Santa Gertrudis

Joernaal 2026 Journal

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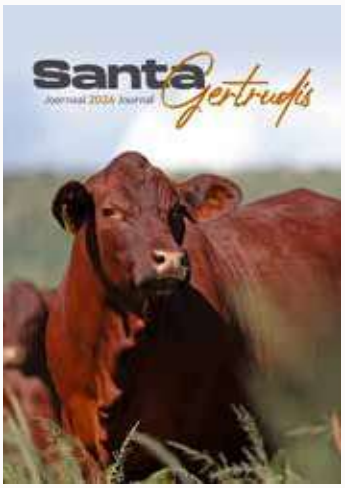

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BOODSKAP van die President

>> WILLIE DE JAGER

Dit is vir my ’n voorreg om terug te kyk op 2025 – ’n jaar van groei, prestasie en samewerking vir die Santa Gertrudis-ras.

Ons het sterk groei in bemarking gesien, asook uitstekende skouprestasies en suksesvolle veilings waar kopersvertroue duidelik toegeneem het. Daar was veral goeie aanvraag na vroulike diere die afgelope jaar, wat ook sterk pryse behaal het. Baie geluk aan Valley Venture wat die duurste bul (VV220183) gedurende 2025 op die Santa Select-veiling verkoop het. Hierdie bul is vir R320 000 aan Locklore Santa’s (Koos Lock) verkoop. Die kwaliteit van diere wat op veilings en in die skouring verskyn het, bevestig dat telers ernstig is oor seleksie en voortdurende rasverbetering. Ons verhoogde sigbaarheid en bemarkingsinisiatiewe begin duidelik die kommersiële sektor bereik – ’n belangrike stap in die uitbreiding van ons mark en die vestiging van die ras se waarde.

Die vooruitgang wat gemaak word met ouerskapverifikasie, tesame met die ontwikkeling van genomiese tegnologie, bring ons in ’n nuwe era van groter akkuraatheid en verhoogde geloofwaardigheid in die mark. In hierdie verband wil ek veral ons telers bedank vir hul uitstekende deelname aan die BGP2-projek, wat ’n belangrike bydrae lewer tot die genomiese vooruitgang van die ras.

Verskeie skoue en uitstallings is gedurende die jaar bygewoon. Ek wil opreg dankie sê aan elke teler wat die ras daar verteenwoordig het. Julle deelname en toewyding speel ’n groot rol in die bemarking en bevordering van die Santa Gertrudis-ras. Elke dier wat in die ring verskyn en elke teler wat met trots sy diere vertoon, dra by tot die groei en sigbaarheid van ons ras. Die Genootskap is dankbaar teenoor elke teler wat hul diere beskikbaar gestel het vir opleiding en uitstallings.

’n Spesiale woord van dank aan Jan Bothma van Sombrero Santa’s wat sy pragdiere by NAMPO en NAMPO Alfa uitgestal het. Baie geluk aan hom met die wen van die Interras-koei by NAMPO, asook die tweede plek vir die beste paar, saam met Santarific Santa’s se bul, wat die tweede plek in die Interras-bulklas gewen het. Jan het ook ruimhartig sy plaas en diere beskikbaar gestel vir die inspekteursopleidingskursus – ’n bydrae wat opreg waardeer word.

Die opleidingskursus wat by Potchefstroom aangebied word, het intussen ’n jaarlikse instelling geword en bied waardevolle kennis en praktiese leiding aan landboustudente. Baie dankie aan elkeen wat hierby betrokke was en deelgeneem het. ’n Spesiale dank aan Koos Harding wat jaarliks sy plaas en diere beskikbaar stel vir hierdie kursus.

Die ras se uitstekende prestasies by die SA Stamboek- en Landbounavorsingsraad (LNR)-toekennings spreek vanself, van telers se deeglike bestuurspraktyke en hul toewyding aan akkurate data-opname. Hierdie erkenning bevestig dat die

ras op ’n professionele en wetenskaplik gegronde wyse bestuur en verbeter word.

Baie geluk aan die volgende telers:

- Jumardi Santa’s met bul FF220038 wat ‘n tweede plek behaal het by die SA Stamboek Bulgroeitoetsklas.
- Valley Venture met koei VV140100 wat die SA Stamboek Platinum-koei toekenning vir die ras ontvang het.
- Dial van Rensburg met die beste Elite-koei (DT170259) tydens die LNR-toekennings.
- Santarific Santa’s (Desmond en Timmy Robertson) met bul SS230166 wat die LNR Spesiale Prestasietoetsklas gewen het.

Ons is trots op hierdie prestasies.

Ons wil ook die kantoor gelukwens met hul derde plek by die SA Stamboek-toekennings vir die beste jaarverslag. Hierdie toekenning is besonder gesog, aangesien dit ’n algehele oorsig van ’n Genootskap se bedrywighede, finansiële bestuur, kommunikasie en administrasie vereis en teen meer as 60 ander rasse beoordeel word. Hierdie prestasie getuig van uitstekende administrasie en toewyding.

Tydens die SA Stamboek se Algemene Jaarvergadering van 2025 is verskeie telers vereer vir hul beste produserende kuddes en vir verskeie trofeë. Hierdie toekennings gee erkenning aan telers wat hul data akkuraat in die Logix-stelsel van SA Studbook aanteken. Punte word toegeken vir tydige en volledige metings, asook die effektiewe gebruik van hierdie inligting om bestuurspraktyke te verbeter en winsgewendheid te verhoog. Geluk aan elke teler wat erkenning ontvang het – hierdie prestasies is die resultaat van harde werk, deeglike rekordhouding en die toepassing van teelwaardes.

’n Hoogtepunt op die kalender was die afsluiting van die Santa Gertrudis Fase C- en D-groeitoetse op 21 Oktober 2025 by Santarific Santa’s se plaas. Hierdie projek lewer waardevolle prestasiedata en speel ’n belangrike rol in die verbetering van die ras. Baie geluk aan elke teler wat deelgeneem het – julle toewyding aan prestasieverbetering en data-opname word opreg waardeer.

Die data wat hieruit verkry is, vorm die basis vir verdere navorsing en ontwikkeling, en dit is besonders waardevol dat twee artikels reeds hieruit voortgespruit het en in hierdie joernaal gepubliseer is. Hierdie byeenkoms was werklik uitstaande, en opregte dank aan Desmond & Timmy Robertson en Gert Brits vir die moeite, kostes en reëlings wat hierdie dag so besonders gemaak het. Julle stel ’n voorbeeld vir die hele bedryf. Ons spreek ook ons opregte dank uit teenoor die borge wat hierdie projek ondersteun het. Sonder hul bydrae sou sulke inisiatiewe nie moontlik wees nie.

Op 29 Oktober 2025 het SA Stamboek ’n industrie-sosiale geleentheid aangebied – ’n informele netwerkgeleentheid tussen rasse. Baie dankie aan Santarific Santa’s vir die borg van die biefstukke en aan Breede Santa’s vir die uitstekende wyne, wat bygedra het tot die sukses van die aand en die bemarking van die ras.

Die ras was ook goed verteenwoordig by verskeie karkaskompetisies gedurende 2025 en het weereens bewys waarom Santa-beeste bekend is vir hul uitstekende karkasse van hoë gehalte.

Dit was egter ook ’n uitdagende jaar vir die landboubedryf, met die voortdurende bedreiging van Bek-en-klouseer op ons voorstoep. In hierdie verband wil ek my mede-raadslede bedank vir hul ondersteuning, samewerking en verantwoordelike leiding gedurende ’n moeilike tyd.

Laastens wil ek spesiaal hulde bring aan die Genootskap se kantoor – die twee dames wat met toewyding en harde werk die administrasie bestuur en verseker dat die Santa Gertrudis-ras sy regmatige plek tussen Suid-Afrika se beesrasse inneem. Julle professionaliteit en deursettingsvermoë word opreg waardeer.

’n Opregte dankie aan elke stoet- én kommersiële teler wat saam bou aan die toekoms van die ras. Julle toewyding, harde werk en geloof in die ras, is die dryfkrag agter ons sukses.

Die belangrikste dank gaan aan ons Hemelse Vader wat ons die geleentheid gee om met hierdie besondere ras te werk.

Geniet julle Santas – saam skep ons groei, gehalte en geleenthede.

Kleynhans VELDE SANTAS

SANTA GERTRUDIS / STOET

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3 in 1 Santa Veiling

Woensdag 16 September 2026 11:00 Kroonstad

NOTE

MESSAGE from the *Editor*

This journal is much more than a publication—it is a trusted companion for every Santa cattle enthusiast, from stud breeders to commercial farmers and those engaged in crossbreeding. Its true value lies in the careful selection of articles, chosen to provide the latest insights, research, and practical knowledge that can directly benefit your herd. Every page is filled with information designed to inform, inspire, and support breeders in achieving excellence.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the writers whose dedication brings these articles to life. Your expertise and passion ensure that each article contributes meaningfully to the growth and development of the Santa Gertrudis breed. Equally, we deeply appreciate all the breeders and external advertisers who choose to feature in this journal. Your support makes this glossy publication possible and helps to highlight the achievements, innovation, and pride of the Santa Gertrudis community.

This journal celebrates the accomplishments of breeders and their cattle, offering a platform to showcase your herd and share your success. By featuring carefully curated articles and contributions from committed advertisers, it remains an indispensable resource for anyone invested in the future of Santa Gertrudis cattle.

"Choose Santa. Support Breeders. Grow Excellence!"

Yolanda Venter
Santa Gertrudis Breed Manager

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EST. 2021
BENRO BOERDERY
FULL BLOODED SANTA GERTRUDIS

By **BENRO BOERDERY** word uitnemendheid nie nagestreef nie - dit word vereis

Ons fokus is die doelgerigte ontwikkeling van elite Santa Gertrudis-genetika wat prestasie, balans en rasgetrouheid in een pakket kombineer. In die harde toestande van Noordwes word slegs diere wat werklik funksioneel en aanpasbaar is, behou. Seleksie is streng, standaarde is hoog, en kompromieë is nie deel van ons filosofie nie.

Elke stoetbul wat Benro verlaat, dra nie net 'n naam nie — hy dra 'n belofte van genetiese integriteit en prestasie. Ons glo elite genetika moet nie net in die skouring presteer nie, maar in kommersiële kuddes meetbare verskil maak.

Ons teel met 'n duidelike visie:

- Fenotipe met teenwoordigheid en ras-karakter
- Strukturele korrektheid en duursaamheid
- Bewese vrugbaarheid en sterk moedereienskappe
- Groei en voerdoeltreffendheid wat ekonomiese waarde skep
- Aanpasbaarheid onder praktiese veldtoestande

BENRO BOERDERY is gebou op geloof, dissipline en 'n langtermynbenadering tot genetiese vooruitgang. Ons doel is om 'n stoet te vestig wat bekend staan vir konsekwentheid, kwaliteit en genetiese diepte — generasie na generasie.

Voedingsbehoeftes

vir verskillende **PRODUKSIESTADIUMS**

>> JOHAN MOUTON – Molatek Tegnies, Johan.Mouton@rclfoods.com

Die meganismes van ‘n dier se vermoë vir groei en ontwikkeling van sy genetiese potensiaal is stelsel gedrewe. Dit bestaan uit meer as een uitdaging met meer as een antwoord. ‘n Benadering om die bestuur van ‘n rumendier aan te spreek kan in drie komponente opgedeel word:

1. Hormonaal

Hormone is die interne reguleerders wat al die prosesse in die dier se ontwikkeling en produksie fase reguleer. Daar is ‘n magdom hormone met positiewe en negatiewe terugvoer stelsels na dier se liggaam wat sal sorg dat hy groei, ontwikkel, puberteit bereik en reproduseer. Hierdie meganismes loop vanself en het ten doel om die dier se maksimum genetiese potensiaal te ontwikkel. Dit kan egter beïnvloed word deur eksterne faktore.

2. Fisiese omgewing (Weiding / Voeding)

Die fisiese omgewing is die drywer wat die ontwikkeling bevoordeel of benadeel en waaroor

die ondernemer beheer het. In ‘n ekstensiewe veestelsel is weiding kwaliteit die mees belangrike faktor wat die ontwikkeling beheer aangesien dit onekonomies raak as meer as 10% van die dier se droë materiaal inname nie van weiding af kom nie.

3. Eksterne Faktore

Tydens skryf van die artikel is Bek en Klouseer ‘n wesenlike eksterne faktor waaroor min beheer is. So kry ons droogtes, oormatige nat tye, sommige bronne plaas klimaatsverandering hier. Daar gaan goed gebeur wat dier se ontwikkeling gaan beïnvloed waaroor daar min beheer is.

Die drie aspekte wat die ontwikkeling van ‘n dier beïnvloed is grootliks ‘n self regulerende proses wat ‘n paar vereistes stel om ten beste te funksioneer. Die vereistes wat gestel word het die ondernemer beheer oor. Onbeheerbare faktore kan gebeur, of nie, en tot ons nadeel sowel as voordeel wees. Die kans vir ‘n suksesvolle uitkoms is dus hoog as die beheerbare goed reg bestuur word. Die bewys hiervoor is ‘n suksesvolle rooivleisbedryf.

Vry weidende wild met onbeperkte toegang tot seleksie produseer, bestaan voort deur eeue, oorleef siekte uitbrake en reproduseer sonder enige eksterne inset van die mens se kant af bv. in die Krugerwildtuin. Sonder enige inset van die mens sal ‘n spesie dus voortbestaan. Die aard van hoe veeboerdery ontwikkel het met verhoogde produksie maak dat addisionele insette gedoen moet word om ekonomies volhoubaar te produseer. Die ondernemer het 100% beheer oor hierdie insette. Die hulpmiddel wat hiermee saamgaan is dat die wetenskap oor die laaste 150 jaar ‘n aantal basiese beginsels uitgeklaar het, die inset vir ‘n spesifieke uitset in terme van produksie is goed bekend en die wiel hoef nie weer uitgevind te word nie.

Dit waaroor die ondernemer beheer het word van naderby ondersoek.

Droë materiaal

Die enkel grootste faktor waaroor die ondernemer beheer het in terme van kwaliteit en kwantiteit is weiding wat rumendiere se bestaansreg is. Indien die ruvoer komponent nie reg is in ‘n reproduktiewe kudde nie, sal geen aanvulling van enige aard diere ekonomies suksesvol uitgroei nie in. Die eerste aspek is kwantiteit. Akute voedingsprobleme is uiters selde waar diere genoegsame droë materiaal inname het. Indien daar tien diere te veel op die plaas is het die hele kudde te min kos, nie net die tien nie. Beeste het ‘n besondere seleksie vermoë, selfs op winterveld. Oor ‘n jaar periode bereken het beeste ongeveer 5% meer proteïen uit veld selekteer teenoor ‘n snymonster op natuurlike veld in sentraal Suid Afrika.(De Waal,1990). Oorweeg die finansiële aspek hiervan dat diere 35% meer proteïen uit die veld kan kry as wat soms aangevul moet word. Dit bloot eenvoudig omdat die weiding kwaliteit te laag was weens ‘n swak spesie samestelling.

Deur weidruk en veldbenutting so te bestuur dat 30 – 50% van die plaas vir ‘n volle groeiseisoen gerus word sal in die kudde se droë materiaal behoefte voorsien word in beide kwaliteit en kwantiteit.

Fosfaat

Fosfaat aanvulling is goed beskryf vir Suid Afrikaanse sowel as internasionale toestande.

- Verse wat 70 – 80 % van hul fosfaat behoeftes ontvang het se reproduksie is benadeel (3.7 dekkings per konsepsie). Nadat die fosfaat vlakke reggestel is het dit verbeter na 1.3 dekkings per konsepsie.
- Geen verhoogde reproduksie is waargeneem indien fosfaat bo die aanbevole vlakke aanbeveel aangevul is nie.

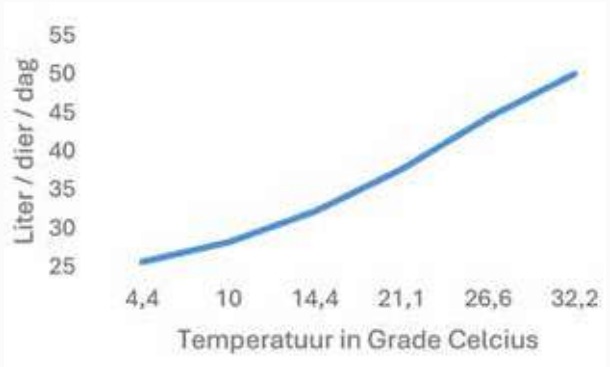
Fosfaataanvulling van ten minste 5 gram/dier/dag tydens die dier se droë periode en 10 gram tydens laktasie is minimum waardes. Vir diere wat uitgroei is ‘n goeie duimreël 0.3% van totale droë materiaal inname.

Die voorsiening van skoon koel drinkwater is waarskynlik die beste belegging wat vir ‘n veekudde gedoen kan word. Indien drinkwater nie geskik is vir menslike gebruik nie, hoekom sal dit geskik wees vir dierlike gebruik?

Water

“n Dier se liggaam kan uit tot soveel as 80% water bestaan en tog is dit ‘n aspek wat nie altyd met die nodige erns in ag geneem word nie. Onvoldoende water inname vir welke rede het ‘n groter effek op dierereprestasie as enige ander voedingstof. Figuur 1 toon die drastiese effek wat ‘n verhoging in temperatuur op waterinname het. Die aspek van waterkwaliteit speel net so ‘n groot rol, dit blyk dat soutvlakke van tot 5000 ppm in water goed deur beeste hanteer word maar bo dit word dierereprestasie benadeel. Die plasing van genoegsame strategiese waterpunte is waarskynlik van die beste infrastruktuur beleggings wat op ‘n plaas gedoen kan word.

Figuur 1. Effek van omgewings temperatuur op waterinname



Proteïen

Proteïen is die basiese bousteen vir spiergroei. Die behoefte van diere volgens hul produksiestadiums is baie goed dokumenteer. Dit word ook reeds lankal erken dat ‘n langdurige tekort aan proteïen nie net produksie nie, maar ook reproduksie kan benadeel. Die effek van proteïen op reproduksie is nie net verwant aan die totale hoeveelheid proteïen in die rantsoen nie, maar ook aan die verhouding van degradeerbare tot nie-degradeerbare proteïen afhangend van die dier se produksiestadium.

‘n Droë koei se proteïen behoefte is in die orde van 650 gram per dag en waarvan ± 250 gram van aanvulling kan kom met hoë NPN vlakke. Hoogs produserende (lakterend) diere se proteïenbehoefte kan meer as 1 kg per dag wees waarvan tot so hoog as 400 gram ekonomies aangevul kan word met ‘n produksieaanvulling wat ook uit natuurlike proteïen bestaan. Goed bestuurde somerveld voldoen in totale proteïen behoeftes.

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Energie

Energie is selde ‘n tekort vir normale produksie toestande op veld in Suid Afrika. Uitsonderings is laat winter wanneer koeie in kalf is op uitgevrete veld. Dit kan ook nodig wees om ‘n addisionele kondisiepunt by diere te sit wat swaargekry het vir welke rede ook al. Jong diere wat onder normale toestande met aanbevole aanvulling vir die toestande bestuur word sal nie oorvet word en ontwikkelings probleme toon nie. Totaal oormatige energie vir vervangingsverse onder byvoorbeeld voerkraaltoestande gaan probleme skep met langtermyn reproduksie – so ‘n praktyk sal ook nie koste effektief wees nie.

Energie aanvulling se waarde kom ten beste na vore om diere wat nie in kondisie is nie te help. Die energie in ‘n produksielek is van groot waarde vir speenkalwers op winterveld om raamgroei te verseker en nie oormatig massa te verloor nie.

Met die selfregulerende meganismes van die natuur sal ‘n rumendier produseer as daar aan sy basiese behoeftes voldoen word. Daar is ‘n aantal faktore waaroor die produsent geen beheer het nie wat die produksie van sy diere gaan beïnvloed. Vanuit die oogpunt is dit belangrik om die goed waaroor daar wel beheer is reg te doen, en dat daar nie ‘n kumulatiewe negatiewe effek ontstaan indien van die onbeheerbare goed ook skeefloop nie. Gelukkig is die voedingsbehoeftes van diere grootliks uitgeklaar en die tegnologie bestaan om te voldoen aan die paar goed waaroor die ondernemer wel beheer het.

Deer Y. J. Ru, P. C. Glatz* and Y. M. Bao , Effect of Salt Level in Water on Feed Intake and Growth Rate of Red and Fallow Weaner Livestock Systems, South Australian Research and Development Institute, Roseworthy Campus Roseworthy, South Australia, Australia 5371

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https://www.beefresearch.ca/topics/nutrition-in-beef-cattle/

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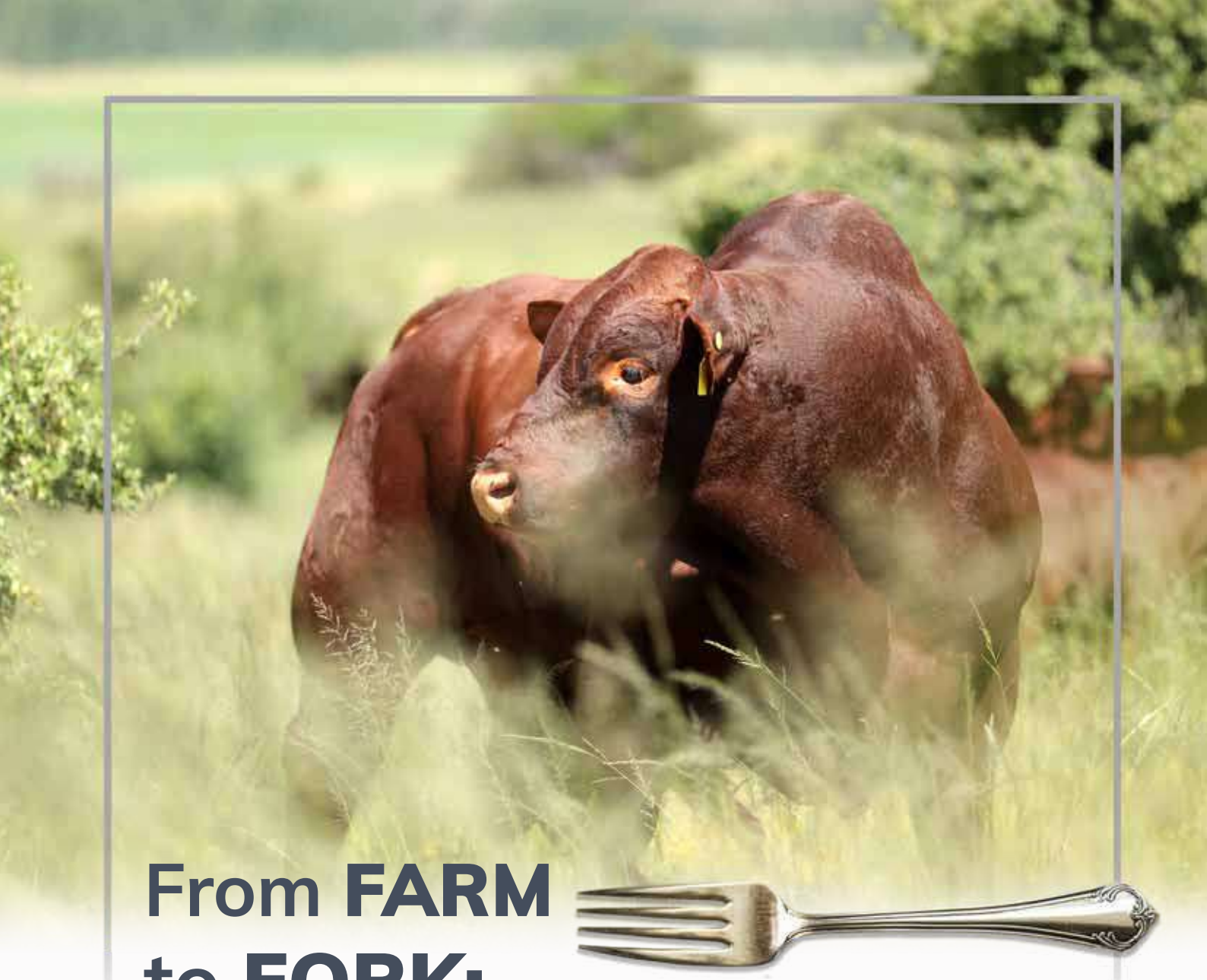

From **FARM** to **FORK:**

How Producers Shape Beef Quality

>> MICHELLE HOPE-JONES (PhD), Department of Animal Science, University of Pretoria, michelle.hope-jones@up.ac.za

From the farm to the fork, the quality of beef is shaped by a chain of decisions that begins long before the meat reaches the retail shelf. While efficiency in growth, feed conversion, and fertility are important for profitability, the true measure of success is whether consumers enjoy the meat and come back to buy it again. Tenderness, juiciness, and flavour, the hallmarks of eating quality, drive this experience. These attributes are influenced not only by what happens after slaughter, but also by genetics, handling, and finishing practices throughout the animal's life. In this way, the producer plays a central role in determining the final product.

Genetics provides the foundation for eating quality. The calcium-dependent protease system, or calpain system, governs the breakdown of muscle fibres after slaughter. Some enzymes in this system accelerate tenderisation, while others slow it down, and the balance between them

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determines how quickly and effectively meat becomes tender. Marbling, or intramuscular fat, enhances flavour and juiciness and can lessen the impact of connective tissue on tenderness. Its development is influenced by the animal's growth, age, and feeding conditions. Temperament also has a biological role with stress-sensitive animals being more likely to have low muscle glycogen at slaughter, which can hinder tenderisation. Across both extensive pasture-based and more intensive production systems, careful attention to growth, body condition, nutrition, and handling ensures that an animal's biological potential is realised, allowing tenderness, juiciness, and flavour to reach their fullest expression.

Management before slaughter further influences eating quality. Animals that are excitable or sensitive to stress are prone to lower glycogen levels at slaughter, which can produce darker, firmer meat with shorter shelf life and increased susceptibility to spoilage. Even animals with calm temperaments can be affected if transport is long, handling is rough, or waiting times at the abattoir are extended. Maintaining nutrition as close to slaughter as possible, reducing overcrowding, and avoiding unnecessary mixing of unfamiliar animals help preserve glycogen reserves. These practices support the enzyme systems that drive tenderisation and help ensure that the meat reaches its potential in tenderness, juiciness, and flavour.

Growth rate and finishing strategies also play an important role. Animals that maintain steady growth and good body condition before slaughter tend to produce more tender, juicy, and flavoursome meat, while interruptions in nutrition or growth can compromise quality. In intensive systems, supplementary feeding or concentrates may be used to optimise growth, though these approaches must be managed carefully to avoid negative effects on tenderness or water-holding capacity (affecting juiciness). In extensive or pasture-based systems, natural growth and condition are especially important, highlighting the role of thoughtful management in allowing the animal's biological potential to be expressed in the final product.

The value of eating quality is reflected in consumers' willingness to pay. Research shows that consumers consistently indicate a higher price for steaks that are tender, juicy, and flavoursome, while lower-quality cuts are often discounted. These preferences are consistent across income levels, ages, and cooking styles, demonstrating that appreciation for eating quality is widespread. Even in rural and urban populations, the pattern is clear, consumers prefer better eating quality. This connection between biological quality on the farm and financial recognition in the marketplace underscores the importance of careful breeding, handling, and finishing practices.

For breeders and producers, the message is straightforward. Selection for traits that support tenderness, marbling, and stress resilience can enhance carcass quality, while careful management of growth, nutrition, and pre-slaughter handling ensures that genetic potential is realised. Participation in carcass competitions provides practical feedback and benchmarking, helping producers assess outcomes and make informed decisions for improvement. Attention to these factors strengthens reputation, encourages repeat purchasing, and demonstrates the value of quality-

focused production practices throughout the supply chain.

Ultimately, the pathway from farm to fork is long, but it begins with the producer. Genetics, management, growth, and finishing practices all interact to shape tenderness, juiciness, and flavour. Consumers reward these attributes with higher willingness to pay showing that investment in quality has both biological and economic significance. Understanding and applying these principles ensures that carcasses are consistently of high quality, valued in the market, and enjoyed by consumers. Sustainable profitability depends not only on efficiency but on producing a product that people truly want, proving that what happens on the farm directly influences both the eating experience and economic outcomes.

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CHEMICAL RESISTANCE in *cattle ticks:*

Why it is increasing and what farmers can do about it

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Ticks cause major economic losses for farmers worldwide. This is mainly due to the diseases they transmit, which have a large impact, but productivity is also directly affected by the blood-feeding of these parasites. For example, each engorging female blue tick can lead to a loss of as much as 1 gram of body mass per animal per day. Although this sounds small, a single animal in some areas may carry more than 1,000 female ticks at a time, meaning as much as 1 kilogram of body mass can be lost per animal per day.

In South Africa, blue ticks have a major impact. Two blue tick species currently occur in the country: the Asian blue tick (*Rhipicephalus microplus*) and the African blue tick (*Rhipicephalus decoloratus*). Both can cause redwater, but the Asian blue tick can transmit both Asiatic and African redwater, whereas the African blue tick can transmit only African redwater. Asiatic redwater is particularly serious, as cattle become very sick (and in most cases die) in areas where they have not been previously exposed to the pathogen.

Ticks and tick-borne diseases are commonly managed by applying chemical products (known as acaricides) that kill ticks before they can cause disease. But the major problem is that ticks on some farms have become much more difficult to kill than in the past. Recent studies show that this can be attributed to ticks, especially blue ticks, becoming increasingly resistant to the chemical products that farmers have been using for many years. This means the acaricides we rely on are becoming less effective.

Asiatic blue tick - *Rhipicephalus microplus*
Source: Jade Hastings

How do ticks develop resistance?

Acaricide resistance is an inherited change in a tick population's susceptibility to a chemical. It is observed when an acaricide repeatedly fails to control ticks adequately, even when applied exactly according to instructions and at the recommended dose.

When cattle are treated with an acaricide, the ticks on the animals are exposed to the active ingredient (for example, cypermethrin). Those that are susceptible die, while those that are resistant survive. This means selection favours ticks carrying the resistance gene(s), which are then passed on to the next generation. Initially, only a small proportion of ticks in the field carry these resistance gene(s), because many ticks occur in the free-living phase and are not exposed to treatments. Over time, as more treatments occur, the balance shifts. Eventually, most ticks in the field will carry the resistance gene(s), resulting in less effective tick control.

The brown ear tick - *Rhipicephalus appendiculatus*
Source: Alec Evans

Resistance is difficult to prevent completely, but the rate at which it develops can be slowed. The speed of development depends mainly on:

1) How often an acaricide is applied, and
2) The chemical class (e.g., synthetic pyrethroid or organophosphate) of the acaricide used.

The more frequently the same product is used, the more ticks are exposed to that active ingredient and the faster resistance develops. Chemical class matters because it determines how resistance genes are passed on, which influences the speed of resistance development.

Why does it develop faster in blue ticks?

Blue ticks are known as one-host ticks because their entire parasitic life cycle - larva, nymph, and adult - occurs on a single animal. The cycle begins when a free-living larva climbs onto a cow and starts feeding. It feeds for 5 to 9 days before moulting into a nymph. The nymph then feeds for another 5 to 9 days before moulting into an adult. Female ticks mate on the host, feed for 7 to 9 days until fully engorged, and then drop off into the environment to lay 2 000 to 2 500 eggs. These eggs hatch after 3 to 6 weeks into larvae, starting the cycle again. The full life cycle takes about two months, meaning several generations occur each year.

Multi-host ticks, such as the brown ear tick (*Rhipicephalus appendiculatus*), the bont-legged tick (*Hyalomma truncatum*), and the South African bont tick (*Amblyomma hebraeum*), complete their different parasitic stages on different hosts and generally complete only one life cycle per year.

Resistance typically develops faster in one-host ticks because most parasitic stages and multiple generations are exposed to the same acaricide

Bont-legged tick - *Hyalomma truncatum*
Source - Luther van der Mescht

in a short period. In contrast, multi-host ticks develop resistance more slowly because only one stage and usually only one generation are exposed to a given treatment. Additionally, multi-host ticks generally have a much larger proportion of their population in the free-living stage at any time, meaning fewer individuals are exposed to treatments.

Rhipicephalus tick cluster on cow
Source: Luther van der Mescht

What can farmers do to slow the problem?

Sustainable tick management requires an integrated programme that promotes the responsible use of acaricides, prevents misuse, and is applied alongside good production and grazing management to ensure effective long-term control. Management practices should be adapted to each farm's specific environmental, production, economic, social, cultural, and individual context.

Key considerations include:

1) Biosecurity

When animals are moved between camps on the same farm or between farms, biosecurity measures must be in place to prevent ticks from moving with them. When animals arrive from another farm, they must be treated in quarantine with an acaricide not recently used on the farm of origin. These animals should remain in quarantine for at least 30 days to prevent ticks arriving with them from dropping into the field.

2) Good nutrition

Nutrition plays a crucial role in increasing cattle resistance and resilience against ticks and other parasites. A strong immune system requires good nutritional status. High-quality grazing and strategic feed supplementation with energy and protein help strengthen immunity against ticks.

3) Smart grazing management

Grazing management is one of the most important non-chemical strategies for managing ticks. It involves resting or rotating camps for periods long enough to break the tick life cycle by ensuring free-living stages die off. The required rest period depends on the environment and can be shorter in hot, dry seasons or areas with little vegetation, as these conditions are unfavourable for tick survival.

4) Targeted use of acaricides

In addition to good biosecurity, nutrition and grazing strategies, best practices in acaricide application must be used. Four general approaches exist:

- Suppression

A zero-tolerance strategy where treatments occur at short intervals, typically no more than 21 days apart. This requires long-term commitment and relies on the consistent availability of effective acaricides with minimal resistance. Continuous resistance monitoring is essential.

- Opportunistic

Acaricides are applied when cattle are already in the handling facility for other routine management tasks. This is more effective in areas with low to medium tick loads. It also works better when the acaricide provides long residual protection and treatments coincide with periods of higher tick abundance on animals.

- Strategic

Designed mainly for blue ticks, especially in subtropical regions with well-defined tick seasons. This involves intensive treatment at the beginning of the period when free-living larvae are most abundant. Treatment intervals should not exceed the product's protection period. This method is effective when applied long enough to ensure most free-living larvae are killed.

- Selective

An economic threshold of engorged female ticks per animal is determined for a farm to decide when treatment is necessary. The threshold depends on factors such as environment, season, production system, tick species, and disease risk. The disadvantage is that a farm-specific study is required to determine the threshold before this approach can be implemented.

The road ahead

Tick resistance is not something we can completely prevent, but we can slow it down. It requires a combination of good grazing management, nutrition, biosecurity, and especially the smart use of acaricides. An integrated approach is key to preventing these tiny parasites from becoming a major threat.

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FROM Hide TO Herd

Why LSD Prevention Matters

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Introduction

Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) is a viral threat to cattle, causing painful skin nodules that not only damage hides but can leave lasting scars on your herd—and your livelihood. For every cattle owner, especially stud breeders, understanding the risks and how to control this disease is essential to protecting both animals and profits.

What is LSD?

LSD is an infectious viral disease of cattle. It is mainly transmitted by biting insects, such mosquitoes, biting flies and ticks. This means that biting pests carry live viruses from one animal and 'inject' them into another animal. LSD virus (LSDV) may also spread by other less common routes like saliva in shared water troughs or mechanically with multi-use needles (especially

during outbreak situations). LSDV is widespread across South Africa's cattle-farming regions. Outbreaks typically peak in late summer and autumn following good rains, although cases can occur year-round. This is due to the abundance of pests that transmit LSDV after good rains. It is also a State notifiable disease, and all suspicious or confirmed cases need to be reported to the local State Veterinarian. Fortunately, there are no quarantine measures as for foot-and-mouth-disease, but reporting helps to monitor the disease occurrence and spread and informs cattle farmers of its presence.

Clinical signs

Clinical signs of LSD are typically fever followed by enlarged lymph nodes and the development of numerous, firm, round skin nodules that appear four to ten days after the initial fever. The skin nodules may also affect the underlying muscle and tendons and even extend into the mouth, respiratory tract, udder and reproductive organs. These skin nodules tend to mature into persistent lumps ("sitfasts") or fall out leaving deep open skin wounds, both of which cause permanent hide damage. The most vulnerable animals are cows in peak lactation and young animals as they tend to develop the most severe clinical signs. European cattle breeds also tend to develop worse clinical signs compared to local breeds. Typical LSD outbreaks may affect up to half the herd, and while less common, mortalities and abortions may also occur. Pseudo-lumpy skin disease, caused by bovid herpesvirus 2 (BHV-2), may be confused for LSD. However, disease from BHV-2 is much milder and typically only affects the superficial layers of the skin without permanently damaging the hide.

Prevention and control

The idiom, "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound in cure" rings especially true for LSD. Treatment of LSD is supportive, as with most viral diseases, and includes vitamin and mineral supplementation along with anti-inflammatories. Antibiotics may be needed to treat or prevent secondary bacterial infection of open wounds along with concurrent typical wound management practices. The most reliable control method for LSD is proactive vaccination followed by effective vector control. There are a couple of highly effective commercial vaccines available for building herd immunity. These vaccines need to be given to cattle yearly from the age of six months onward. Controlling the vectors (carriers of the virus) is not quite as easy or effective as a robust vaccination programme. However, it forms part of a critical control point in any outbreak situation. There are various options with residual activity available for use on the animal (e.g.,

Afrivet Redline Pour-on or Delta Force 100) or in the environment (e.g., Icon 10 CS). By effectively controlling these pests, you also help prevent other vector-borne diseases such as three-day stiffness, bluetongue, Rift valley fever, sweating sickness, heartwater and redwater.

Why should farmers care?

Saying that LSD is of major economic importance is stating the obvious when considering the clinical signs and cost of treatment mentioned above. However, in severe cases some complications are not immediately apparent, such as permanent drop in milk production in cows and infertility in bulls. Imagine the consequences if your top milk-producing cows are outperformed by low producers destined for culling—truly devastating! Or picture your prized bull suddenly unable to pass on his genetics – catastrophic! In addition, the fever caused by LSDV can lead to a temporary reduction in fertility in bulls, lasting up to two months.

Conclusion

Do not wait until the fat is in the fire – proactive prevention is critical to avoid severe economic losses from an LSD outbreak. Contact your local veterinarian today and invest in a farm-specific, comprehensive disease control programme to protect your herd and your financial sustainability.

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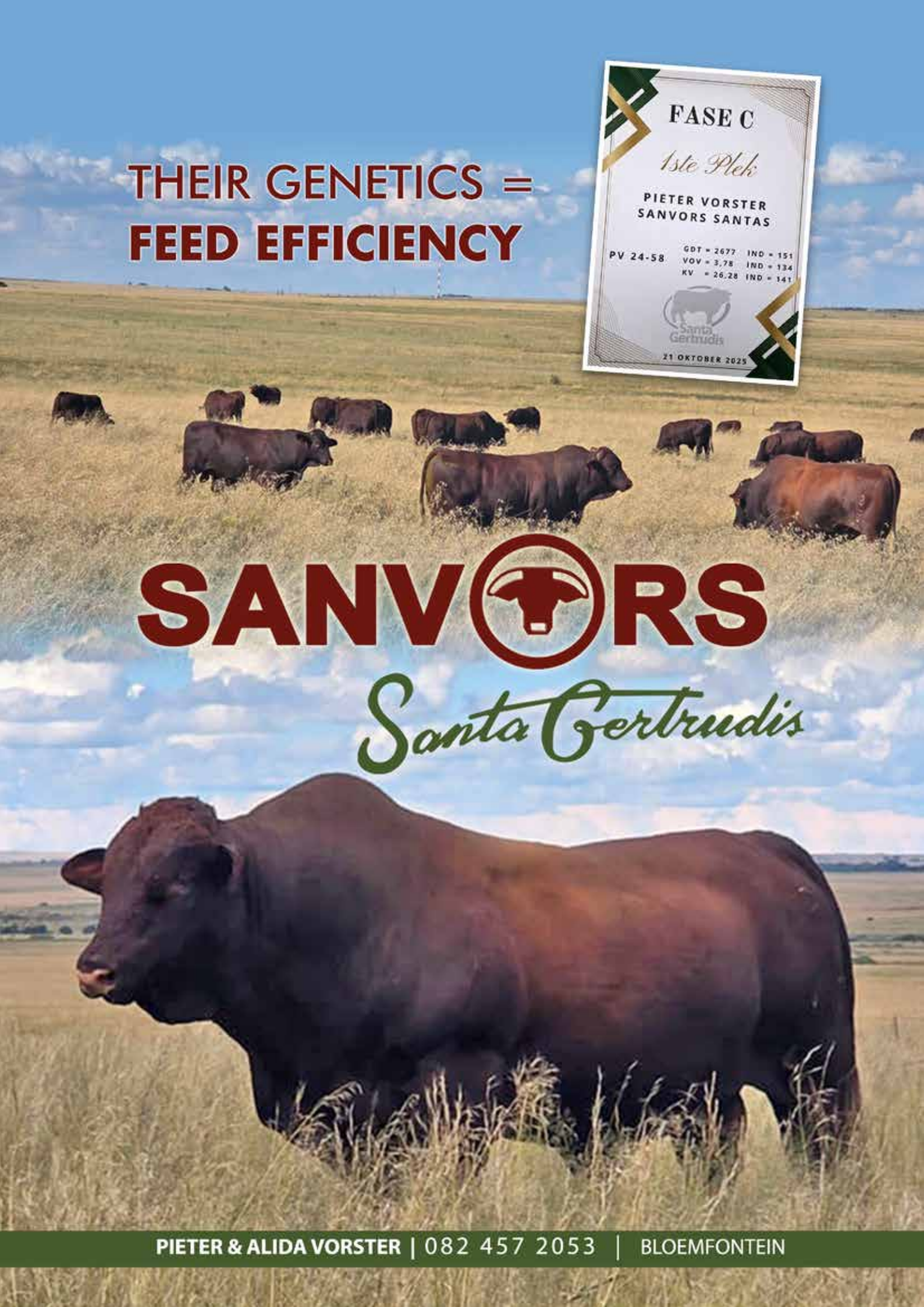
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Thermoregulation and the impact of SCROTAL TWIST on fertility in Santa Gertrudis bulls

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1. Introduction

Fertility is one of the most economically important traits in beef production, and the bull contributes half of every calf crop. Because of this, anything that interferes with a bull's reproductive function can have major consequences for herd productivity. One of the most overlooked factors affecting bull fertility is thermoregulation—the ability of the testes to stay cooler than the rest of the body. Another is scrotal twist, a condition that disrupts normal testicular positioning and blood flow. This review explains how bulls regulate testicular temperature, why heat stress reduces fertility, and how scrotal twist interferes with both thermoregulation and semen quality.

2. Testicular thermoregulation in bulls

Thermoregulation of the testis in bulls is unique because they must remain about 2–6°C cooler than the core body temperature to ensure normal sperm production. Bulls use several mechanisms to cool the testis. Spermatogenesis, or sperm production, is a complex process in bulls that takes about 61 days and involves several stages of cellular division and differentiation to produce mature, fertile spermatozoa. Previous studies have confirmed that small increases in testicular temperature may adversely affect sperm cells, though the effects on sperm motility and fertility remain unclear. Heat stress has been shown to affect bull fertility for weeks, as it requires a full spermatogenesis cycle (ca. 61 days) to replace damaged spermatozoa.

3. Testicular cooling mechanisms

a) Scrotal Skin and Sweating

The scrotum has thin skin and a high density of sweat glands. Evaporation from this surface is the bull's most effective cooling method, especially in hot, dry climates.

b) Muscular Control

Two muscles regulate testicular position, namely the cremaster muscle, which lifts or lowers the testes, and the tunica dartos muscle, which wrinkles or relaxes the scrotal skin. Relaxation increases surface area and airflow, which significantly improves heat loss.

c) Pampiniform venous plexus

This specialized network of arteries and veins acts as a countercurrent heat exchanger, which functions much like a refrigerator. Warm arterial blood entering the testis is cooled by venous blood returning from the scrotum. This system is essential for maintaining the temperature gradient required for spermatogenesis.

d) Behavioral Adjustments

Bulls generally use a number of natural behaviour's

to adjust and reduce heat load, such as increasing water intake, seeking shade, standing rather than lying, grazing at night, and using seasonal changes in hair and coat characteristics (hair shedding in spring and summer).

4. Heat Stress and Its Effects on Fertility

The general perception is that heat stress is due to high ambient temperatures. However, the most harmful effects of heat stress are mostly due to environments with high ambient temperatures and high humidity, because evapotranspiration becomes increasingly ineffective as humidity increases.

When ambient temperature and humidity exceed a bull's ability to dissipate heat, testicular temperature rises. The effects of such thermal stressful conditions on fertility are so harmful because a cascade of physiological processes are usually affected, for example, sperm motility and concentration are reduced, sperm abnormalities increase, and many bulls become temporarily infertile for 6–8 weeks.

Heat stress also affects the epididymis, where sperm mature and are stored. Even fully formed sperm can be damaged by elevated scrotal temperatures. Bulls with dark hides, heavy muscling, or Bos taurus genetics are generally more susceptible to heat stress than heat-adapted breeds, like the Santa Gertrudis.

5. Understanding Scrotal Twist in Beef Bulls

Scrotal twist, or testicular rotation or torsion, occurs when the testis rotates around the spermatic cord. Rotation may vary between mild (≤180°), moderate (180–360°), and severe (>360°). The impact of testicular rotation on bulls' fertility is somewhat controversial, but even mild rotation can interfere with normal thermoregulation. Although mild cases of testicular rotation are chronic, they are not acutely painful, and bulls are not infertile. (Examples of scrotal twist are presented in the photos below)

By contrast, moderate and severe torsion disrupts venous return and cooling (thermoregulation), and such bulls tend to experience pain, low semen quality, or, in severe cases, are infertile.

Photo credit: Dr P van Rooyen

Regardless of the severity of scrotal rotation, such bulls should not be used in breeding programs because it is unwise to capture such hereditary defects in sustainable production systems. Mild, chronic scrotal rotation is more common than producers realize, because it often goes unnoticed until a breeding soundness exam reveals reduced semen quality or sperm defects.

6. The effects of scrotal twist on testicular thermoregulation

The main effect of scrotal twist on testicular thermoregulation is by distortion of the pampiniform venous plexus, e.g., compromising the normal functioning of the vascular cooling system of the testes. Scrotal rotation alters the

alignment of the arterial and venous capillaries responsible for heat exchange between the core of the body and the testes. Secondly, scrotal twist alters the anatomical position and orientation of the testes. This positions the testes higher in the scrotum, causing an abnormal testicular angle, reduced smooth muscle function, and reduced airflow exposure and limits cooling through convection and evaporation.

A scrotal twist also compromises the vascular blood flow to the testes and lymphatic drainage. Moderate to severe rotation has been shown to partially obstruct venous drainage and lymphatic return. This leads to congestion, inflammation, heat retention, and pathological damage to the testicular epithelium and the functioning of Sertoli and Leydig cells.

Collectively, these effects mentioned above reduce cooling efficiency and increase testicular temperature. Research shows that even partial rotation can raise intratesticular temperature by 1–3°C, enough to impair sperm production and fertility.

7. Effects of scrotal twist on semen quality

A scrotal twist may cause one or several semen defects, such as lower sperm concentration, reduced semen motility, sperm abnormalities, and, in severe cases, permanent infertility.

- **Lower Sperm Concentration:** Chronic rotation reduces daily sperm output and epididymal storage due to both thermal injury and impaired blood flow.
- **Reduced Motility:** Heat-induced damage to sperm mitochondria and tail structures leads to lower progressive motility and reduced fertilizing ability. Typically, motility declines appear **2–4 weeks** after the thermal insult.
- **Increased Abnormal Morphology:** Common sperm defects include:
    - Proximal and distal droplets
    - Pyriform heads
    - Coiled or bent tails

  These abnormalities reflect disrupted spermatogenesis and epididymal dysfunction.
- **Risk of Permanent Infertility:** Long-standing or severe torsion may cause fibrosis, testicular atrophy, and irreversible loss of fertility.

8. What producers should watch for

Signs of scrotal twist in breeding bulls may include scrotal defects ranging from mildly tilted to severely rotated testes. It may be more difficult to identify the mild cases and quite challenging to cull animals from genetically ‘superior’ lines. Bulls with testes positioned higher than normal should be examined more thoroughly, as well as those exhibiting scrotal swelling or firmness, or with low BSE scores. Any bull with an abnormal testicular orientation should be evaluated by a veterinarian.

9. Practical Recommendations

It is recommended that all bulls intended for breeding should be examined by means of a breeding soundness examination (BSE). This should include an evaluation of the scrotal orientation, testicular mobility, and symmetry, and semen analysis. Breeding bulls should be monitored for reduced libido or discomfort, especially bulls where scrotal rotation was diagnosed.

10. Conclusion

Thermoregulation is essential for bull fertility, and any condition that elevates testicular temperature—including scrotal twist—can significantly reduce semen quality and pregnancy rates. Even mild rotation disrupts the pampiniform plexus and scrotal positioning, impairing heat exchange. Early detection and management are critical to maintaining herd reproductive performance.

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Santa Gertrudis

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Genomics in ACTION

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The South African Santa Gertrudis breeders have taken full advantage of the second round of the Beef Genomics Program (BGP2). From the very first year of BGP2, the breed has set the pace by exceeding their allotted genotyping quota by over 250 animals and achieving an impressive 150% compliance rate. The momentum continued in year two, with the breed exceeding their quota by 111 animals and reaching a 120% compliance rate! With year three around the corner, the expectations are high and the trajectory is clear. This has allowed the breed to grow their genomic reference population to more than 2000 animals. Several herds from breeds registered with SA Stud Book have adopted genomic testing as an essential breeding and management tool. **This level of adoption reflects a clear understanding of the long-term value of genomics, allowing the breeders to reap the full benefit of the latest technology.**

Polledness

The two POLLED mutations that can be tested for genomically, are the Celtic (Pc) and Friesian (Pf) variants. The more recently discovered Mongolian (P_M) and Guarani (P_G) mutations, which also cause polledness, are being investigated by the SA Stud Book team to be provided via a genomic test soon. Figure 1 below, indicates that both the Celtic and the Friesian POLLED variants are both segregating in the South African Santa Gertrudis population.

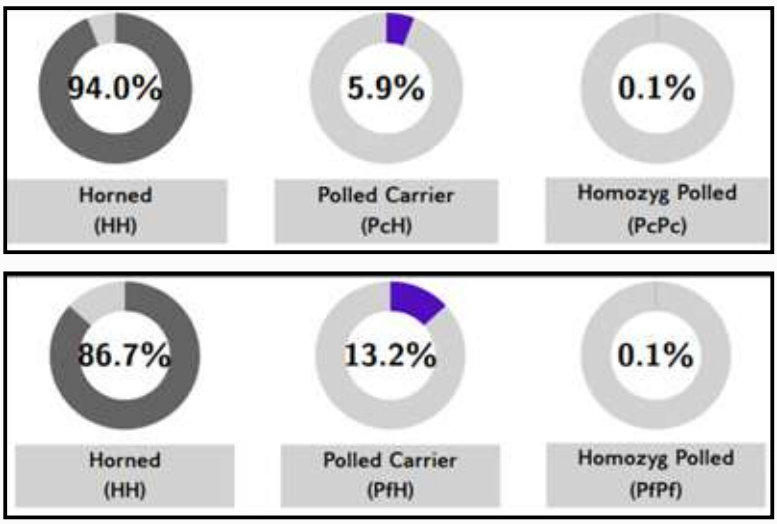

Figure 1. POLLED variants detected in the South African Santa Gertrudis breed.

What must be noted, is that when mating a PcH (carrier of the Celtic polled variant) bull and a PfH (carrier of the Friesian polled variant) cow, there is a 75% guarantee of getting a polled calf. Animals that carry one copy of any of the POLLED variants, meaning they are genetically PcPf, have been observed and are considered homozygous polled. This is explained in Figure 2 below.

Double Muscling

E226X is the new double-muscling variant that has been found in the South African beef cattle population. Although described as Beef Shorthorn specific, lessons learnt with the "Belgian Blue double-muscling" variant *nt821*, these mutations can sporadically occur in other breeds. As the Beef Shorthorn is a foundation breed of the Santa Gertrudis, it is important to monitor this new variant and the only way to test for this mutation in South Africa is with a genomic test. The *nt821 variant* has been identified as the primary variant segregating within the Santa Gertrudis population (Figure 3). In less than 0.5% of carriers identified, both *Q204X* and *F94L* have been picked up and traced back to cows brought in as Section A for upgrading purposes.

Figure 3. Double muscling gene variants found within the Santa Gertrudis population.

This highlights a need to screen these animals to reveal their double-muscling status prior to considering them, with the added benefit of genomically enhanced breeding values assisting the prediction of their breeding potential.

Detrimental Recessive Mutations

Genetic disorders such as Crooked Tail, Osteopetrosis, and Mule Foot cause distinctive phenotypic abnormalities, often mistaken for general weakness or poor health in calves. **Glycogen Storage Diseases** (GSD, including Pompe's disease), resulting from mutations that impair glycogen storage, is a mutation that is currently being monitored to eradicate this recessive mutation from the South African beef cattle population. Retinitis Pigementosa (*RP1*) is an ocular disorder that causes complete blindness in animals, but

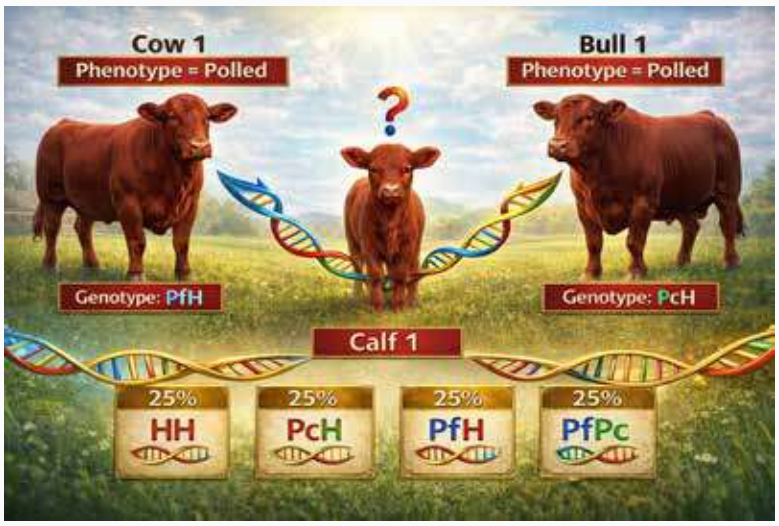

Figure 2. All potential combinations in a calf when mating of PcH with PfH.

is only exhibited in animals over four years of age, meaning it is a progressive degeneration of the photoreceptors. Maple Syrup Urine Disease (MSUD) is a lethal genetic abnormality, with two variants observed within the South African beef cattle population. Affected calves are unable to break down complex amino acids due to a defective enzyme. The build-up of these complex amino acids causes lethal brain damage, affected calves are typically born without symptoms, but by 2 to 4 days old become slow, dull and eventually recumbent. The calf will often throw its head back and lie on its side, unable to rise. To reduce the risk of these disorders, genomic testing of sire bulls is essential to exclude carriers and ensure herd health. Santa Gertrudis breeders are hereby asked that if a calf seemingly exhibits one of the above mentioned recessive disorders, that a hair sample of the calf is taken in order to confirm if it is indeed a recessive genetic disorder.

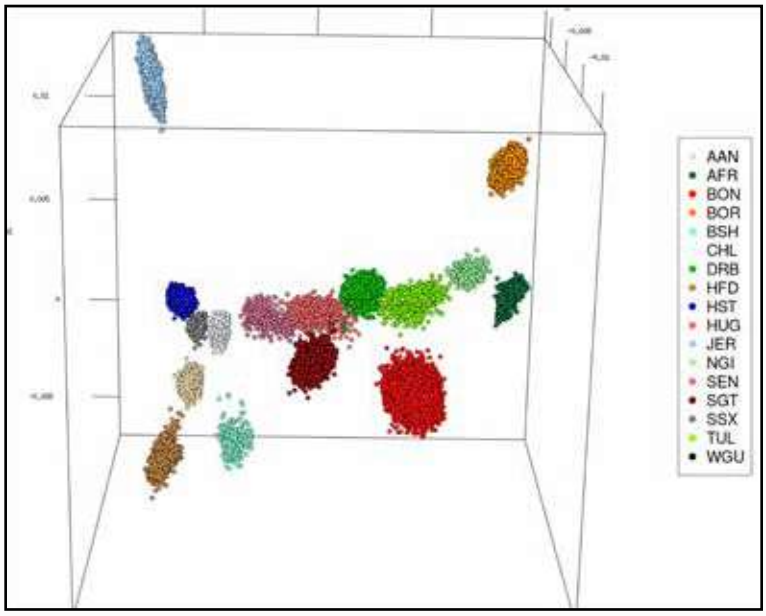

Figure 4. GeneBox to show the Santa Gertrudis genetic relatedness to other breeds, Angle 1.

Genomic Positioning of the Breed

The (3-dimensional) Principal Component Analysis (PCA) plot (Figures 4 and 5), simply referred to as a "GeneBox", illustrates the genetic relationship of the South African Santa Gertrudis breed relative to other South African breeds. Each dot represents an individual animal, and clustering reflects shared genetic similarity across thousands of genomic markers. Two GeneBoxes have been included from different angles to encapsulate the three-dimensional aspect of the plot. The Santa Gertrudis cluster (dark red cluster in the middle of both pictures) forms a distinct, well-defined cluster with clear separation from the other breeds. The Santa Gertrudis cluster sits halfway between the Beef Shorthorn cluster (light blue cluster at the bottom of the first image and on the right hand side on the second image) and the Boran cluster (orange). Although the Boran is not part of the historical ancestry of the breed, the Brahman that is included in the breed's make-up is expected to cluster close to the Boran due to shared *Indicine* ancestry and can be used as a reference. Unfortunately, Brahman cattle are not included in the plot. As more genotypes for each breed are added and the genetic reference populations per breed are expanded, the genomic relationships between the clusters will become even more apparent.

The integration of genetic testing into the breed provides an increasingly powerful framework for managing the Santa Gertrudis breed. The GeneBox highlights the breeds' distinct yet composite

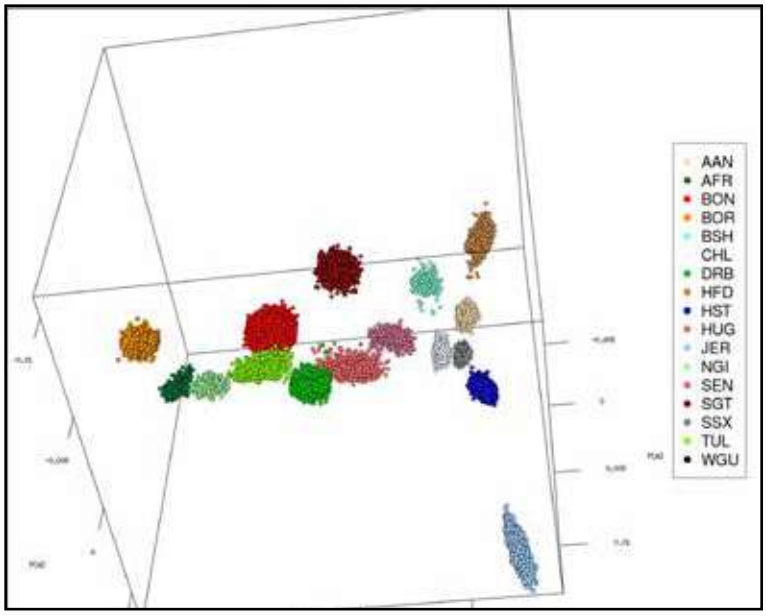

Figure 5. GeneBox to show the Santa Gertrudis position in relation to other breeds, Angle 2.

Medium raam, geharde, veld aangepaste santas, wat baie vrugbaar is.

KROONSPRUIT

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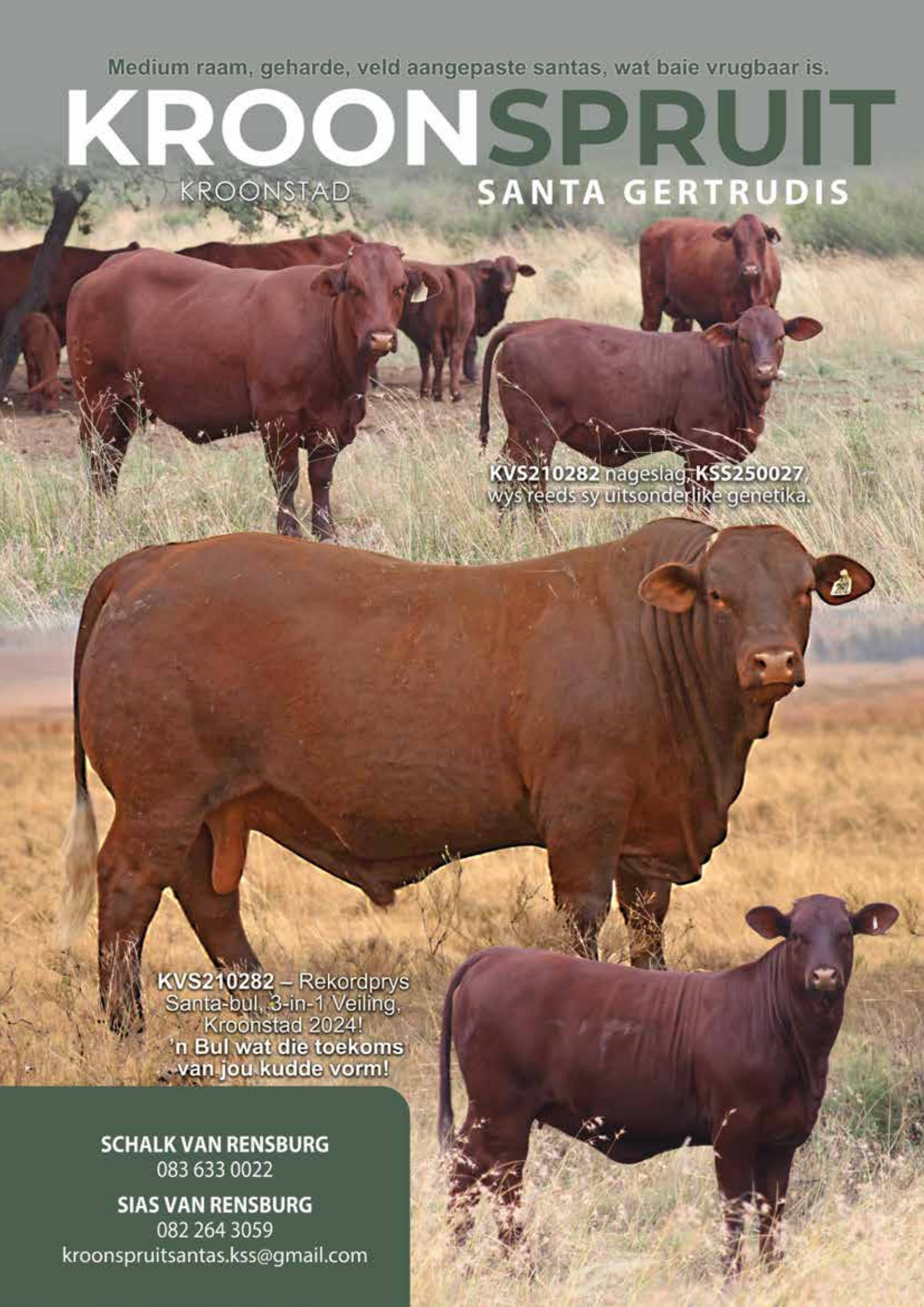
SANTA GERTRUDIS



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genomic architecture. At the same time, the detection and management of detrimental mutations remain critical to safeguard the long-term fitness of the population.

These latest “Geneboxes” are a part of the ongoing development of the Breed Composition Purity Key. SA Stud Book will launch the newest Breed Key in 2026, introducing this as an added feature when genomically testing animals, and will allow for accurate tracing of upgrading, as well as identifying the breed history in contributing to a composite or admixed animal.

The effect of nt821 on Santa Gertrudis bulls in a Growth Test

>> DR HELENA THERON, SA Stud Book, helena@studbook.co.za

Introduction

The nt821 mutation in the myostatin (MSTN) gene leads to double muscling in cattle, characterized by excessive muscle growth and reduced subcutaneous fat. This mutation is inherited as a partially recessive trait which shows incomplete penetrance, meaning carrier animals (heterozygotes) may exhibit some or all characteristics associated with this gene to varying degrees. While carrier bulls often have a selection advantage due to good muscling and heavier weaners, carrier cows face disadvantages, including increased calving difficulty due to heavier birth weights, less overall body fat and potential negative impacts on fertility and overall health. The growth of nt821-carrier bulls and nt821-free bulls were compared in a growth test.

Materials and Methods

The study involved 36 Santa Gertrudis bulls, all of which completed a standard 84-day Phase D21 growth test at the Santarific Santa Stud near Bloemfontein, between 16 July and 8 October 2025. Bulls were sourced from multiple breeders and were genomically tested for myostatin mutations, including the nt821 variant, and for the estimation of GEBVs. The nt821 mutation was present in 13 bulls, while 23 bulls were free of this mutation.

Results and Discussion

Table 1: Comparison of phenotypic traits (Average and SD) measured in a growth test of free and carrier bulls. No differences are significant, due to low numbers and partial recessiveness of nt821.

	nt821 Free	nt821 Carrier	Difference
Number of bulls	23	13	
Dam age (months)	76 ± 24	60 ± 17	-16 months
Birth weight (kg)	38 ± 3	40 ± 4	+2kg
Weaning weight (kg)	262 ± 39	274 ± 31	+12kg
Age at start of 84d test (d)	289 ± 23	291 ± 19	+2 days
Weight at start of test (kg)	310 ± 39	322 ± 25	+12kg
Weight at end of test (kg)	462 ± 52	483 ± 33	+21kg
ADG (g/day)	1816 ± 255	1920 ± 235	+104g/day
ADA	1138 ± 109	1183 ± 76	+45
Kleiber Ratio	18.2 ± 2	18.6 ± 2	+0.5
Height (mm)	1154 ± 34	1168 ± 36	+14mm
Length (mm)	1400 ± 42	1414 ± 41	+14mm
Skin thickness (mm)	16.7 ± 2	15.8 ± 1	-1.0mm
Scrotum circumference (mm)	338 ± 24	344 ± 34	+ 6mm
12th Rib Eye Muscle Area (cm2)	67 ± 8	73 ± 6	+6cm^2
12th Rib Fat depth (mm)	4.8 ± 0.9	4.5 ± 1.0	-0.3mm
Rump Fat depth (mm)	5.7 ± 0.9	5.3 ± 1.1	-0.4mm
Marbling (%)	1.5 ± 0.5	1.5 ± 0.5	-0.06%

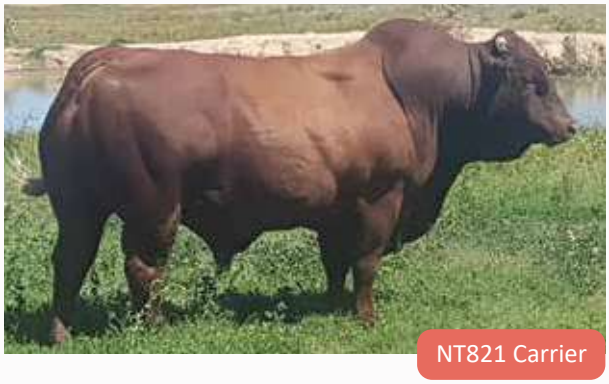
Carrier bulls (nt821 carriers) demonstrated superior performance in several growth parameters compared to non-carrier bulls:

- Weaning Weight: Carrier calves weighed, on average, 12 kg more at weaning.
- Average Daily Gain (ADG): Carriers had an ADG approximately 104 g/day higher than non-carriers.
- Body Measurements: Carriers were, on average, taller and longer than non-carriers.

However, these advantages were accompanied by certain disadvantages:

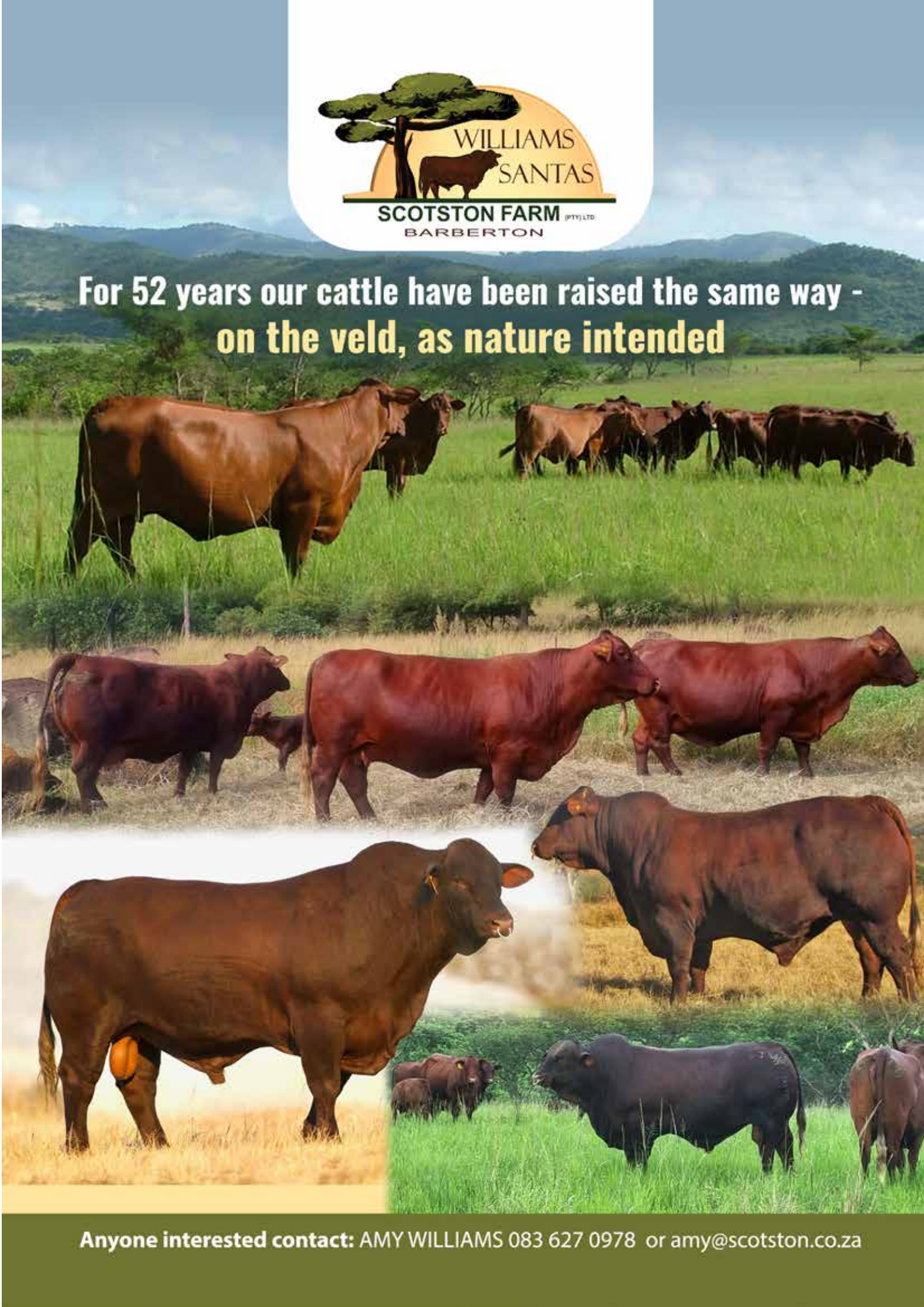
- Birth Weight: Carrier calves had an average birth weight of 40 kg, compared to 38 kg for non-carriers, potentially increasing the risk of dystocia, especially in heifers.
- Fat Reserves: Carriers exhibited lower subcutaneous fat and marbling, which could be detrimental for cows in extensive production systems, particularly during droughts or after calving.
- Dam Age: The dams of carrier calves were, on average, 16 months younger than those of non-carrier calves, which may be associated with increased calving difficulties and lower survival rates in carrier cows.

The age at which the 2 groups started the test are the same, although carriers (indicated with 1) were slightly heavier than free animals (indicated



NT821 Carrier

NT821 Free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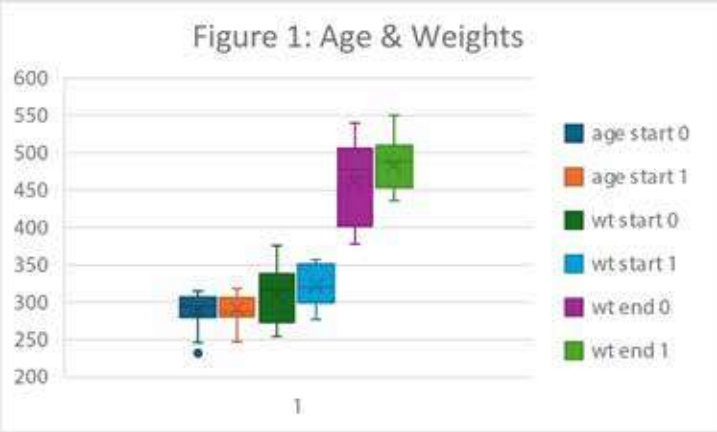
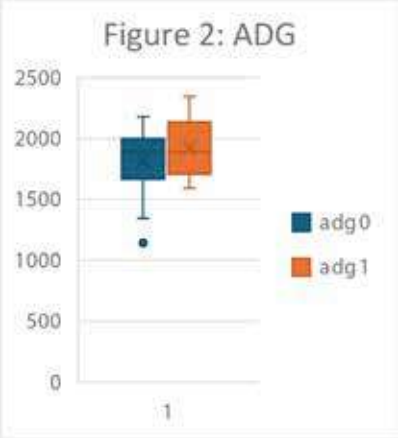
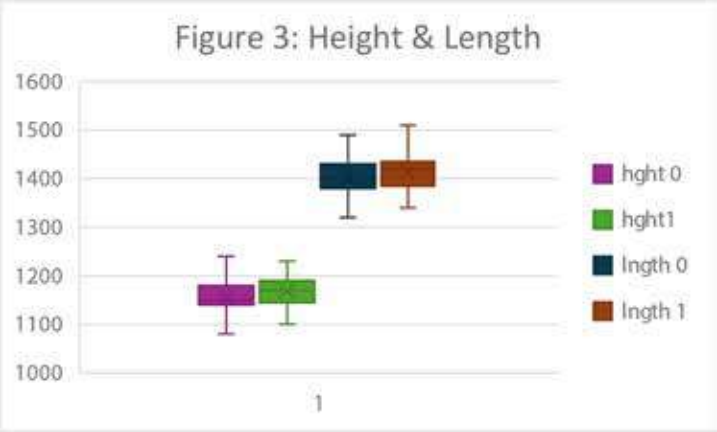
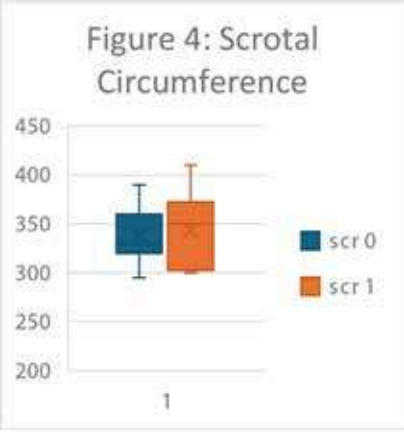
by 0). At the end of the test, the carrier group tended to be heavier (Figure 1) and have a better ADG (Figure 2).



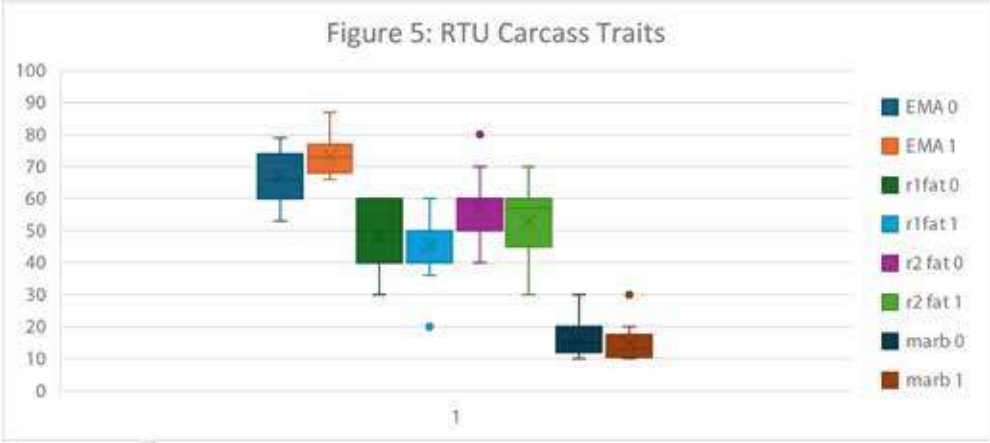


From Figure 3, the height and length of the two groups are similar, although the averages of the carrier group are slightly higher. Scrotal Circumference (Figure 4) shows that the group of carrier bulls are more diverse than the free group, even though they are in a smaller group. The nt821 mutation is partially recessive, which means animals may show some or all effects at different levels. Scrotal circumference of some of the bulls in the carrier group were affected and they had smaller testes, but others were clearly not affected.



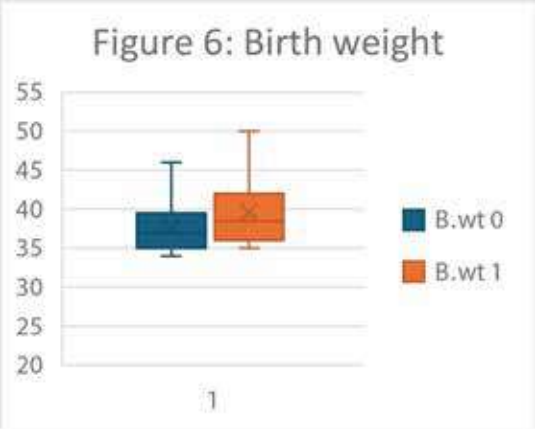


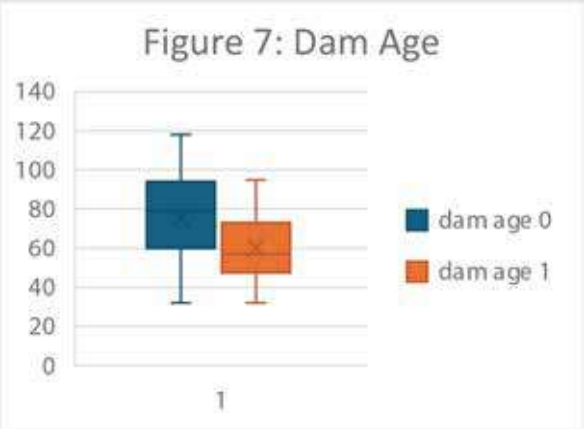
From Figure 5 typical results can be seen on the RTU scans: Carriers tend to have larger eye muscle areas (EMA) and tend to be at the lower end for fat and marbling.



r1: 12th rib; r2: rump

Lower fat reserves (Figure 5) and higher birth weights (Figure 6) are detrimental for females on the veld, usually causing carrier females to be culled sooner than free females. This might be the reason for the lower average age of the carrier bulls' dams (Figure 7). It is unknown what the status of the dams are.





When comparing the GEBVs of the two groups, the carrier group's GEBVs for Birth Direct indicated on average significantly heavier birth weights (86 versus 95 GEBV), while GEBV Eye Muscle Area indicated significantly larger values (124 vs 104 GEBV). However, the GEBV Fat for the carrier group was significantly lower (94 versus 108).

Conclusion

The nt821 mutation confers a selection advantage in bulls due to enhanced growth performance. However, the associated disadvantages, particularly for females, underscore the importance of managing this mutation within breeding programs. While carrier bulls may be advantageous for meat production, the potential negative effects on fertility, calving ease, and overall health in females necessitate careful consideration.

SELECTING for *Feed Efficiency* to improve PROFITABILITY

>> DR HELENA THERON, SA Stud Book, helena@studbook.co.za

Selecting for increased production in beef cattle is often seen to be the best strategy. However, simply increasing outputs does not guarantee higher profitability. While outputs correlate with income, profitability also depends on efficiency and therefore inputs should be managed as well.

To optimize profitability, the focus should shift towards selecting animals that can convert feed into meat more effectively, rather than solely prioritizing maximum weight and growth. Research suggests that a 5% improvement in feed efficiency can yield an economic benefit four times greater than a comparable improvement in growth. Given that feed costs can account for up to two-thirds of beef cattle farming expenses, enhancing feed efficiency is a critical strategy. This consideration applies not only to feedlot animals but also to the cow herd, which typically consumes over 70% of feed throughout the year.

Understanding Feed Efficiency

Some animals have the genetic ability to utilize nutrients more effectively, thereby achieving better growth with a lower feed intake. Therefore, correctly identifying and then propagating the genetics of outstanding animals within the breed is crucial. However, accurately measuring feed intake in veld conditions—particularly for cows—poses significant challenges. To facilitate this, growth and feed intake are measured on young

bulls during specialized Phase C growth tests. This information is then used in genetic evaluation to estimate breeding values for the efficiency traits FCR (Feed Conversion Ratio) and RFI (Residual Feed Intake). Feed efficiency is therefore the genetic selection criteria that can be used to also breed feed-efficient cows on the veld.

Measuring Feed Efficiency

Accurate assessment of feed efficiency necessitates both growth and individual feed intake measurements. Potential breeding bulls is assessed through Phase C growth tests carried out in controlled environments with standardized growth rations at accredited testing stations nationwide. Minimum requirements involve a group of at least three—but ideally more—calves of the same breed, that are the offspring of at least 2 registered bulls. These animals, aged between 5 to 9 months old, should not differ by more than 100 days in age or 50 kg in weight. The standard duration for Phase C tests is 84 days (12 weeks), with weekly weighing of animals.

During these tests, each bull's feed intake is recorded using specialized equipment, allowing for precise measurement of feed efficiency. The average Feed Conversion Ratio (FCR) for all animals on test should be between 5 and 6, and the Average Daily Gain (ADG) should be in the range of 1.6 to 1.8 kg/day, aligned with breed averages. Additional measurements, including weight, scrotal circumference, shoulder height, and body length, are collected upon test completion, while carcass trait measurements through ultrasonic (RTU) techniques and skin thickness are optional. These results are processed and are used by breeders to select breeding bulls for the next generation.

The growth trait Average Daily Gain (ADG) which indicates kg weight increase per day, and the two feed efficiency traits FCR (Feed Conversion Ratio) which quantifies the amount of feed consumed per kg of weight gain as well as Residual Feed Intake (RFI) which indicate the difference between an animal's actual feed intake and its expected intake based on body weight and growth rate, are calculated. For both FCR and RFI, lower values are preferable, as they denote animals that require less feed to gain weight.

Results are presented in units of measurement as well as a phenotypic index, which simplistically ranks the animals and is used for inspection purposes. Phenotypic indices are relative to a baseline of 100, calculated based on a 10-year rolling average per breed and test centre at ARC test centres, or against contemporary group averages at the SA Stud Book test centres.

Example: Selecting for Feed Efficiency

An illustrative example of using feed efficiency data to select young breeding bulls can be drawn from a Phase C growth test conducted on Santa Gertrudis bulls at the ARC's Glen Test Station from July 17 to October 9, 2025. This group consisted of 18 bulls from 12 sires and 7 breeders, all aged between 6 to 9 months at the start of the test, with a maximum age difference of 76 days. Prior to testing, the bulls underwent an adjustment period on the same ration planned for the growth test, allowing rumen microbes to adapt. After two months of adaptation, when the bulls were gaining weight, the official growth test started.

The relationship between the measurements and phenotypic index, as illustrated in Figures

1 and 2, shows a near perfect correlation, as the phenotypic index ranks only one specific trait as measured in this specific test group. Given that

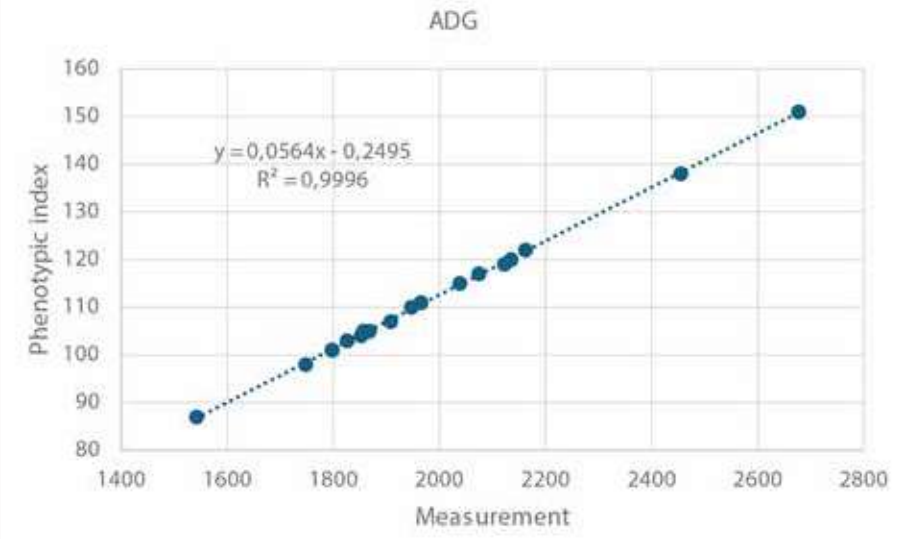


Figure 1: The phenotypic index ranks the animal based on their measurements.

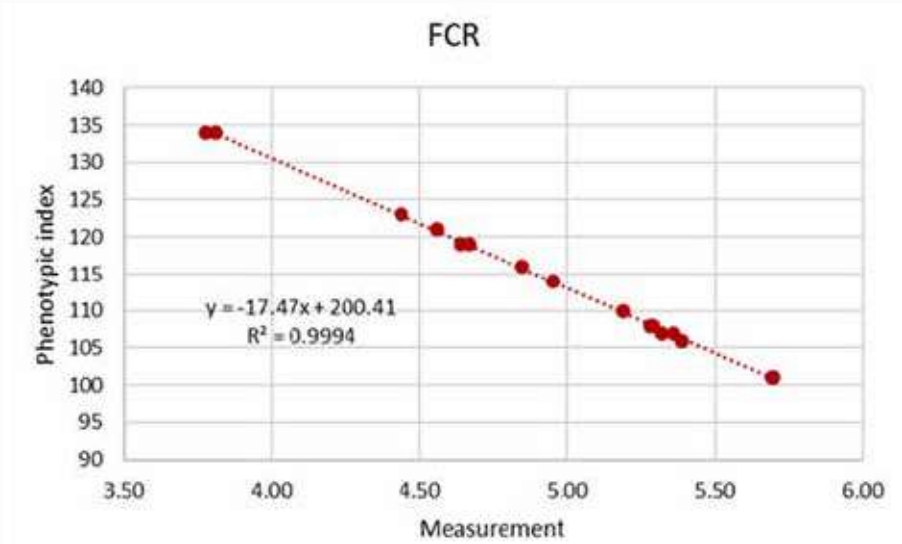


Figure 2: Lower values for FCR and RFI is preferable, as it indicates that the animal ate less to gain weight.

the phenotypic index at ARC test centres is anchored to a 10-year rolling average, most animals had ADG and FCR indices above 100.

In contrast, breeding value estimation incorporates a broader range of information, including genomic information, necessary corrections, genetically correlated traits measured for the individual bull, and data on his family members. GEBVs are expressed relative to the average genetic level of the live animals in the breed. As a result, some re-ranking occurs when comparing phenotypic measurements or indices with the genomic estimated breeding values (GEBVs) for Average Daily Gain (ADG), Residual Feed Intake (RFI), and Feed Conversion Ratio (FCR) (see Figures 3a, 3b, and 3c). Although the correlations between phenotypic indices and GEBVs are around 75% in this test, selection based on breeding values will be more accurate. Female relatives of these bulls can also be selected on GEBVs.

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Vra gerus uit oor opsies wat sosiale media-blootstelling en *Stockfarm*-bemarking insluit.

Figure 3 a, b & c: Added information from other traits as well as family performance is used to estimate GEBVs, which changed the ranking for some animals.

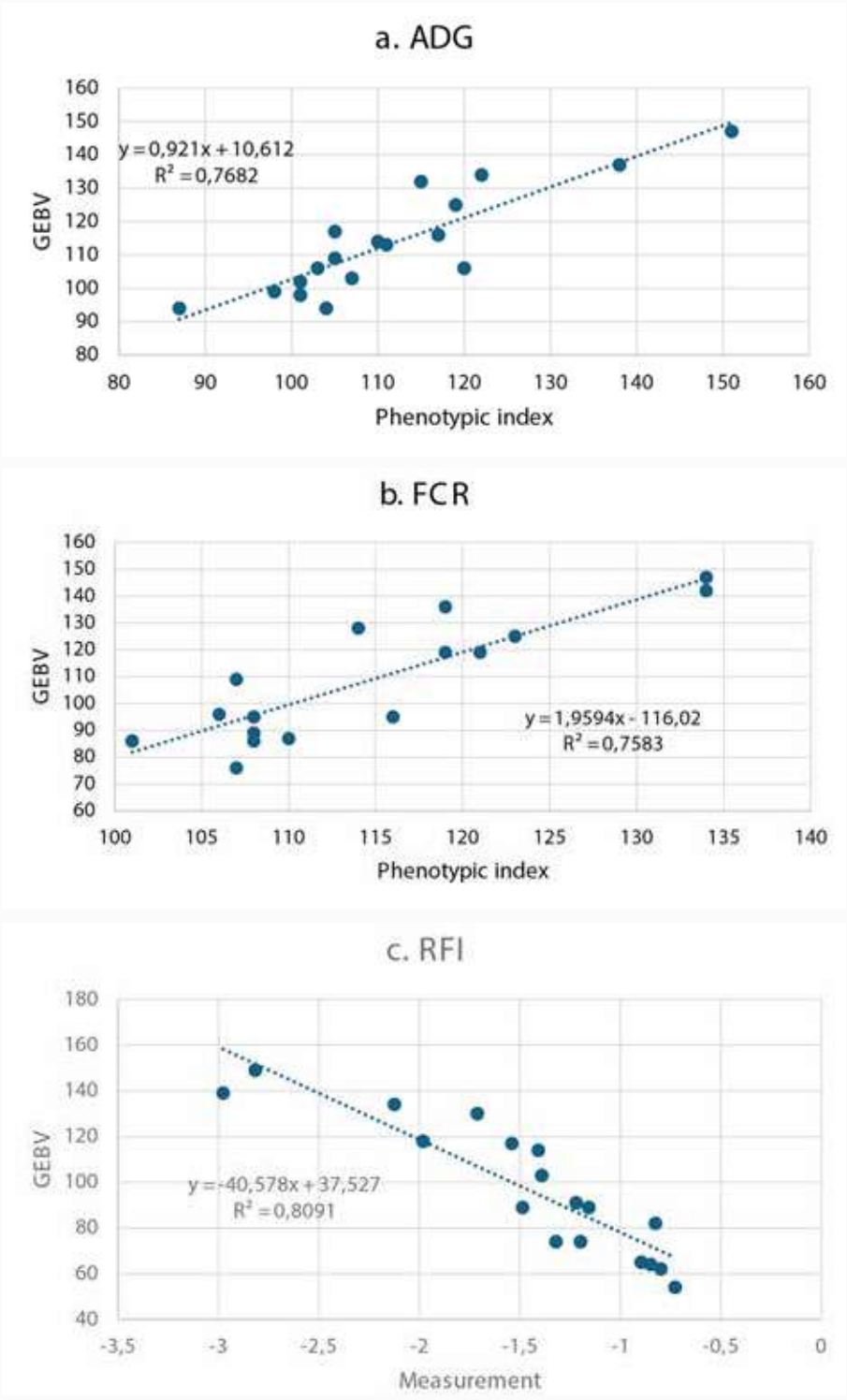

Figure 4 displays the GEBVs for ADG, FCR, and RFI for each bull evaluated in the test. Bulls 1 to 7 are identified as genetically superior, exhibiting both high growth capacity and feed efficiency, as all GEBVs are above the breed average (100). While all 18 bulls in this test demonstrate sufficient genetic ability for growth, evidenced by ADG GEBVs greater than 90, not all exhibit the same degree of feed efficiency.

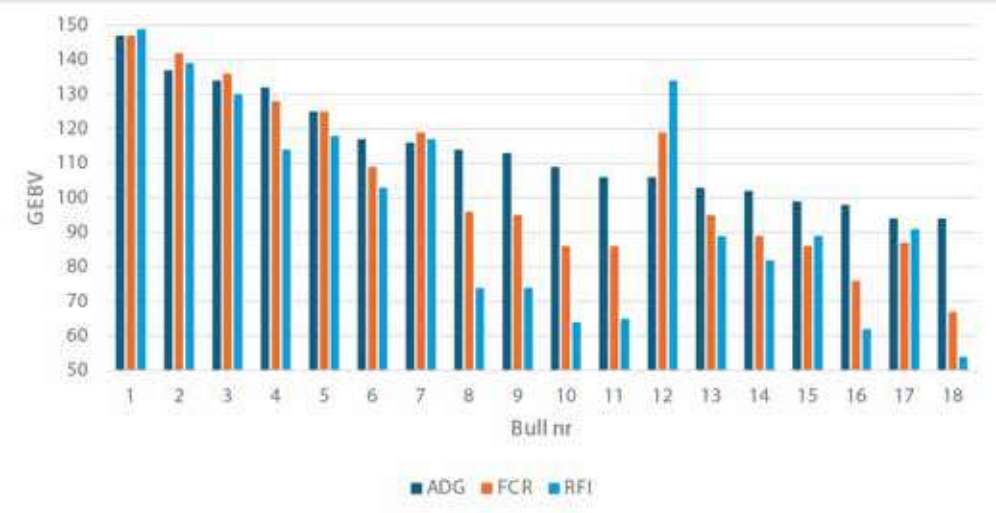

Figure 4: Although all 18 bulls in the growth test had GEBVs for ADG >90, which is acceptable GEBVs for growth, a third of them had both efficiency GEBVs below 90, which is generally considered to be too low.

Consider the cases of Bulls 11 and 12, both with identical genetic growth potential (GEBV ADG = 106). However, their efficiencies differ significantly: Bull 11 has GEBVs of 86 for FCR and 65 for RFI, indicating he requires a substantial amount of feed to achieve his growth. In contrast, Bull 12 shows superior breeding values of 116 for FCR and 134 for RFI, revealing that his feed intake is well below what would be expected for his growth. Thus, Bull 12 stands out as the better candidate of the two for breeding, specifically concerning feed efficiency.

As these values are GEBVs, the performance of Bull 12 is corroborated by the performance of family members. Although most bulls in this test exhibit a strong genetic ability for both growth and feed efficiency, a significant proportion—about one-third—demonstrated efficiency GEBVs below 90. This underscores the critical need to incorporate feed efficiency trait measurements into selection practices, ensuring that only the most efficient breeding stock is chosen, thereby maximizing the potential for profitability and sustainability within beef production.

Conclusion

It is important to select for feed efficiency in beef cattle breeding instead of merely focusing on maximum weight and growth. Feed efficiency can lead to greater profitability, especially considering the high costs associated with feeding cattle, which can represent up to two-thirds of beef production costs. To measure feed efficiency, growth and individual feed intake are evaluated in controlled Phase C growth tests. The tests provide valuable data on traits like Average Daily Gain (ADG), Feed Conversion Ratio (FCR), and Residual Feed Intake (RFI). This allows breeders to make informed decisions and select for animals that present the best potential for efficient production, reducing feeding costs and increasing overall profitability of beef production.

SA BULL *Price Indicator* FOLLOW-UP ANALYSIS

>> TIMON DEDEKIND, EDWARD MOKOENA, CARLI JACOBS & DR W.A. LOMBARD,
Department Agricultural Economics, University of the Free State, DedekindTC@ufs.ac.za

The Department of Agricultural Economics, University of the Free State started collecting data on stud-bull prices within South Africa. The goal of this project is to establish a database of stud bulls sold in South Africa that contains the numbers of bulls sold, the average prices obtained per year, etc. Bulls from all breeds are welcome to participate if they qualify as being stud animals. The breeds who already agreed to participate in the project and who have sent their sale statistics are: Angus Cattle Breeders' Society of South Africa, Bonsmara Cattle Breeders' Society South Africa, Boran Cattle Breeders' Society of South Africa, Brahman Cattle Breeders' Society of South Africa, Hereford Cattle Society, Santa Gertrudis Cattle Breeders' Society of South Africa, Beef Shorthorn Cattle Breeders' Society of South Africa and Simmentaler Cattle Breeders' Society of South Africa.

The sales price data for 2019 was used to establish a base price for the study. Sale statistics are presented in Table 1 where the number

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of bulls sold by the participating breeds along with the average prices obtained per year and the percentage change seen in the 6 years are included.

Overall, the data indicates that the stud-bull market in South Africa showed strong growth and resilience from 2019 to 2022, with prices consistently outpacing inflation and highlighting

***Table 1**- Averages of stud-bulls in South Africa irrespective of breed*

Year	Total Bulls Sold	Annual change	Average Price	Index from base	Y/Y changes in price	Change since 2019
2019	3418		R49 692	100		
2020	4314	896	R56 959	114.6	14.6%	14.60%
2021	5040	726	R69 319	139.5	21.7%	39.50%
2022	4886	-154	R76 122	153.2	9.8%	53.20%
2023	5007	121	R77 306	155.6	1.6%	55.60%
2024	4385	-622	R80 222	161.4	3.7%	61.40%

Over this six-year period (Table 1), a total of 27 050 stud-bulls were sold between these breeds, notice how the numbers steadily increased between 2019 from 3418 to 5040 in 2021. Thereafter the numbers remained in the high four thousands for 2022 and just exceeded five thousand in 2023. In 2024 the numbers however declined to 4385. In 2019, the market saw the sale of 3 418 bulls at an average price of R49 692. In 2020, the number of bulls sold increased to 4314 (26.2% increase), and the average price rose to R56 959, a year-on -year (Y/Y) price change of R7 267/bul or 14.6%. This price increase outpaced inflation, indicating a strong demand and possibly favourable economic conditions for cattle farming.

The following year, 2021, experienced the highest number of bulls sold, reaching 5040, and the average price increased to R69 319. This represents a Y/Y price increase of R12 360 or 21.7%.

In 2022, the market experienced slight moderation. The number of bulls sold decreased to 4 886 (decrease of 3.05%), yet the average price increased to R76 122, with a Y/Y price change of R6 803 or 9.8%. In 2023 the number of bulls sold increased to 5 007 (an increase of 2.5% Y/Y), and the average price slightly increased to R77 306, resulting in a Y/Y price change of R1 184 or 1.6%.

2024 showed a significant decline in the number of bulls sold (622 bulls less). The price however increased by 3.7% from 2023 and reached R80 222/bul.

the value and demand of stud-bulls in South Africa. The accumulated inflation of 61.4% over six years translates to an approximate increase of R30 530 in the average price of stud-bulls.

Monthly trends

The bar chart, Figure 1, provide insight into the share of stud bulls sold each month. The annual trends show that February shows a increase in sales as we see a spike in sales, this could indicate a high demand for bulls to be used in the autumn breeding period or purchases made for tax purposes. During July and August the numbers increase and reach a peak in September. September accounts for 21% of the annual bull sales. This could possibly indicate the start of the purchasing period for the spring and summer breeding season.

Bull sales decrease during October and November and during December sales decreases to a minimum for the year.

Overall, Figure 1 highlights the seasonal nature of bull sales, with bull sales peaking during the third quarter and showing lower saled volume at the beginning and end of the year. This pattern underscores the importance of strategic planning and inventory management to navigate the fluctuations effectively and align with market dynamics. Understanding these trends can help in planning sales strategies and ensuring better alignment with market demands and seasonal fluctuations.

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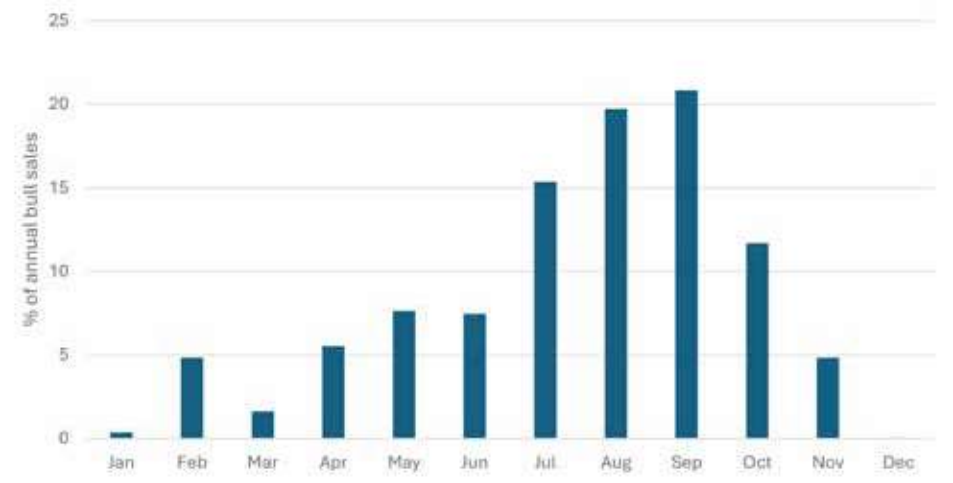


Figure 1 *Share of Bulls Sold Per Month*

Future plans

This article presents results up to the end of the 2024 year for the national bull price indicator for South Africa. This data will help to gain valuable insight into the stud-bull market within South Africa. In future this data can be used to assist in determining the driving factors of the stud-bull market in South Africa. Lastly, a word of thanks to the cattle breeds who are already part of the project and who provided access to all the auction data needed. If there are any other cattle breeds who are interested in joining the project please inform us.

Sire Selection

AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH

>> JOHN BOULLE, November 2025, johnboulle5407@gmail.com

Don't be caught sleeping, when SELECTING A HERD BULL

Fertility will drive profit as if you don't have any progeny, what is the point of farming.

In breeding cattle, your target market is vitally important viz. weaners for beef production, is significantly different if you are an ox or bull producer. Then what is even more important is to whom do you market your weaners. If this is the local agent and/or feedlot, are you producing what the market requires? Failure to do so will incur penalties which ultimately affects your income statement.

A classic example of this is the production of broken coloured calves which either through the agent, local sales venue and desired feedlot, will attract between R 3.00 to R 5.00 per kg reduction in price when compared to whole-coloured calves. The resultant loss on 100 calves could be as much as R 80 000 (200 kg calf @ R34.00/kg instead of 200 kg @ R38.00/kg). Fine boned calves which lack muscling and/or growth can also lead to a reduction in the price realized per kg.

What not to select for in your new herd bull

Consequently, the selection of sires to be used in your beef production herd is vitally important. If they produce undesirable calves, no matter how fertile these bulls may be, you will be on the losing end. Therefore beware of blind selection, especially non-selected multi-sire groups. I believe this to be a shotgun hit-and-miss approach. Such bulls can have functional phenotypic faults including:

- Devil's grip
- Low pasterns
- Fine bone
- Lack of muscling/masculinity
- Wry face
- Undershot jaw
- Lack of body depth.

Stringent selection pointers

Potential sire selection should include the following points:

1. What is the fertility record/calving interval of the bull's dam and maternal grand-dam?
2. You should select bulls which have been born early in the calving season. This is evident on a low individual animal number (for the bull) and indicates that his dam was amongst the first cows to conceive in the breeding season.
3. Regular calving would represent functional cows which present an annual calf at weaning - no excuses.
4. Did both females have functional udders?
5. There should be little or no evidence of in the dam of sore eyes, foot-rot/laminitis and with a clean health record of no mastitis and a resistance to lumpy skin disease.
6. What is the retention factor of both sire and dam? If it is high, then they can both be deemed to be prepotent viz. high transmitting ability of desired characteristics to their progeny.
7. If this is low, are you selecting "just-a-bull" in the vain hope he might just turn out all right.
8. This can all be summed up as constitutional vigour (Bonsma,1964).
9. Physical evaluation of the bull includes a balanced appearance with a slick coat. An acceptable scrotal circumference is a minimum of 32-34 cm at 2 years of age. The bull should also have a darkening dorsal line of his coat along his spine, which indicates hormonal balance of the animal with his environment.
10. The potential bull must look and act like a bull.

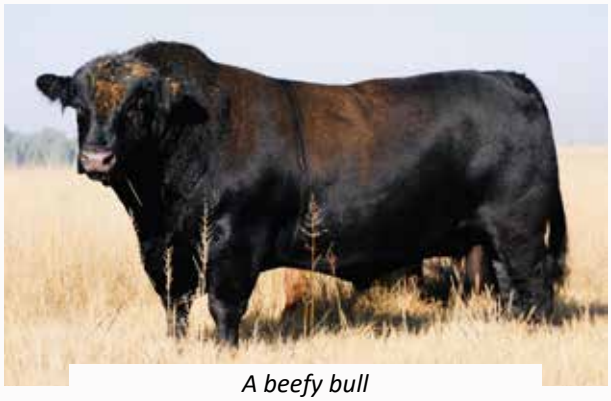
Too few breeders insist on seeing the dam and possibly the grand-dam of the potential bull to be purchased. A visual evaluation is imperative to understand what sort of progeny one could expect. Otherwise your purchase is nothing more than a lucky dip.

Rigorous selection

A classic example of this rigorous selection was practiced by a large (400 cow herd) Holstein milk producer in Schweizer Renecke, NW. His ONLY selection criteria over 30 years or more of breeding was that the dam of the sire (in both

Too long and uneven testes

Poor unbalanced udder



A beefy bull

All you know about this bull is he has some Brahman blood

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Santas

Koos Harding 082 800 3151

Karoo-Ochse
AUCTIONEERS

Steven Mathews (Afslaer) 076 865 0640 • Christiaan Pretorius (Agent) 071 571 9319

Jersey bull 4 yr by NZ sire out of 10 lactation cow

Shorthorn cow. Champion Dual Purpose

artificial insemination selected sires and herd bulls) and the maternal grand-dam had to have 3 or more trouble free lactations (no mastitis, sickness etc) in production which can also be equated to Effective Herd Life. He never selected for high milk, butterfat or protein production. He subsequently bred a highly productive herd which maintained above average levels of milk, butterfat and protein production with an average number of lactations more than 3 per cow. Herd fertility registered at 1.1 inseminations per conception with heifers calving under 2 years of age and re-conception rates measured at 80%.

Closed or open herd?

Some beef breeders close their herds to outside genes and only make use of selecting their own bulls. In order to do so a minimum of 400 cows is necessary.

During my M.Sc .Agric (1986) research, a Natal beef producer closed his herd with about 220 cows and selected (incorrectly) for the biggest bull calf year on year as his replacement bull.

In a 15 year period the following was recorded:

- cow fertility (as measured by calving percentage) dropped by 10% which was also measured with a 4.0 cm reduction in scrotal circumference;
- milk production and therefore weaner weight decreased (from 200 kg to 175 kg) by a similar percentage; and
- heifers exhibited later sexual maturity.
- This all resulted in lower income, assessed at about R 100 000 per year (1986).
- The resultant progeny were not only lighter at weaning but exhibited lower performance (growth) post weaning and undesirable conformation as attested by the local marketing agent.

Whilst closing your small herd of 200 or less cows to outside genetic influences, in the short term selecting your replacement bulls and heifers can be of short term financial gain **BUT** you may not immediately see the deterioration in the quality of your cattle. A considered external observation will observe this and even though the herd may be subjected to natural selection, you want to breed productive cattle of which you can be proud of instead of trying to breed fine-boned antelope. Raising the inbreeding co-efficient will also significantly increase the appearance of genetic deformities. Under natural selection, predators would have removed these inferior animals.

Multiplication using traditional (open) breeding programmes

Traditional breeding programmes employ the purchase of purebred bulls of a breed and using them on either purebred or crossbred cow groups to produce weaner calves.

An example of a successful beef producer is Rudi Lemcke of Botswana. He has successfully bred over 5 000 breeding cows using a variety of breeds in simple crossbreeding programmes. He purchases the best affordable bull of each breed in his programme and mates these to a select group of the same breed. His budget does not allow for the replacement of approximately 400 bulls each year so he breeds his own selected purebred bulls for use in his crossbreeding programme. He wouldn't be considered one of the best, if not the top, beef producers in Botswana by using his own crossbred bulls (which is surely a temptation). The cornerstone of his operation is the use of purebred, selected bulls of each breed on a variety of cow breed types.

This standpoint is similar to that of local successful Northern Cape beef producer Bruce Hunt. He breeds in excess of 2 000 cows using different breeds and breed combinations in a cross-breeding programme. He purchases the best bulls of each breed used in crossbreeding and uses them for a minimum of 4 years.

One has to ask oneself are not the better bulls right in-front (literally) of you. Too often bull breeders are hell-bent on acquiring the next best "top" semen from an imported bull instead of assessing the local bull market and/or their own bulls. A local breeder of a registered breed cited impatience at the rate of progress in his herd and consequently an associated lack of belief in his own cattle by adopting this approach of using the next "top" bull in the AI Sire catalogue.

Retention factor

Do you know if the bloodline of the bulls which you wish to use come from animals which have been retained by the breeder for further use in his herd? Or do they come from a line of bulls merely multiplied without any forethought or planning?

Consider a locally bred Santa Gertrudis bull JL 050119, an exceptional bull with a high retention factor of both sexes in this herd, 60% plus

JL050119

passing inspection and excellent breeding values to boot. The stud owner is using 1 son, 7 grandsons and 3 great grandsons in their breeding programme. Now that is confidence in your breeding programme when you produce such a fine specimen of the breed and then use him extensively. This in many ways is similar to the Santa Gertrudis foundation sire "Monkey".

Another "prepotent" sire is the Angus bull WB 19-39 owned by Bodeel Boerdery, Viljoenskroon, Free State. Besides boasting of average breeding values, the bull sired 396 calves by artificial insemination and natural breeding over a 6-year period. His female progeny number 101 in a herd of 590 breeding cows and the breeder has used 4 sons (2 naturally and 2 by artificial insemination) in his breeding programme, besides having sold over 42 sons at an average of R 60 000 each in this same time period. Modern science has allowed the breeder to continue using the bull by way of frozen semen.

Conclusion

- Define your target market of the end product of your beef production system
- Select stringently for constitutional vigour instead of employing a lucky-dip approach when purchasing a new bull
- Maintain an open mind as where your future genetics may be located
- Use a sire with a high retention factor rather than just-a-bull.

A Traceability PLATFORM that SERVES the FARMER FIRST

>> CORLIA OBERHOLZER, RMIS, Corlia@rmis.co.za

Traceability was never meant to be a burden or a box-ticking exercise. It was built for you, the farmer. At its core, traceability is simply a way for us to protect each other: our herds, our livelihoods, and the markets we depend on. And the only way it works is if we work together. That's why the RMIS Traceability Platform is not a new system you must adapt to, but a network designed to connect the systems you already use. Integration is what turns traceability from an obligation into a practical tool that supports farmers instead of disrupting them.

Integration: The Backbone of Real Traceability

Instead of expecting breeders and producers to abandon the livestock management systems they already know, RMIS connects directly to them, providing a data exchange platform so that one system can talk to another in a standardised language. This creates a unified national traceability ecosystem, linking farms, auctions, feedlots, and abattoirs through secure livestock movement data.

Why is this important?

Because a national traceability system can only function when information flows accurately, automatically, and without duplication. Integration is what makes that possible.

Through these integrations, producers can:

- Record movements digitally with very little extra effort
- Retain ownership and control of their data
- Share only what is required as animals move along the value chain

Today, more than 8 000 production units are already registered on the RMIS Traceability Platform, which is a sign that the industry is moving together toward a stronger, more compliant future.

Why Traceability Matters to Stud Breeders

For stud breeders, the value of traceability runs deeper than compliance. Breeding herds carry years of selective genetics, investment, and reputation. Traceability strengthens that foundation by enhancing herd protection, market credibility, and access to both local and export opportunities.

The RMIS Platform Gives Stud Breeders Practical Advantages:

- The same RMIS infrastructure also supports real-time FMD outbreak mapping, available publicly for anyone to view.
- When an outbreak is confirmed, producers within a 30 km radius receive direct WhatsApp alerts, helping them respond quickly, tighten movement controls, and protect their herds.
- The platform also allows buyers to verify the origin of livestock simply by requesting the seller's Global Location Number (GLN) and checking it on the RMIS website.
- Traceability strengthens export readiness


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across the value chain, including genetic material exports
- Increased local market access, as buyers are already requesting Global Location Numbers before accepting animals.

HOW TO GET STARTED:

Step 1 - Create Your RMIS Profile: Visit the RMIS Traceability Platform, select your location, and receive your unique Global Location Number (GLN) via WhatsApp.

Step 2 - Tag Animals with a Unique 15-digit ICAR Number: This includes options such as Visual ID tags (VIDs), Low-Frequency RFID tags (LF) and High-Frequency RFID tags (UHF). These are supplied by recognised Tag Suppliers and carry or embed a 15-digit ICAR-approved number.

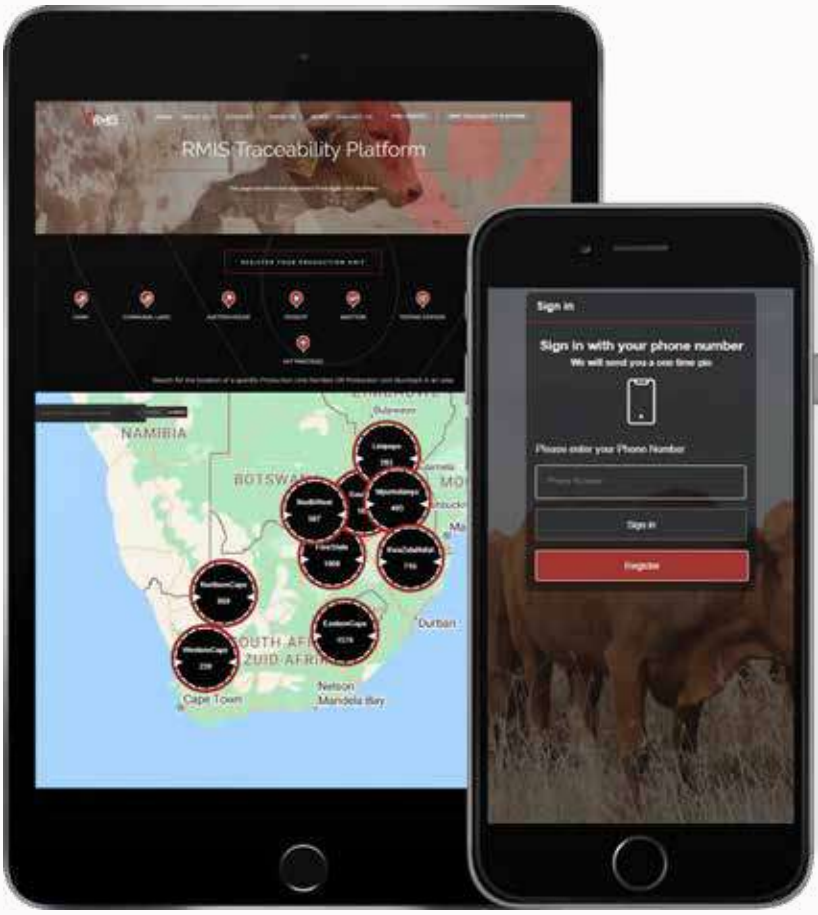
Current recognised Industry Traceability Tag suppliers include: Allflex, Datamars, Sentrac, Servecom, Kyron. This list continues to grow, and updated versions are available on the RMIS website.

Important Transitional Period: To reduce costs for farmers, existing tamper evident single use tags, with unique numbers generated by a recognized recording system already in animals' ears will still be accepted during the transition period.

Step 3 - Load Animals on a Digital Livestock Management System: Upload your animals and their tag numbers into one of the integrated systems, such as Logix IDtrack, Datamars, AIMS, HerdMaster, BenguFarms, iPlan, eLivestock, Pointr Solutions, Gigalot and RMIS Movement application. Always check the RMIS website for the most updated list as we continue to expand this integration.

Step 4 - Link Your System to RMIS: Log in to your RMIS profile, generate a Traceability Token, and share it with your livestock system.

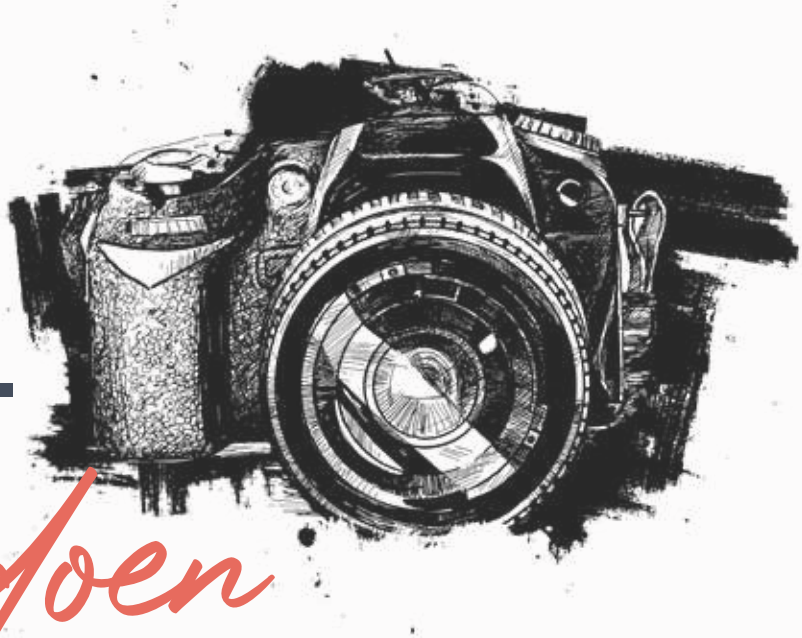
Step 5: Sync Your Records Automatically: Continue recording movements as you've always done. Your livestock system will now sync this information directly to RMIS in the background.



Traceability with no additional cost to the farmer

RMIS has intentionally chosen not to force farmers into a single expensive platform. Instead, the goal is simple: traceability must not create an extra financial burden. To support this RMIS provides a free movement recording application, available on the Play Store, allowing any producer to meet the same national traceability standards.

At the same time, RMIS continues to integrate more tag suppliers and livestock management systems to keep the market competitive and prevent pricing from being driven up by exclusivity. Every step of the platform's development is geared toward one outcome: helping the farmer thrive through an industry-built platform.



‘n Dier **PRAAT NIE** - sy *Foto doen*

Die rol van goeie fotografie in die bemarking van stoetbeeste

>> THYS BRITS, Avara Agri, Matthysfrd@gmail.com

Ek het grootgeword in ’n stoetfamilie. Van kleins af was seleksie, inspeksies en beeste deel van ons wêreld. My oupa, Thys Brits, het in die 1970’s die Santa Gertrudis stoet Henvia begin. Oor die jare het Henvia ’n bekende naam in die Santa Gertrudis gemeenskap geword en ’n nalatenskap geskep waarop ons familie baie trots is.

Santa Gertrudis was in daardie jare nog ’n relatiewe nuwe ras in Suid-Afrika, en telers soos my oupa het gehelp om die fondasie te bou waarop die ras vandag staan.

Ek het nie self van jongs af ’n stoet gehad nie. My pad het eers deur landboufotografie geloop. Die begrip van wat in ’n kwaliteit dier ingaan, was egter nog altyd deel van my agtergrond.

Verlede jaar het ek en my vrou die Henvia stoet weer geregistreer. Vir ons is dit ’n nederige herbegin en ook ’n droom wat weer lewe gekry het. Dit is ’n voorreg om weer aan daardie naam te bou.

Vir meer as tien jaar werk ek deur Avara Agri in landboufotografie. Een ding staan elke keer vir my uit wanneer ek op ’n plaas instap. Telers sit ongelooflike werk in hul diere.

Goeie voorbeeld
’n Stoetkoei wat natuurlik en gebalanseerd staan. Gelyke grond, ’n rustige agtergrond en ’n ontspanne houding help om die dier se ware kwaliteit te wys.

Wanneer daardie dier bemark word, is dit die foto wat daardie werk moet oordra.

In vandag se mark sien ’n koper ’n dier lank voor hy hom fisies sien. Dit gebeur op ’n katalogus, sosiale media of ’n veilingblad. Daardie eerste beeld skep die eerste indruk.

GOEIE BEMARKING AS VERLENGSTUK VAN GOEIE TEELWERK

Bemarking gaan nie daaroor om ’n dier mooier te maak as wat hy is nie. Dit gaan daaroor om reg te wys wat reeds daar is.

Wanneer ’n dier professioneel vertoon word, kom sy balans beter na vore. Sy struktuur is duideliker sigbaar. Sy massa lyk natuurlik en funksioneel. Dit skep ook vertroue by ’n koper.

Top genetika verdien aanbieding van dieselfde gehalte.

Soos ons sorg dra in seleksie en bestuur, kan ons ook sorg dra in hoe ons daardie dier aan die mark wys.

HOE ’N STOETDIER OP SY BESTE VERTOON

’n Dier wat vierkant en gebalanseerd staan, wys homself.

Wanneer die bene korrek geplaas is, die kop natuurlik gedra word en die dier ontspanne staan, kom sy ware kwaliteit na vore. Die omgewing speel ook ’n rol. Gelyke grond, ’n rustige agtergrond en goeie lig help om die dier duidelik te wys.

Die doel van ’n goeie foto is eenvoudig. Om die dier eerlik en duidelik te wys sonder afleiding.

KLEIN AANPASSINGS MAAK ’N GROOT VERSKIL

Ons het almal al foto’s geneem waar ’n goeie dier nie heeltemal tot sy reg kom nie. Ongelyke grond kan hom skeef laat lyk. ’n Been wat net effens uit posisie is kan sy balans versteur. ’n Besige agtergrond trek aandag weg van die dier.

Dit beteken nie die dier is swak nie. Dit beteken net die oomblik kon beter vasgevang word.

Soms maak daardie klein detail ’n groot verskil in hoe ’n koper die dier ervaar.

SAAM BOU AAN DIE BEELD VAN DIE RAS

Santa Gertrudis het baie om op trots te wees. Massa. Aanpasbaarheid. Funksionaliteit.

Wanneer ons daardie eienskappe konsekwent professioneel vertoon, versterk dit die beeld van die ras as geheel. Dit gaan nie oor een stoet nie. Dit gaan oor die indruk wat ons saam skep.

Soms wys ’n foto van ’n dier in haar natuurlike veldomgewing ook iets van haar funksionaliteit en aanpasbaarheid. Dit herinner ons dat hierdie diere nie net vir katalogusse geteel word nie, maar vir werklike produksie en prestasie in die veld.

Ons sit jare se werk in ’n dier. Wanneer hy bemark word, moet daardie werk sigbaar wees.

’n Dier praat nie. Sy foto doen.

Waar klein aanpassings ’n groot verskil kan maak
Die bul staan redelik goed en wys goeie balans. ’n Rustiger agtergrond en ’n kop wat effens na die kamera draai kan die foto nog sterker maak.

LOCKLORE · RED ROCK · JADUP

Santa Gertrudis

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Sedert 2016

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15 Oktober 2026

Glomix Events Centre, SCHWEIZER-RENEKE

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Locklore, Red Rock & JADUP Santa Gertrudis

NUUS UIT *Namibië*

Groei, uitdagings en vooruitsigte vir Santa-telers

>> KOOS DE JAGER – Desember 2025, santatol@iway.na

Eerstens wil ek die Genootskap opreg bedank vir die geleentheid om, na soveel jare, weer ’n brokkie Santa-nuus uit Namibië in die joernaal te kan deel. Dit is vir ons ’n groot eer en voorreg. Baie dankie ook vir die hartlike wyse waarop ons deur die kantoor en mede-telers verwelkom is. Hiermee spreek ons ook ons waardering uit teenoor alle telers vir hul onbaatsugtige hulp en ondersteuning.

Na verlede jaar se goeie reëns en hierdie jaar se belowende begin van die reënseisoen sien ons reeds die positiewe effek op beespryse hier in Namibië. Speenkalfpryse het gedurende Desember 2025 in Windhoek ’n gemiddelde prys van R49,23/kg vir ’n gemiddelde lewende gewig van 222,46 kg behaal. Intussen het die speenkalf prys gedaal na tussen R37.00 en R39.00/kg. Baie produsente voel dat ’n prysstyging lankal nodig is. Die ekonomie bly egter broos, en ’n skerp inflasionêre aanpassing sal waarskynlik moeilik deur die koopkrag geabsorbeer word. Uitvoer na buitelandse markte dra by tot die verhoogde pryse, maar produsente word steeds geknel deur hoë insetkoste sowel as veediefstal.

Hoewel dit nie negatief bedoel is nie, het bek- en klouseer in Suid-Afrika ’n beduidende impak op Namibië, Botswana en ander Afrika-lande wat afhanklik is van vee- en semeninvoere vir nuwe genetika. Tans is ons grense gesluit en daar word verwag dat dit nog geruime tyd so kan bly. Botswana het ook onlangs sy grens vir invoere

Resultate van die gebruik van ’n Santa-bul in ’n kruisteelprogram

Foto: Annalize Burger

vanaf daardie kant gesluit. Namibia het ook onlangs sy grense vir gesplete hoewe en produkte vanaf Botswana gesluit het.

Wat skou-aktiwiteite betref, het Mbakomua Hengari in Gobabis met sy Santa-beeste deelgeneem en by die interras-kompetisie die klasse vir reserwe kampioen-verskalf en reserwe kampioen-bulkalf gewen. Ons wens ook vir Mnr Hengari geluk met sy skou prestasies. Ek beoog om volgende jaar saam met hom op Grootfontein, Gobabis en Windhoek te skou. Ons ras het hierdie blootstelling beslis nodig.

Daar is tans ’n duidelike geleentheid vir nuwe telers om tot die Santa-bulmark toe te tree. Hierdie jaar is slegs tien Santa-bulle op verskillende veilings aangebied. Dit sal die kersie op die koek wees indien ons in die nabye toekoms ’n nasionale Santa-veiling kan aanbied; daar moet hieroor nog gesprekke gevoer word.

Ons het onlangs ook ’n vergadering gehou en ’n Santa Belangegroep gestig met die doel om alle Santa-boere — geregistreer of nie — in een forum te verenig. Die vergadering is gelei deur Christo van Zyl van Voermeester. Deur hierdie groep beoog ons om grootskaalse bemarkings- en bewusmakingsveldtogte van stapel te stuur. Daar is verder besluit om gedurende 2026 ‘n Junior- en Senior Beoordelaars kursus op 3 & 4 Julie 2026 by Harry Schneider-Waterberg, aan te bied.

Met die uitnodiging na hierdie vergadering het drie Santa-boere reeds aangedui dat hulle weer diere op registrasie wil plaas. Hierdie stap sal nuwe genetiese materiaal na die stoettelers se genepoel terugbring.

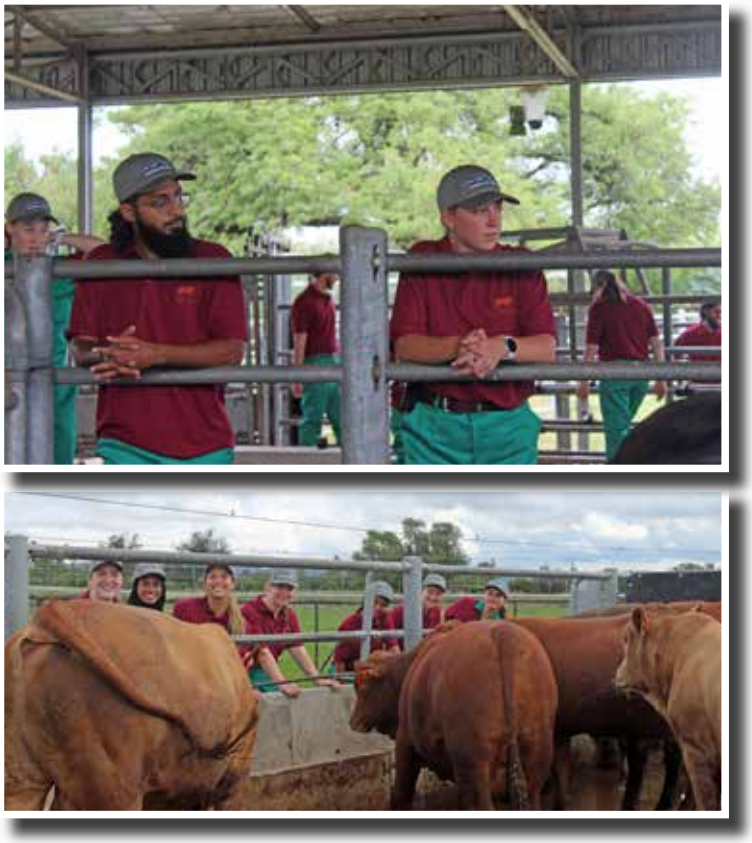
Ten spyte van die uitdagings sien ons uit na ’n opwindende 2026 vir Santa-telers hier in Namibië.

The **Onderstepoort** FEEDLOT CHALLENGE: *A Student Perspective*

Preparing Future Veterinarians through Practical Learning

>> KAYLIN BERGH, opflc.beefana@gmail.com

The Society proudly supported the fifth-year veterinary students by sponsoring shirts for their participation in the Feedlot Challenge, an initiative that provides valuable practical experience in feedlot management.



The Onderstepoort Feedlot Challenge (OPFLC) is a hands-on action learning project that all the fifth-year Bachelor of Veterinary Science (BVSc) students partake in at the veterinary facility of the University of Pretoria. The OPFLC forms part of the module Ruminant Production Medicine, which focuses on theoretical training in herd/flock health, as well as ensuring optimal production. Throughout the OPFLC we have multiple group presentations where we present what we have learned as well as the mistakes we have made and how to improve them, to the lectures, we then receive marks based on this. These assessments are a substantial portion of the total assessments we need to complete for the module.

At the beginning of the year, we are divided into 8 teams of 23 students, each team then needs to choose a group name and a group leader. Once that has been established, each person in the group is

assigned a specific role in the feedlot, such as kraal management, animal welfare or marketing of the group. It is that person's responsibility to manage everything that falls under their portfolio. Once all the group administrative matters have been completed, the teams are given the chance to acquire a pen of 14 cattle that have been placed together beforehand. This is done through a tender process. All 8 pens have different production potentials and thus makes it a strategic process of balancing what you pay vs what you get to ensure maximum profit at the end. Once each group has acquired a pen of 14 cattle, they are the group's complete responsibility for the next 105 days until they are sent to the abattoir for slaughter. The responsibilities include processing them, formulating different rations throughout the 105 days to ensure maximum growth through the different life stages, and mixing the rations that are formulated. It is also the group's responsibility to manage their own finances as well as closely monitor the physical and mental health of their cattle at all times to ensure adequate animal welfare and maximum growth during the 105 days. If a sick animal is identified, that animal has to be pulled from the pen and treated under the supervision of Prof. Andy Hentzen, the coordinator of the OPFLC.

To date, our team has made amazing progress! We have a very good group dynamic, and every member of our team is extremely passionate about the OPFLC, constantly giving their all. Our cattle are healthy, happy, and gaining kilograms every day. We did have to pull two cattle to date from our pen, but both have successfully been treated and are happy and healthy.

We, as Beefana Beefana, are extremely excited to see what the final weight of our cattle will be on slaughter day, but at this point, we are happy with their progress and believe that from here on, it will be better every day!

Bou die *Toekoms*

jong telers groei saam met **SANTA GERTRUDIS** ras

TRIO

1914

AD · REM

WESTERN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE






Klein hande, *Groot toekoms!*











SA STAMBOEK STUD BOOK

2025 NASIONALE ELITE *Toekennings*

Bulgroeitoetsklas

Jumardi Santas – FF220038

Jumardi bulle het goeie breedte tussen hulle oë, sterk oogbanke, 'n goed ontwikkelende onderkaak asook 'n breë bek. Hulle het sterk nekke met goeie kantspier-ontwikkeling wat vol by die skouer aansluit, en 'n goedgeplaaste skof wat bulle se manlike eienskappe beklemtoon. Ander uitstaande eienskappe sluit in gladde stertaanhegting, sterk-gevormde bene, hoewe met hoefdiepte, 'n gladde haarkleed, sowel as goed-ontwikkelde testes. Bulle ondergaan jaarliks Fase C- en D -toetse. FF220038 het 2de geeindig in die Bulgroeitoetsklas.

Platinum Vleisbees-koei

Valley Venture - VV140100

VV140100 het sewe kalwers gespeen en van haar vier bulkalwers is drie reeds as stoet-bulle verkoop. Haar verskalwers is almal in die stoetery opgeneem. By haar op die foto is haar agste kalf en sy is tans weer dragtig. Haar koeiwaarde- en produksiewaarde indeks is 126 en 125 onderskeidelik, en haar vrugbaarheid- en melkproduksie-indeks albei 122. Haar kalwers het 'n gemiddelde speengewig van 293kg. VV140100 was die wen-koei in die Platinum vleisbees-koei afdeling vir die Santa Gertrudis Genootskap.

Beste Telersgenootskap-jaarverslag

Alle telersgenootskappe moet volgens SA Stamboek se Grondwet jaarliks verslag doen oor hul aktiwiteite. Daar is sekere minimumvereistes om te bepaal of elke Telersgenootskap die vereistes van die *Diereverbeteringswet, 1998 (Wet 62 van 1998),* nakom en reg bestuur. SA Stamboek moedig hul lede aan om volledig en innoverend oor hul aktiwiteite verslag te doen. Hierdie toekenning gee erkenning aan die administrasie van die kantoorpersoneel, innovering van die raad en die deeglikheid waarmee die genootskap hul lede bedien in belang van die betrokke ras. Belangrik van hierdie verslag is die innovering waarmee inligting oorgedra word, die korrekte weergee van raads- en jaarvergadering besluite, die gebruik van illustratiewe maniere om boodskappe oor te dra, gemaklike inhoudsopgawe en kruisverwysings, en die algemene voorkoms. SA Stamboek is trots op sy lede: die top telersgenootskappe van Suid- en Suider-Afrika (en elders). Die beste Telersgenootskapjaarverslag-wisseltrofee gee erkenning vir die harde werk en diens as aansporing vir elkeen in die bedryf.

Die onderstaande telersgenootskappe was finaliste in die SA Stamboek Nasionale Elite 2025: Beste Telersgenootskapjaarverslag-kategorie:

Boran Beestelersgenootskap van SA

- Santa Gertrudis Beestelersgenootskap van SA
- SA Boerperd-telersgenootskap

SANTA GERTRUDIS BEESTELERSGENOOTSKAP JAARVERSLAG WAS ONDER DIE TOP 3 VERSLAE

SA STAMBOEK STUD BOOK

Beef Cattle
REGIONAL AWARDS

These awards identify the top Elite Stud Herds in South Africa. Herds received Gold are the top 10% of stud breeders in the country. Points are awarded for timeliness and completeness of measurements and the successful use of this information to improve management and increase general profitability of the herd.

Die toekennings gee erkenning aan telers wat by SA Stamboek se Logix-stelsel aanteken. Die kriteria fokus op kalwingsdata, kuddegrootte, geboortegewig, speengewig, koeigewig, 12- en/of 18-maande gewigte en die aantekening van data.

NAME	REGION	AWARD
KAIROS VELD SANTA`S	NW	GOUD
SANTARIFIC SANTA STOET	WFS	GOUD
SCOTSTON FARMS (PTY) LTD	MP	GOLD
BENRO BOERDERY	NW	SILWER
BRITZ FAMILIE TRUST	WFS	SILWER
EDE FARMING	MP	SILVER
G.P. BRITS	NW	SILWER
J.P. COETZEE	WFS	SILWER
J.P.F. HARDING	NW	SILVER
TADEO SANTA`S	NW	SILWER
D.T. VAN RENSBURG	NW	BRONS
G.J. GROBLER	NW	BRONS
NETTIQ PTY LTD	MP	BRONZE
P.D. JACOBS	MP	BRONS
PINEKLOOF TRUST	EFS	BRONZE
PINNACLE STUDS PTY LTD	EFS	BRONZE
S.E. JANSE VAN VUUREN	MP	BRONS
CREDUNT FARM HOLDINGS PTY LTD	GP	MERIETE
DE VILLE BOERDERY (EDMS) BPK	MP	MERIETE
DIE ERIKA KLEYNHANS TRUST	WFS	MERIETE
DIE GROBBELAAR BOERDERY TRUST	EFS	MERIETE
FABEL-R TRUST	GP	MERIETE
H. DU TOIT	GP	MERIETE
H.B. LOUWRENS	MP	MERIETE
H.J. KLEYNHANS	WFS	MERIETE
J.A. DU PLESSIS	NW	MERIETE
J.P. BOTMA (JNR)	WFS	MERIETE
KOCH FAMILIE TRUST	WC	MERIETE
KOOS LOCK (PTY) LTD	NW	MERIETE
L. DE LANGE	LP	MERIETE
M.B. MASIRE	XBW	MERIT
P.J. NIEMAND	WC	MERIETE
RED ROCK SANTAS	NW	MERIETE
REMAN BOERDERY (EDMS) BPK	MP	MERIETE
SANBACH TRUST	EFS	MERIETE
SANT-A-MÉ STOET	EFS	MERIETE
T. DE JAGER	NW	MERIETE
TREGENNA FARMING (PTY) LTD	KZN	MERIT
TRIO BOERDERY	WFS	MERIETE

TOEKENNINGS

Santa Gertrudis wenners 2025

>> FRANS JORDAAN, DR BEN GREYLING & ZELDA KING, LNR-Diere Produksie
Fransj@arc.agric.za

Die Nasionale Vleisbeesverbeteringskema van die LNR speel al dekades lank ‘n sentrale rol in die genetiese verbetering van die Nasionale kudde in Suid-Afrika. Die hoofdoel van die skema is om die winsgewendheid en volhoubaarheid van vleisbeeproduksie te verbeter en sodoende by te dra tot nasionale en plaaslike voedselsekerheid en werkskepping. Die Skema speel dus al jare lank ‘n sentrale rol, nie net in ons beesvleisbedryf nie, maar dra ook by tot die sosio-ekonomiese welstand van ons land se mense.

Die doeltreffende produksie van rooivleis is tans belangriker as ooit tevore te midde van uitdagings soos hoër insetkoste, aardverwarming met gepaardgaande droogtes en ‘n toenemende wêreldbevolking. Hierdie eksterne faktore plaas enorme druk op voedselsekerheid en natuurlik ook uiteindelik op die boer in die besonder wat hoofsaaklik verantwoordelik is vir voedselproduksie. Die primêre doel van die toekenningsgeleentheid is om telers te erken vir hul pogings en bydraes om doeltreffendheid en genetiese verbetering deur middel van prestasietoetsing na te streef en te bevorder.

LNR Nasionale Toekennings

Die LNR se nasionale toekennings is ‘n hoogtepunt op die land se landboukalender en die bydrae van ons lojale borge het die geleentheid weereens suksesvol en moontlik gemaak. En daarvoor is ons baie dankbaar! Borge sluit in Farmer’s Weekly, Molatek, Plaas Media/Stockfarm, Vet to Farm en GMP-Leader Products SA. Verskeie kategorieë vorm deel van die toekennings en sluit onder andere kommersiële produsente en die opkomende mark in. Santa-telers het besonder goed presteer en soos altyd weer in 2025 deelnemers en wenners opgelewer. Santa-telers het toekennings ontvang in die LNR Nasionale Beste Elite Koei en LNR Nasionale Spesiale Prestasietoetsklas kategorieë.

LNR Nasionale Spesiale Prestasietoetsklas geborg deur Plaas Media/Stockfarm

Die Santa Gertrudis-bul, SS 23 0166, van Desmond en Timmy Robertson van Brandfort in die Vrystaat is by die LNR Glen-toetssentrum in die Vrystaat getoets. Die bul het uitstekende prestasie op gemiddelde daaglikse toename met ‘n indeks van 114 en ‘n voeromset verhouding met ‘n indeks van 108. Die toetsperiode, wat ‘n aanpassingsperiode van 28 dae insluit, is altesaam 112 dae. Die toets simuleer ‘n voerkraalsituasie, maar die individuele voerinname van elke bul in die toets word ook gedurende die toetsperiode gemeet.

Die Santa Gertrudis bul SS 23 0166 en eienaars, Desmond enTimmy Robertson

LNR Nasionale Beste Elite Koei geborg deur Farmer's weekly

Die Santa Gertrudis koei, DT 17 0259, van Dail Van Rensburg is as die wenner van die Santas gekroon. Die koei het uitstekende reproduksiesyfers, sy is 8 jaar oud met 7 kalwers en haar ouderdom met eerste kalwing is 22 maande. Sy het 'n tussenkalfperiode van 343 dae. Die koei het ook uitstekende teelwaardes wat beter is as die rasgemiddelde vir groei en melkproduksie.

Die Santa Gertrudis koei DT 17 0259 en eienaar, Dail Van Rensburg

Baie geluk aan die telers wat werklik moeite doen met volledige prestasietoetsing. Volledige prestasietoetsing vergemaklik meer akkurate seleksie vir eienskappe van ekonomiese belang binne die kudde, maar nog belangriker - dit is die bydrae tot die genetiese verbetering van die ras as geheel. Die akkuraatheid van prestasiesyfers op die veilingskatalogus verbeter ook en stel kopers in staat om meer ingeligte seleksiebesluite te neem wanneer hulle superieure genetika koop. Die LNR Nasionale toekennings kan besigtig word op Plaas TV se YouTube-kanaal: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dCibgtwVjQs

Baie geluk aan al die wenners! Julle stel 'n hoë standaard vir genetiese verbetering van die ras!

2025 AUCTION AVERAGE PRICES

Auctions 2025													
Date	Name	Bulls avg	Highest	Pregnant cows avg	Highest	Open heifers avg	Highest	Cows + Calves avg	Highest	Pregnant heifers avg	Highest	3-1 avg	Highest
6 February	Top Up	R65 455	R110 000					R45 000	R48 000	R37 000	R40 000		
10 April	Bosveld Veldbees	R45 286	R80 000	R23 341	R29 000			R27 598	R35 000	R28 000	R33 000	R33 750	R34 000
4 July	Frankfort Veld Bull Club	R58 636	R80 000										
23 July	OTVL Bull Sale	R54 000	R90 000										
28 August	Williams, Hinze & Odendaal	R72 619	R130 000					R27 000	R27 000	R21 000	R27 000		
4 September	The Selection	R67 778	R120 000	R20 000	R20 000	R18 000	R20 000	R39 000	R55 000	R32 933	R48 000		
4 September	X-Clusive	R57 916	R120 000					R20 400	R22 000	R23 892	R31 000		
17 September	3 in 1	R62 500	R150 000					R20 563	R35 000	R48 400	R55 000	R26 000	R26 000
25 September	Select	R82 381	R320 000			R33 800	R75 000	R33 000	R38 000	R40 235	R80 000		
15 October	Supreme	R54 167	R85 000	R28 500	R32 000	R26 500	R28 000	R32 500	R35 000	R30 952	R55 000		
14 November	Roedtan Alleras	R42 500	R42 500										

2026 AUCTIONS

SANTA GERTRUDIS AUCTIONS 2026			
DATE	DAY	ACTIVITY	PLACE
5 February	Thursday	**Auction: Top Up**	Bothaville, Free State
3 July	Friday	**Auction: Frankfort Veld Bull**	Royal Auction Centre, Frankfort, Free State
22 July	Wednesday	**Auction: OTVL Bull Auction**	Farm JenVos, Ermelo, Mpumalanga
13 August	Thursday	**Auction: Hinze & Odendaal**	The Bull ring, Davel, Mpumalanga
27 August	Thursday	**Auction: X-Clusive**	Circle-C, Excelsior, Free State (TBC)
3 September	Thursday	**Auction: The Selection**	Rondepan Farm, Barberspan, Sannieshof, North West
16 September	Wednesday	**Auction: 3 in 1**	Regina, Kroonstad, Free State
23 September	Wednesday	**Auction: Santa Select**	Vryburg, North West
15 October	Thursday	**Auction: Santa Supreme Sale**	Glomix Event Centre, Bloemhof

2026 Inspekteurs

NAAM	SELFOON	AREA	PROVINSIE	AFDELING
DE JAGER, WILLIE	082 565 5445	VRYBURG	NOORDWES	Senior Inspekteur & Eksaminator
HOBSON, HOWARD	082 410 2401	LADYBRAND	VRYSTAAT	Senior Inspekteur & Eksaminator
KOCH, FRANCO	082 783 5364	MOORREESBURG	WES-KAAP	Senior Inspekteur & Eksaminator
SEYFFERDT, MARTIN	073 291 2516	LANGEBAAN	WES-KAAP	Senior Inspekteur & Eksaminator
WILLIAMS, AMY	083 627 0978	BARBERTON	MPUMALANGA	Senior Inspekteur & Eksaminator
BARKHUIZEN , MARIUS	082 554 1133	HERTZOGVILLE	VRYSTAAT	Senior Inspekteur
BRUWER, HEINRICH	079 506 8198	VRYBURG	NOORDWES	Senior Inspekteur
DE LANGE, LEON	082 292 2273	VAALWATER	LIMPOPO	Senior Inspekteur
GOOSEN, CHRIS	082 825 0593	UPINGTON	NOORD-KAAP	Senior Inspekteur
KLEYNHANS, HERMAN	082 451 3800	KROONSTAD	VRYSTAAT	Senior Inspekteur
LOUWRENS, MANIE	082 335 7220	KINROSS	MPUMALANGA	Senior Inspekteur
MARÈ, JAAP	082 464 5688	POLOKWANE	LIMPOPO	Senior Inspekteur
MARÈ, JACO	082 388 4294	HARTBEESFONTEIN	NOORDWES	Senior Inspekteur
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Frankfort
Santa Gertrudis
Veldbulklub

6de PRODUKSIEVEILING | Vrydag, 3 Julie 2026 om 11:00 | Frankfort Auction Centre

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Noordwes plaas Rondepan

JUMARDI
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Hierdie twee besonderse Bulle gaan hierdie jaar op die veiling wees

The Selection Sale

3 September 2026

op die plaas Rondepan, Barberspan, Sannieshof, Noordwes