

MPO Newsletter / Nuusbrieff

25 March 2011

Meadow KZN reduces price

Meadow Feeds KZN has announced a dairy feed price decrease effective from 22 March. In a letter to customers, Mark Surendorff, sales manager, said details of the new prices will be forwarded as soon as they are available. This decrease is only effective for KZN.

New bumper sticker winner

The MPO bumper sticker competition is going strong and a new winner was announced this week, a person driving a vehicle with registration number CBS10157. Congratulations on winning the two-weekly prize of R500. Anybody spotted driving with the MPO sticker on a vehicle, stands a chance to win the cash prize.

Winners are announced every second Tuesday on RSG Landbou (1200-104 fm), between 12:30 and 12:45. Should the prize not be claimed, it rolls over to the next draw.

FMD infected zone declared

The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Ms Tina Joemat-Pettersson, has declared the eastern part of the R66 and north of the Mfolozi River in Northern KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) an official foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) infected zone. A team of experts consisting of veterinarians and technicians from the head office of the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), as well as their provincial counterparts in KZN, has collected samples and ran a series of tests on cloven-hoofed animals to determine the spread of the disease since the first outbreak was announced three weeks ago. The protection zone will be the area surrounding the infected area, with the N2 as the northern boundary, the N1 to the west and the N3 to the south. DAFF wishes to urge all, especially speculators who may have bought or exchanged animals through various means in the FMD-infected area in KZN since January 2011, to report such movement to the nearest state veterinary office.

Future of performance measurement discussed

A consultative meeting between the livestock industry, government and the Agricultural Research Council was held in Pretoria today. On the agenda were Challenges for the

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implementation of the Animal Improvement Act, Strategy to improve the quality and service delivery of the National Animal Recording and Improvement Schemes, Nerpo, Dinokeng scenarios and more. Dr Nico Schutte will give feedback on this on Tuesday's radio programme on RSG between 12:30 and 12:45.

Zambia's import rules change

On 1 May 2011, Zambia will officially implement a Pre-Export Verification of Conformity (PVOC) to Standards Programme, which will see the majority of imports into the country having to be inspected prior to arriving there. Bureau Veritas has been appointed by the Zambia Bureau of Standards (ZABS) authorities to implement the PVOC Programme. This programme applies to goods worldwide. A roadshow is set to take place in April (18, 19, 20) in South Africa to inform exporters to Zambia of the new procedures, processes and rates. Final venues and times will be confirmed and circulated in the first week of April. Please note that preliminary information workshops will be held in Zambia. Send e-mail to zambia.conformity@bureauveritas.com for information.

MPO Eastern Cape management meeting

The MPO Eastern Cape Board meeting was held in Port Elizabeth on Tuesday. Committee members decided on creating and implementing a portfolio committee for specific divisions. It includes Finances (Nigel Lok), International trade (Lourens Gildenhuys), Member lists and services (Jana Rademeyer and Rufus Dreyer), Communications and PR (Freddy van Zyl), Legislation (Greg Vroom and Jan Louw), School milk days (Jana Rademeyer and Roy Seeny), BEE and technology transfer (Simon Matthews), Statistics and economics (Bradley Schwartz and Andrew Taggard), Liaising with other organisations (Colin Lovemore), and Environmental and energy (Christie de Bruin). Dates and times for the Eastern Cape road shows in May were discussed at length. Committee members reported on milk prices and issues within their respective regions and all noted problems were extensively discussed and relayed to Mr Bertus de Jongh, MPO CEO.

- The MPO EC AGM will be held on 3 August 2011.

MPO route meetings in North West

Roadshow meetings were held in North West province this week, starting in Lichtenburg on Wednesday, then Ottosdal and finishing in Vryburg and Delareyville today. Dr Koos Coetzee, MPO economist, talked on the current dairy situation, followed by MPO CEO Mr Bertus de Jongh, who discussed the future of the primary dairy industry in South Africa. Discussion sessions were then followed by a presentation by Mr Ulrich Joubert, an economist, on the national and international economic prospects. Mr Riaan Roselt from Agricol also addressed the audience, where after Mr Johan Strydom, MPO North West chairperson, closed the

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meeting.

Large Herds conference also caters for ladies

This year's SALHC has an exciting programme specifically for female guests. On 6 June a day tour of East London is planned, starting with a whale-watching trip, which includes visits to the East London Museum (coelacanth and dodo egg), a township drive-through, monuments and Nahoon footprints, which are 127 000 years old. After a light lunch, the tour has a shopping stop at Hemingway's Mall & Casino complex, the biggest mall in the Eastern Cape. Everybody will be back at the hotel at 16:40. For 7 June a trip to the Mpongo Private Reserve, home of a number of white lions, is planned. The game drive will be in open vehicles with a picnic stop for light refreshments at a lapa situated in the heart of the park. The wide variety of wildlife in the park includes lion, elephant, buffalo, rhino, hyena, hippo and giraffe, grassland antelope and many bird species. Lunch will be in a restaurant set around a waterhole. The reserve also has a petting area that allows for guests to touch a variety of wild animals.

Read in *The Dairy Mail*

The March edition is packed with editorial information presented with the milk producer in mind. There is however also a number of advertisers who market their products and services. It is always worth taking a closer look at what advertisers have to say about their products and services. Bear in mind that nutritional and medicinal agricultural products are developed through long processes of extensive scientific research.

Important dates

- **MPO roadshow meetings:**
 - **North** - Contact Alta van Zyl at 012 843 5615 or alta@mpo.co.za
 - Monday, 11 April, 10:00 – De Oude Werf, Bronkhorstspuit
 - Tuesday, 12 April, 10:00 – Farm of Hannes Lombard, Morgenzon
 - Tuesday, 12 April, 14:00 – Farm of Hein Aucamp, Ermelo
 - Wednesday, 13 April, 10:00 – Krugersdorp – details to be confirmed
 - Wednesday, 13 April, 14:00 – Oude Bosch (Wiesenhof), Heidelberg
 - Thursday, 14 April, 11:00 – ALZU Farm, Middelburg
- **Large Herds conference**, 6 to 8 June 2010, The Regent hotel, East London. To avoid disappointment please contact Julie McLachlan at 012 998 6616 or 083 740 2720 or send an e-mail to julie.mclachlan6@gmail.com or julie@cendel.co.za. <[Click here](#)> for a direct link to the official website.
- **Dairy farm managers' course**, 12 to 14 July in Caledon.



This course will be presented in Afrikaans. Please contact Julie Mclachlan at 083 740 2720 or send an email to julie@cendel.co.za for programme information and a registration form.

MPO North branch in Brits

Last week we wrongly reported that Mr Adriaan Swanepoel was appointed deputy chairperson for the newly founded MPO North branch in Brits. The deputy chairperson is Mr Adriaan Coetzee. We apologise for the error.

Links

Milk Producers' Organisation – The Dairy Mail

Contact us

Bertus de Jongh – Chief executive officer

Barbara Bieldt – Manager: Market protection and development

Dr Koos Coetzee – Economist

Philip Swart – MPO member services



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