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4 December 2020 | In today's newsletter:

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- **President announced new Covid regulations**
- **NAU AgriBraai 2021**
- **FA and other news**

## **LPO plans for 2021**

This week the Livestock Producers' Organisation had a jam-packed programme during the two-day planning session in Windhoek. Various speakers, who are experts in their field, shared valuable information. Livestock producers from all the regions attended the planning session, together with the LPO regional representatives, to give their inputs and to make discussions more meaningful. Mr Sarel du Toit, a well-known businessman and also a farmer, facilitated the sessions and kept discussions focused.

The first day was spent on the **long-term maintenance of Namibia's animal health status**, a theme that is currently a hot discussion point. An in-depth review was undertaken of what Namibia needs for official livestock- and meat export status and how such status should be maintained. The necessity of a partnership between the private sector and government to provide uninterrupted essential services, with integrity, was identified.

The impact of a possible foot-and-mouth disease outbreak south of the veterinary cordon fence (VCF), not only on the livestock sector, but on the total economy of Namibia, was emphasised. The meeting requested the LPO to do a risk analysis and to create awareness at various levels.

A lot of time was spent on the maintenance of the VCF as well as the border fences. The meeting was determined that the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism must perform their responsibilities and participate in discussions about their long-term responsibilities concerning the maintenance of the fences. The LPO was tasked to address these problems in short-term and long-term phases.

During the second day an intensive look at all the **possibilities to enhance the livestock industry** was taken to ensure that the Namibian meat industry remains one of the biggest contributors to the

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maintenance of the rural economy, job creation, growth and prosperity. The focus points that were discussed in detail were: best market prices, investments to repair natural grazing, the establishment of trust between all stakeholders as well as healthy competition between various value chains.

## **President announced new Covid regulations**

On 30 November 2020 President Geingob announced the following Covid regulations that will be valid until 25 January 2021:

- Children younger than 5 years who are moving through Namibian borders no longer need to present a Covid-19 test.
- Returning Namibian citizens may enter the country without a Covid-19 PCR test result or with a positive result. But in cases of arrival without a Covid-19 test result, s/he will be swabbed immediately upon arrival while observing quarantine and if the result comes out negative, they will be released from quarantine.
- A Namibian who arrives with a positive Covid-19 PCR test result will be isolated at a designated isolation facility or home isolation, subject to approval after assessment by an authorized medical officer.
- Shops and businesses will no longer be required to keep registers of persons visiting their premises.
- Registers should, however, be maintained at public events such as weddings, funerals, religious gatherings, sports and entertainment events.
- A maximum of 200 people may attend public gatherings.
- Sale of alcohol by shebeens, bars and nightclubs shall be extended to midnight.

## **FA and other news**

### **Witvlei FA**

Witvlei BV will have the members' meeting and year-end function on 5 December at 17:00 in the FA Hall. For more information contact Renda Grobbelaar at [kalkbult@iway.na](mailto:kalkbult@iway.na) or 081 304 1299.

### **Biomass Fair 2021**

The Standard Bank Biomass Fair 2021 will take place from 3 to 5 June 2021 at Otjiwa Lodge, Otjiwarongo. On 3 June will be the research symposium, on the 4th the conference and on 5 June the Expo. Details available from Roelien Coffee, [roelien@biomassfair.com.na](mailto:roelien@biomassfair.com.na) or 081 124 0081.

## Agra ProVision courses

DATE	SUBJECT	PLACE	COST
7-8 December	Pasture Management	Windhoek	N\$2 750
8-9 December	Horticulture	Windhoek	N\$2 750

For more information contact Agra ProVision at 061 290 9208 or [apvtraining@agra.com.na](mailto:apvtraining@agra.com.na)

## Channel 7

Three highlights from the Afrikaans programme *Landbou Joernaal* at 06:00 on Saturday:

- Nelia Richter of *Landbouweekblad* tells us more about the ground-breaking work that has been done on disease control in vineyards.
- We hear more about saffron farming from York Ritter and
- Veld tests on bulls and heifers are nothing new, but are also vital for the future. Richard Peens tells us more about it.

A re-broadcast of Saturday's *Landbou Joernaal* takes place on Wednesday evenings from 20:00.

Channel 7 can also be heard on their website at [www.k7.com.na](http://www.k7.com.na) or on their cell phone app or on DStv Audio Channel 825. Enquiries and requests can be sent via SMS to 1023 with the code **landbou**. Like, share & follow the FB-page, *Landbou op K7*, for interesting agri-info.

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: I LIKE FRIENDS WHO HAVE INDEPENDENT MINDS BECAUSE THEY TEND TO MAKE YOU SEE PROBLEMS FROM ALL ANGLES – Nelson Mandela**

*Exchange Rate NAD (26 Nov – 2 Des 2020)*

	Nov	EURO	USD	POUND	PULA
<i>Thursday</i>	25	18.133	15.226	20.332	1.377
<i>Friday</i>	27	18.247	15.264	20.308	1.384

<i>Saturday</i>	28	18.262	15.263	20.317	1.384
<i>Sunday</i>	29	18.262	15.265	20.316	1.384
<i>Monday</i>	30	18.441	15.437	20.597	1.399
<i>Tuesday</i>	1	18.390	15.276	20.456	1.384
<i>Wednesday</i>	2	18.414	15.247	20.461	1.382

*Saturday to Thursday: 17:00 UTC (Coordinated Universal Time)*