersed, but higher, costs to the rest of the economy. The net loss to the economy amounts to R257 million per year if the tariff rate is raised by 25 percentage points.

The implication is simple and stark: if wheat farming is not financially feasible over the long term for some producers, they need to consider their options to reduce their dependence thereon.

Contact Melt van Schoor at 021 808 5187 or meltvs@elsenburg.com

meet our experts



Nelmarie Visser
Scientist: Veld research
Institute for Plant Production

After receiving a BSc-degree from the University of the Orange Free State, she obtained an MSc (Wildlife Management) in 1996 at the University of Pretoria. Her thesis was based on an ecological study of and a management plan for a nature reserve in the Limpopo Province.

In the Institute for Plant Production she is responsible for research pertaining to restoration ecology that includes the restoration of bare patches in the Great Karoo, where different restoration techniques are being tested; the improvement of veld dominated by unpalatable *Pteronia* spp. in the Little Karoo by looking at brush cutting at different heights as a means of control of the dominant species; and testing and multiplication of seed of indigenous karoobossies and grass species in the Western Cape. This research is important in light of the threat of desertification and the Conventions that were signed by the National Government on Biodiversity and Combating Desertification. She's also involved in research regarding the invasive alien plant species, *Prosopis*, by focusing on the recovery of veld after control of *Prosopis*. She attended the

31st Annual Natural Areas Conference in Chicago last year and also visited New Mexico in the USA, *Prosopis*'s original habitat, to gain more information and was also invited to give a lecture at the USDA Agricultural Research Service (Jornada Experimental Range) on the New Mexico State University campus. She has successfully applied for international funding for some of her projects and also handles enquiries regarding veld management and offers expert advice to landowners in the arid areas.

She has been invited to give an annual lecture at the University of Stellenbosch for the MSc (Ecological Assessment) course. She has been a mentor for 2 MSc students, as well as co-supervisor for one of them. She acts as external examiner of post-graduate studies at MSc level for the University of Stellenbosch and referees articles for an international scientific journal.

Since Nelmarie joined the Department, there has been a marked improvement in collaboration between the Department of Agriculture and various conservation organisations. Consequently, she also now serves on the steering committees of the Greater Cederberg Biodiversity Corridor and the Arid Zone Ecology Forum.

Goue Herefords



Hierdie twee Hereford bulle van Phillip de Waal (links) van die Locheim Stoetery in die Moorreesburg-omgewing het onlangs goue meriete status ontvang na afloop van hul 84 dae by die Wes-Kaapse Buldoetsentrum op Eisenburg. Bulle wat aan dié toets deelneem, word geëvalueer in terme van onder andere voeromsetting en groei-doeltreffendheid.

Belangstellende boere is welkom om vir Johan van der Merwe (regs), sentrumbestuurder en verbonde aan die Wes-Kaapse Departement Landbou, te kontak by 021-808 5222.

nusus
nusus

SEB-dokument oorhandig

Die Wes-Kaapse Regering is daarop ingestel om doelgerig die ongeregtighede van die verlede uit te wis, het Minister Cobus Dowry tydens die oorhandiging van 'n SEB-dokument op die Mooigezicht-landgoed in die Hexriviervallei gesê. Volgens hom behoort die bemagtigingsprojek by Mooigezicht as een van die voorbeelde in die landbou beskou te word. Departement Landbou sal verseker dat alle bydraes ten opsigte van die finale SEB-dokument ernstig in oënskou geneem sal word. Hier ontvang Minister Dowry die dokument van Augustinus Hendricks van NAFU (links) en van



Wild markwaardes

- ekonomiese fokus op die Blesbok

Riaan Nowers, Jacques Murdoch en
Lozelle du Plessis
Landbou-ekonomie

Die Blesbok kry sy naam van die prominente wit 'bles' op sy voorkop wat anders as by die Bontebok, onderbreek word deur 'n dun bruin bandjie. Hierdie twee boksoorte is nou verwant en verkies soortgelyke habitate. Beide is grasvreters wat Hoëveld graslande naby permanente water verkies aangesien hul daaglik 'n waterbehoefte het. Gedurende die warm tye in die dag sal hulle dieper in skaduryke bosse beweeg. In baie warm weer sal die diere met 'n kop laag gehou teen die son staan. Beide geslagte Blesbok het sterk geribte horings wat strooikleurig op die punte is – vergelyk dit met die eenvormige swart horings van die Bontebok.



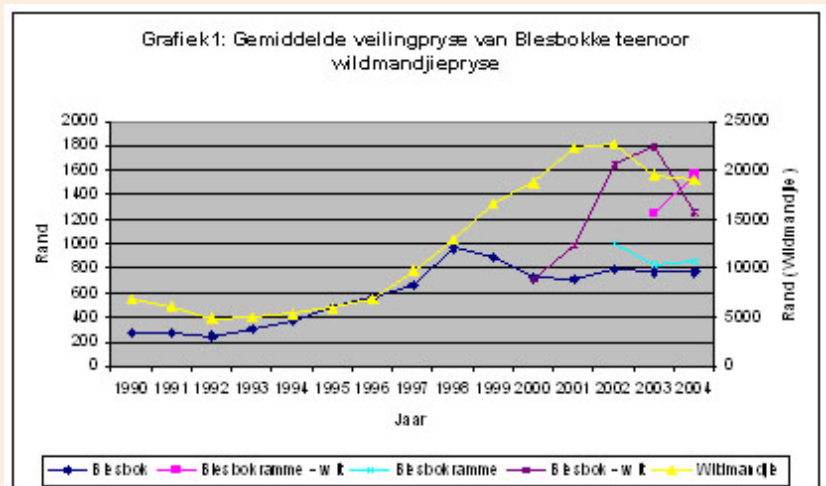
Weidingstatus: Hoofsaaklik 'n grasvreter wat veral korter grasse verkies
Skouerhoogte: 95 cm (manlik); 90 cm (vroulik)
Massa: 70 kg (m); 61 kg (f)
Dragtigheidsperiode: 246 dae
Rekordlengte van horings: 51 cm

Blesbokke plant voort op stimulasie van dagliglengte met paring wat normaalweg Maart tot Mei plaasvind. Die dragtigheidsperiode van 246 dae lei tot piek geboortes in November en Desember, maar ook in Januarie. Kalwers weeg 6-7 kg en word op vier maande ouderdom gespeen. Kalwers kan binne 30 minute na geboorte saam met die res van die trop hardloop. Vroulike diere is volwasse op 2-3 jaar en het 'n lewensverwachting van so 13 jaar. Blesbokpopulasies groei gemiddeld jaarliks teen 20%. Sosiale strukture wissel seisoenaal aangesien haremtroupe van 2-25 vroulike diere deur volwasse ramme bymekaar gemaak word in territoria van 1-4 ha in Gauteng en 5-10 ha in KwaZulu-Natal.

Blesbokke is populêr by wildboere aangesien hul bewegings beheer kan word deur standaard veeheining. Die genetiese verbastering tussen die Blesbok en die Bontebok is egter beide 'n praktiese en etiese probleem wat ongelukkig steeds in Suid-

Afrika voorkom.

Indien na die wildpryse van Blesbokke in Tabel 1 gekyk word sien ons dat die mark differensieer tussen gewone Blesbokke en kleurvariante. Dit wil voorkom of Blesbokpryse sedert 1998 gestabiliseer het wat moontlik 'n aanduiding is dat die betrokke mark 'n versadigingspunt bereik het, aangesien dit nie tred gehou het met die prysvlakke van die wildmandjie nie – sien Grafiek 1. Hierteenoor het die pryse van wit Blesbokke skerp toegeneem in 2002 en 2003 waarna dit teruggesak het in 2004 na 'n vlak van 63.7% hoër as dié van gewone Blesbokke.



Tabel 1: Gemiddelde veilingpryse in Rand van Blesbokke (1990-2004)

SPESIE	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
Blesbok	264	272	246	299	360	475	566	661
SPESIE	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	
Blesbok	963	890	725	703	794	766	855	
Blesbokramme					998	828	855	
Blesbok - wit			702	988	1651	1795	1257	
Blesbokramme - wit						1243	1566	

RESEARCH

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The Institute for Animal Production is composed of dedicated scientists, technicians and laboratory staff with supporting personnel and extensive facilities spread over five research farms. The primary responsibility of the Institute is research of the feeding, breeding and management of domestic livestock in the Western Cape. Research of game farming is under consideration. The ultimate goal is to assist both emerging and commercial farmers to improve financial returns from livestock production. It is noteworthy that livestock production in the Western Cape is often a secondary enterprise run in conjunction with a primary cropping enterprise which enhances the financial returns of the whole farming enterprise through diversification.

Characteristically livestock production provides people with food with a high nutritional value containing ingredients essential for normal growth and development. The by-products of animal production includes useful items such as leather, wool and ostrich feathers. The current research programmes of the Institute embraces investigations with dairy cattle, sheep, ostriches and aquaculture in order to provide these products to local consumers.

Although the main task of the Institute is research and technology transfer, researchers are often involved with extension, especially by providing expert advice to other scientists, farmers and extension staff. The Animal Production laboratories not only provide support for research, but also assist farmers and related industries with investigations.

Trials are run continuously at the Institute for Animal Production, and it is noteworthy that a primary function of its scientists is to keep up with developments in their respective fields of expertise throughout the world. They must filter

useful information for local application and pass these findings on to producers in addition to the findings of their own trials. A thorough knowledge and understanding of local conditions is required and close cooperation with farmers and their associated institutions must be maintained in order to determine needs and problems which can be prioritised for coming research programmes. The researchers at the Institute are very proud that they work in close cooperation with most South African universities, some technikons and a number of overseas researchers.

A list of current investigations is too long to be included in a brief summary such as this. Suffice it to say that many trials are run concurrently, some being conducted over a period of many years, whereas others are completed and findings are available within a period of months. In order to manage such a big programme and run trials simultaneously with a relatively small team of workers, researchers have to plan resource allocations and the working time of personnel with great care in order to synchronise events effectively while ensuring that materials and other necessities are available when required. Another prominent feature of livestock research is that a very extensive field of science is covered which requires scientists and technicians with a wide diversity of knowledge, abilities and skills. Furthermore, because of a shortage of people with the necessary skills and experience, the scientists and technicians at Animal Production work long hours.

It is common knowledge that many trained and highly capable scientists have been leaving the country with a resulting drain of capabilities away from South Africa. The scientists of the Institute have for a number of years recruited young scientists to work in their programmes in order to provide for a next generation of trained scientists who can serve the local community through research. These young scientists are allowed full access to all the facilities of the Institute and some of their salaries are paid by the Department, whereas others are funded from the private sector. Most importantly, because these young scientists work under the mentorship of experienced older scientists, their capabilities are developed rapidly and the essential experience and vi-



sion, without which research cannot be undertaken effectively, is imparted to them under optimal conditions.

Ostrich farming

Some of the notable successes over recent years came from work to improve the viability of ostrich farming which is the result of research which was undertaken in association with the private sector. This research provided a better understanding of ostrich nutrition and produced data for calculating breeding values for important production traits in ostriches. In view of the financial and disease difficulties facing the ostrich industry, this work is of vital importance to maintain an industry which is a major source of income and job opportunities for all the ostrich producing areas of South Africa. Professor Tertius Brand of the Institute is well on the way of providing the industry with feeding values which will be used to model the nutrient requirements of ostriches at different production levels. It is expected that this model will significantly reduce the input costs of ostrich production.

Dairy

The Western Cape, which provides almost a quarter of the total fresh milk production of South Africa, is one of the most important milk producing areas of South Africa. It has been said that the researchers at Outeniqua and Elsenburg do not only serve the farmers of the Western Cape, but, because they serve neighbouring milk producing areas as well, support half the milk production in South Africa. Through research into better feeding and management practices higher milk production can be achieved, while breeding and feeding programmes have been directed toward investigating ways to improve milk quality. Dr Carel Muller recently completed an investigation into the breeding values of South African milk goats (see p.14) and Dr Robin Meeske is a renowned speaker throughout South Africa on silage for milk production. Dr Meeske works in close collaboration with Dr Philip Botha of the Plant Production Institute on the use of pastures for milk production.

Sheep

Farming with sheep is a major agricultural enterprise in the Western Cape and neighbouring provinces. Research to enhance sheep production has yielded a better understanding of the nutrient needs of sheep and breeding research has significantly improved wool quality. The fine wool line developed at Tygerhoek is well-known and Professor Schalk Cloete has shown that breeding for fertility is possible.

A recent addition to the Institute's activities has been the

establishment of a Molecular Laboratory where DNA has been extracted from sheep as well as ostriches. The ostrich DNA will initially be used for parent identification in the case of breeding groups. The sheep DNA will be used to compare two breeding lines to see if QTL's (quantitative trait loci) related to production traits in these lines can be found. The future application of this technology is expected to be a major boost for current breeding research.

Percherons

Elsenburg is well-known for its Percheron horses. These animals are currently kept for the preservation of a genepool of traction animals. Stallions are regularly sold to various institutions to this end and mares are often brought to Elsenburg for mating. Some horses have been trained to pull a carriage and the objective is to use this means of transport for small groups of visitors to Elsenburg.

A question of ethics

Around the world livestock production is associated with ethical issues which include matters such as animal welfare and the use of manmade chemicals which can be dangerous to the environment. To ensure that all the animals in the care of the Institute are managed in an acceptable manner, especially where animals are used for research, all the projects implemented by the Institute must first be approved by an Animal Ethics Committee. The Ethics Committee is chaired by Dr Peter Koen, veterinarian and Deputy Director, Veterinary Services. Research to address the problems associated with the use of chemicals for disease control, including the use of insecticides, is currently being undertaken by Ms Ansie Scholtz. She recently produced data confirming that environmentally friendly procedures for blowfly control are effective.



In the field of aquaculture, research undertaken by the Institute has shown that rock lobster puruli can be successfully harvested from the sea. Furthermore, research into and the establishment of small-scale aquaculture projects amongst formerly disadvantaged communities was achieved through cooperation with the University of Stellenbosch.

Academic

Die onlangse Stellenbosch Universiteit was ook vir die Depa
Drie doktorsgrade en 'n meestersgraad later het ons

Dr Carel Muller: melkbokke vir Afrika

Die studie het gehandel oor die beraming van genetiese parameters en die opstel van 'n teeltprogram vir melkbokke in die nasionale kudde. Die studie is uniek aangesien dit die eerste keer is dat so 'n ontleding vir die melkbokbedryf gedoen is. Bepaalde probleme is met die ontleding van die data ondervind. Onder andere is daar min melkbokke in die nasionale kudde, terwyl min produsente ook melkaantekening doen. Stamboominsigting van diere het ook ontbreek en daar is min genetiese koppeling tussen kuddes. Daar is egter tans toenemend belangstelling na suiwelprodukte wat van bokmelk gemaak word. Dit is veral die groeiende toerismebedryf in Suid-Afrika en al hoe meer kosmopolitaanse omgewing in die groot stede wat hiertoe bydra. Dit word ook in sommige gevalle as 'n gesondheidsmiddel gebruik. Aan die ander kant is melkbokke ideaal vir die produksie van melk onder kleinboertoestande en maak hulle reeds vir baie jare op die platteland 'n groot bydrae tot voedselsekureit binne arm gemeenskappe. Melkbokke benut nie net gras nie, maar is ook sterk struikvreter. In Suid-Afrika is daar reeds van die vroegste tye met melkbokke geboer. Met die besoek van Simon van der Stel aan Namakwaland in 1661, is melkbokke onder die plaaslike bevolking aangetref. Hierdie bokke het 'n Nubiese voorkoms gehad wat beteken dat hul oorsprong iewers in Noord-Afrika was. Die hedendaagse melkbokke (Saanens) is in die beginjare veral van Switserland ingevoer. Hierdie diere het 'n groot bydrae gelewer tot die ontwikkeling van die intensiewe melkproduksiestelsels in Suid-Afrika. Beide kommersiële en kleinboere het 'n teeltprogram vir hul kuddes nodig. Hiervoor is insigting oor die melkproduksie en –samestelling van individuele bokke nodig. Die stamboom van elke bok binne die nasionale kudde wat produksiesyfers het, is gebruik om oorerflikhede van bepaalde produksieparameters te bereken. Hiermee is die moontlikheid geskep om teeltwaardes van individuele diere te beraam. Die genetiese vermoëns van alle diere binne 'n ras kan dus beraam word en op dié manier kan alle diere oor kuddes en oor jare met mekaar vergelyk word. Met die genetiese meriete van elke dier bekend, kan seleksie toegepas word. Met hierdie studie is die teeltwaardes van diere beraam en bestaan die moontlikheid om die genetiese vordering in die nasionale kudde te verhoog.



Dr Johan Labuschagne: rye/clover pastures

His study looked at nitrogen management strategies on perennial ryegrass-white clover pastures in the Western Cape Province.

The response of perennial ryegrass-white clover pastures to fertiliser N is complex and difficult to manage, mainly as a result of the different responses of the companion

crops to fertiliser N application. The study was initiated to develop fertiliser N strategies with the aim of minimizing the negative effect of the winter gap on fodder flow management. Glasshouse and field trials were done to develop a better understanding of the response of perennial ryegrass and white clover plants, either singularly or as companion crops in a mixed pasture, to environmental factors likely to restrict plant performance during the cool season in the Western Cape Province. Glasshouse studies were done to evaluate the effect of soil temperature, soil water potential and growing season on the response of perennial ryegrass and white clover to different N rates under controlled conditions. Simultaneously a field study

was done to evaluate the effect of 0, 50, 100 and 150 kg N ha⁻¹ applied as a single dressing in autumn, early winter, late winter, early spring or late spring on dry matter production, clover content and forage quality. Soil ammonium-N and nitrate-N dynamics were attended to during all studies.

Results showed that the calculation of the required N input (fertiliser N + recycled N) at a known initial clover percentage is strongly influenced by the productivity of the pasture, the season when applied and the predicted clover percentage at the end of the first regrowth cycle. Multiple regression lines were developed for each of the three years covered by the study. Using these regression lines shows great potential in calculating the desired fertiliser N rate, the resultant expected primary dry matter production and maintaining a clover content of between 30 and 50% as recommended. Verifying the regression lines on independent data will be instrumental in the development of a strategic N fertiliser programme successfully addressing low dry matter production during the cool season whilst maintaining the sensitive grass-legume dynamics in perennial ryegrass-white clover pastures.

achieveers

Departement van Landbou: Wes-Kaap 'n akademiese hoogtepunt.
rede om trots te wees op ons navorsers en opleiers.



Clement Cupido: Karoo veldtoestande

Clement was 'n student van die Wes-Kaapse Departement van Landbou se program vir Jong Professionele Persone by die Instituut vir Plantproduksie op Elsenburg, en het sy MSc(Agric)-graad *cum laude* ontvang. Sy tesis, onder leiding van Prof Sue Milton (US) en Nelmarie Visser (Instituut vir Plantproduksie), het gehandel oor die assessering van veldbestuurpraktyke en -toestand in die Klein Karoo. Die navorsing dien as basis vir die veldnavorsingsprogram van die Instituut en is ondersteun deur die Volstruis Besigheidskamer, wat die projek gedeeltelik befonds het. Die studie gee waardevolle inligting t.o.v demografie van Klein-Karoboere, volstruisboerdery, persepsies en kennis van boere i.v.m. veldbestuurspraktyke, beweidingstelsels, veebelading, veldbenutting en veldassessering, skeiding van veldsoorte, veld rehabilitasie, beheer van indringerplante en boere se kennis van wetgewing. Belangrike agtergrond rakende die Klein Karoo is gekry, en toekomstige navorsingsbehoefte in die gebied is geïdentifiseer. Die studie bevestig dat vryparende volstruisboerdery die grootste effek het op veldagteruitgang in die streek het en dat huidige beweidingstelsels nie ekologies aanvaarbaar is nie. Daar is ook bevind dat daar 'n korrelasie is tussen veldtoestand en plantspesiedigtheid in

die Sukkulente Karoo. Dertens het die studie gewys dat daar 'n positiewe korrelasie is tussen die semi-subjektiewe opnamemetode wat gebruik is en die konvensionele puntopnamemetode wat deurgaans deur die Wes-Kaap se Departement van Landbou gebruik word vir veldtoestandbepalings.

Clement is sedert 2002 deel van ons navorsingspan en het aan verskeie kongresse deelgeneem. Hy het toekennings ontvang vir die beste plakkaat deur 'n jong wetenskaplike by die Arid Zone Ecology Forum se konferensie van 2002, en en sy praatjie by die tweede gesamentlike kongres van die WVSA/SAVVV in 2004, is ge-nomineer as een van die beses deur 'n jong wetenskaplike. Hy is pas permanent aangestel as Veldnavorsers by die Instituut vir Plant-produksie op Elsenburg.



Dr Alwyn Louw: waarom val studente uit?

Sy onderwerp: *Staking van studies aan landbou-opleidings-instellings: waarskynlike oorsake en moontlike strategieë vir studente-ondersteuning.*

Studente-uitval aan hoër onderwys-instellings in Suid-Afrika is 'n aspek wat toenemend aandag van verskeie belanghebbendes ontvang vanweë die verskeie nadelige gevolge wat dit vir studente, die instelling en die ekonomie van die land inhou. Opleidingsinstellings in die hoër onderwys wat landbou as studieprogram aanbied het ook met hierdie probleem te kampe. Ongeveer 'n kwart van die studente wat tot die meeste landbou-opleidingsinstellings in Suid-Afrika toegelaat word, staak studies vrywilliglik of omdat hulle daartoe gedwing word. Die meeste van die stakings geskied óf gedurende óf aan die einde van die eerste studiejaar. Tesame met probleme rondom die staking van studies, is die lae deurvloeiysifers van studente aan hoër onderwysinstellings ook kommerwekkend.

Die hoofdoel van die studie was om te bepaal waarom studente studies staak, of waarom studente langer neem as die minimum toegelate tyd om hulle studies te voltooi. Om dit te verwesenlik is daar gepoog om beide 'n internasionale en 'n nasionale perspektief oor studente-uitval in die algemeen te verkry, asook om vas te stel watter faktore verantwoordelik is vir suksesvolle studies van studente, of daartoe bydra. Hierdie literatuurperspektiewe is aangevul deur 'n kwalitatiewe ondersoek by studente wat spesifiek aan landbou-opleidingsinstellings in die hoër onderwys uitgeval het.

Die studie het aangetoon dat uitval hoofsaaklik aan akademiese en/of sosiale oorsake gewyt kan word. Hierdie oorsake het die gevolg dat onvoldoende integrasie – wat noodsaaklik is vir suksesvolle studies - plaasvind. Gebrekkige deelname van studente aan sosiale aktiwiteite of die afwesigheid van genoegsame geleentheid tot sosiale aktiwiteite by landbou-opleidingsinstellings is byvoorbeeld van die redes waarom studente op 'n onvoldoende wyse sosiaal integreer. Nadat die waarskynlike redes vir studente-uitval vasgestel is, is 'n teoretiese raamwerk wat studente-uitval aan landbou-opleidingsinstellings moontlik verklaar, daargestel. Die raamwerk poog om studente-uitval vanuit die agtergrond van die student tesame met verskeie faktore wat student- of instellingsverwant is en wat verantwoordelik is vir onvoldoende integrasie, te verklaar.

Natuurlike veld beslaan ongeveer 70% van die Wes-Kaap. Groot dele hiervan is egter in 'n swak toestand as gevolg van verkeerde bestuurspraktyke wat oor jare toegepas is. Hierdie veld kan in die meeste gevalle oor die korttermyn nie net deur die onttrekking van vee of verandering in bestuurspraktyke verbeter word nie, hoofsaaklik vanweë die lae reënval in die meeste van dié gebiede. In die Klein Karoo alleen kom meer as 100 000ha outlande voor wat nie meer vir die verbouing van graan of ander gewasse gebruik word nie. Hulle word deur kraalbos en ander onsmaklike bossies en struik gedomineer, en het sodoende nie veel nut vir die boer nie.

Een manier om die veld te verbeter is deur die insaai van saad van inheemse spesies. Tans word saad van drie verskillende hoogs smaaklike spesies, nl. hartbeesgras (*Chaetobromus dregeanus*), bietou (*Tripterys sinuata*) en haarbossie (*Hirpicium integrifolium*), op die Worcester Veldreservaat op grootskaal vermeerder en aan boere en navorsers beskikbaar gestel. Roosmaryn (*Eriocephalus africanus*), 'n ander smaaklike bossie, word ook in kleiner hoeveelhede vermeerder. Aanvraag vir hierdie saad kom van oor die hele land en selfs vanuit buurlande. 'n Groot behoefte bestaan egter vir ander spesies en ook spesies van die somerreënvalstreek.

'n Projek is geloods om nog spesies wat vir veldverbetering gebruik kan word te identifiseer en wat dan op groot skaal vermeerder kan word. Hierdie kan saad wees van pionierspesies, soos vygies, tot sogenaamde klimaksspesies, soos karoobietou wat ook 'n goeie weidingswaarde het. Saad van 'n verskeidenheid spesies met wisselende weidingswaardes word geteiken, omdat die pionierplante wat eerste vestig 'n mikroklimate skep wat toestande vir die meer smaaklike spesies (klimaksspesies) gunstiger maak om te ontkiem en te vestig.

Saad is vanaf 2001 op verskillende plekke oor die provinsie versamel, maar weens die huidige droogte-toestande is saad in die laaste tyd slegs in die winterreënvalstreek versamel, naamlik naby Vredendal, Worcester, Barrydale en Sutherland. Hierdie spesies sluit in: vaalbietou (*Chrysanthemoides incana*), wortelgras (*Chaetobromus schraderi*) en roosaadgras (*Ehrharta*



Haarbossie (*Hirpicium integrifolium*)

Veldverb wat v

calycina) in die Vredendal-omgewing; hartbeesgras (*Chaetobromus dregeanus*), kleinsaad-klappiesbrak (*Tetragonia fruticosa*) en grootsaad-klappiesbrak (*Tetragonia hirsuta*) naby Worcester; bloublommetjie (*Felicia muricata*) en kapokbos (*Eriocephalus ericoides*) naby Barrydale en roggras (*Secale africanum*) in die Sutherland-omgewing.

Die saad is oor 'n tydperk van 2 jaar in 'n kweekhuis ontkiem, waar hulle daaglik natgemaak is, teen wind en reën beskerm is, maar die temperatuur nie gereguleer is nie. Na twee jaar het kapokbos (75% ontkieming) wat naby Barrydale en hartbeesgras (50% ontkieming) wat in die omgewing van Worcester versamel is, die beste ontkiemingspotensiaal getoon. Kapokbos word aanbeveel om in April en Mei gesaai te word wanneer hul ontkieming die hoogste is en hartbeesgras moet verkieslik van Februarie tot April gesaai word, in die tweede jaar nadat dit geoes is.



Roosmaryn/Kapokbos
(*Eriocephalus africanus*)

oetering: verk?

Klein- en grootsaad-klappiesbrak het na 'n tydperk van 4 jaar nog geen ontkieming getoon nie.

Die verskillende spesies se sade is aan verskeie toetse onderwerp om te bepaal of enige saadrus/narypwordingsperiode moontlik opgehef kan word en ontkieming sodoende verbeter kan word. Slegs kapokbos en vaalbietou het beter ontkiem as gevolg van sommige van die behandelings, op die res van die spesies het die verskillende toetse nie 'n noemenswaardige uitwerking gehad nie. Om die ontkieming van vaalbietou te verbeter moet die saad vir 24 uur in 1% rookwater geweek word. Hieruit kan afgelei word dat 'n veldbrand moontlik die ontkieming van vaalbietou kan stimuleer. Volgens Albertus Dyason van Department Landbou op Vredendal, word goeie sukses ook behaal as die sade van vaalbietou geplant word terwyl die vruggie nog groen is.



Nelmarié Visser
Instituut vir Plantproduksie

Vars saad van roggras ontkiem uitstekend in die herfs met 100% ontkieming van saad wat intakt gesaai is. Hierna neem die ontkieming geleidelik af oor 'n tydperk van een jaar. In die eerste jaar na ontkieming was die ontkiemingspersentasie deurgaans bo 40% en die saad wat uitgedop is, het 'n hoër ontkiemingspersentasie behaal. Daar word aanbeveel dat die saad in die somer (vanaf Desember) gesaai word, veral soos die saad verouder.

Saad wat oor 'n tydperk van meer as twaalf jaar vir navorsingsdoeleindes versamel is en wat op die Veldreservaat in die koelkamer teen 5°C gestoor is, is aan ontkiemingstoetse onderwerp by twee verskillende temperatuur naamlik 15°C en 20°C. Hierdie was sade van 32 verskillende spesies wat oor die hele winterreënstreek versamel is vanaf die laat 80's tot vroeë 90's. Slegs vier spesies het die potensiaal getoon om na 10-13 jaar steeds 'n ontkiemingspotensiaal van meer as 45% tot 88% te hê. Hierdie spesies was kleinvyebos (*Ruschia caroli*), boontjiekaroo (*Indigofera sessilifolia*), kankerbos (*Sutherlandia frutescens*) en bloublommetjie (*Filicia muricata*). Kankerbos en kleinvyebos moet verkieslik in die herfs tot vroeë winter gesaai word, terwyl bloublommetjie en boontjiekaroo in die lente tot vroeë somer gesaai moet word. Redelike vars saad (jonger as 2 jaar) van bloublommetjie ontkiem nie baie goed nie.

Enige saad wat in die veld gesaai word, moet na reën gesaai word en waar moontlik moet die grond effens los gemaak word of dit moet onder 'n ander bos/struik (moederplant) gesaai word.

Die projek is steeds aan die gang en tans word kort- en langbeenboesmangras (*Stipagrostis obtusa* en *S. ciliata*), klossiegras (*Chloris virgata*), bosluisgras (*Eragrostis echinocloidea*) en vingerhoedgras (*Fingerhuthia africana*), almal vanuit die Groot Karoo, se ontkiemingsvermoë en geskiktheid vir veldverbetering ondersoek.

Indien u saad op u plaas beskikbaar het wat ons kan gebruik in ons toetse, kan u een van ondergenoemde persone kontak. Die saad sal deur ons geoes word.

Kontak Nelmarié Visser by 021-808 5330 of [nelmariev@elsenburg.com](mailto:nelmariév@elsenburg.com) of Hannes Botha van die Worcester Veldreservaat by 023 347 1121 of hannesb@elsenburg.com



Bietou (*Tripteris sinuata*)

PLAASW vennote in v

Hiermee 'n kort oorsig oor die vestiging en werksaamhede van die subprogram: Plaaswerker Ontwikkeling binne die program: Ondersteuning en Ontwikkeling van Landbouers.

Danie Niemand is sedert Mei 2004 verantwoordelik vir vestiging van die sub-program: Plaaswerker Ontwikkeling. Plaaswerkers is 'n baie belangrike teiken groep wat vir 'n baie lang tyd nie sy regmatige deel en aandag binne regeringstrukture gekry het nie, grootliks as gevolg van onvoldoende befondsing. Die Departement van Landbou is deur die kabinet getaak om in samewerking met ander departemente en rolspelers, verantwoordelikheid vir die ontwikkeling van plaaswerkers te neem.

Eerstens moes al die departemente en rolspelers wat regstreeks met plaaswerkerontwikkeling te make het, geïdentifiseer word sodat kommunikasie en koördinering op gevestig kon word. Daarbenewens was dit ook belangrik om die boodskap dat Landbou nie die wiel wou herontwerp nie, maar dat ons eerder hande wou vat met al die ander departemente en rolspelers wat reeds by plaaswerkerontwikkeling betrokke was. Die plaaswerker-gemeenskappe is oor soveel jare gemanipuleer en benadeel dat op alle vlakke na hulle ontwikkeling gekyk moet word.

Op 17 en 18 Augustus 2004 het 'n Plaaswerker Indaba te Elsenburg plaasgevind, en dit is met vyf streekkonferensies in November en Desember 2004 opgevolg wat 'n proses aan die gang gesit het wat uiteindelik sal lei tot die ontwikkeling van 'n strategiese plan vir plaaswerkers binne die provinsie. Dit is 'n tydsame proses — al die relevante

**Education is the great engine of personal
the daughter of a peasant can become a
become the head of the mine, and that a
president of a great nation. It is what we
are given, that separates one person**

rolspelers en die plaaswerkers word betrek, en deursigtigheid is belangrik. Daar is te lank vir en namens plaaswerkers gepraat.

'n Volledige verslag oor die uitkomst en verwagtinge van die Indaba en streekkonferensies is aan die kabinet voorgelê. Die doelwit is om 'n finale strategiese plan vir plaaswerkers teen Augustus 2005 gereed te hê vir implementering.

Die subprogram se strategiese doelwitte is kortliks die volgende:

- Die fasilitering van opleiding - formeel en informeel
- Die fasilitering van landbou vaardigheidsontwikkeling
- Hulp aan projekte wat voedselsekuriteit bevorder en verbeter
- Die vestiging van 'n verwysingsstelsel (referral system) om met alle ander staatsdepartemente en rolspelers te koördineer en saam te werk (seamless government) om 'n diens aan plaaswerkers te lewer wat in hul behoeftes voorsien.

Opleiding

Ten opsigte van formele opleiding wil ons deur middel van beurse die geleentheid skep om aan



WERKERS

voortgang

development. It is through education that a doctor, that the son of a mineworker can make out of what we have, not what we have from another." - Nelson Mandela

plaaswerkers se kinders die geleentheid te bied om hulself in 'n landbou-riktig te bekwaam in vennootskap met die program: Gestruktueerde Landbou Opleiding (Elsenburg). Hopelik sal die eerste beurse vir die 2006 akademiese jaar beskikbaar wees.

Landbou vaardigheidsontwikkeling

Die huidige leerskappe van 1 jaar (sertifikaat in praktiese boerdery) sal ook beskikbaar gemaak word aan plaaswerkers om hulle beter te kwalifiseer, en die bywoning van die groot verskeidenheid van kursusse huidig beskikbaar vir plaaswerkers sal ondersteun word. Die Departement se opleidingsentrums te Elsenburg, Outeniqua proefplaas (George) en die landbouskool Augsburg (Clanwilliam) sal voorkeur geniet. Hierdie opleiding kan plaaswerkers help om plaasbestuurders of selfs boere in eie reg te word.

Landbouprojekte en Voedselsekureit

Gegewe die huis van die subprogram sal ons behulpsaam wees met die identifisering en vestiging van groentetuine in plaasgemeenskappe, en veral by plaasskole, om volhoubare sokkombuise te ondersteun.

Verwysingstelsel (Referral system)

Omdat daar soveel verskillende staatsdepartemente en organisasies by plaaswerkerontwikkeling betrokke is, is dit noodsaaklik om te verseker dat probleme wat plaaswerkers ondervind, by die korrekte persoon uitkom om te kan help, en dit is die doel van hierdie verwysingstelsels. Om die verwysingstelsel optimaal te laat funksioneer, moet daar baie nou met alle staatsdepartemente en rolspelers gewerk word. Die provinsiale departemente van Onderwys, Maatskaplike Dienste, Gesondheid, Behuising en Plaaslike Regering, die nasionale departement van Arbeid en Munisipaliteite is van die belangrikste organisasies met wie ons alreeds baie nou saamwerk. Ander rolspelers binne die landbousektor waarmee ons baie nou skakel is: Agri Wes-Kaap, AGRIWASA, NGO's, Boereverenigings, vakbonde en NAFU (National African Farmers Union).

Projekte

Benewens die Indaba en vyf streekkonferensies wat gereël is vir konsultasie, het die Departement ook drie projekte gefinansier:

- 1) **Women on Farms Project**, vir die opleiding van vroue seisoenwerkers vir vier jaar met 'n totale koste van R900 000-00
- 2) 32 ongeletterde plaaswerkers op die plaas **Mooigesicht** is gehelp om 'n kursus by te woon om te leer lees en skryf met 'n koste van R32,000, en
- 3) 'n Bedrag van R50,000 is aan **FASfacts** oorhandig vir 'n opleidingsprojek vir plaaswerkers se kinders om hulle in te lig oor die gevaar van alkoholisbruik.

Vir die 2005/2006 finansiële jaar is ongeveer R3 miljoen vir projekte ontvang. Belangrike projekte sluit in die beursskema vir plaaswerkers se kinders, betrokkenheid by plaaswerker kompetisies en betrokkenheid om sport en kultuur aangeleenthede binne plaasgemeenskappe te vestig en uit te brei.

Vir meer inligting, kontak Danie Niemand (regs) by (021) 808 7602 of danien@elsenburg.com



Plaaswerkers se bydrae op Werkersdag gevier



'n Groep van meer as 200 plaaswerkers van so ver as De Doorns het op 2 Mei in Stellenbosch byeengekom ter viering van Werkersdag. Op die foto is Minister Cobus Dowry (2de van links) saam met Rose Manuel (Glen Oak, Grabouw), Sophie Witbooi (Arieskraal, Grabouw) en Peter Ceylon (van Fyeboom en een van die sprekers)

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