



## **Livestock & Meat Advisory Council**

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### **LivestockZimbabwe Update: 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

#### **OVERVIEW**

Following reorganisation of the service departments within the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water and Rural Settlement, the Ministry has embarked upon a consultative process to develop a new policy framework for the Research, Education and Extension Policy Framework and for the Marketing and Trade Policy Framework. A Validation Workshop to discuss these frameworks brought together industry players, farmers unions, government officials and representatives from the Zimbabwe Agricultural Growth Programme.

Key discussion points included the organisational development of farmers in the various value chains for effective demand-driven supply of relevant agricultural research, extension and education services. How to coordinate and optimally manage the provision of such services offered by the private sector, universities, non-governmental organisations and farmers themselves was also discussed. The draft report is awaited.

The Zimbabwe Farmers Union held their Stakeholder Engagement Workshop to introduce the provincial chairpersons and Executive for 2020, drawn from both small and large-scale commercial farming communities. Their Customer Satisfaction Survey revealed greater demand for the Union to provide bankable services that help member farmers address pressing challenges, including organising farmers for direct marketing and business development.

An inception workshop hosted by Community Technology Development Organisation under the Zimbabwe Agricultural Growth Program to look at development and strengthening of the curriculum in agricultural colleges in Zimbabwe sought to gather input from stakeholders on the proposed methodology to be used in the gathering of data. Gaps in the current agricultural education curriculum and hands-on training requirements will be identified and appropriate equipment and technologies that would capacitate students to meet the specific needs of the agricultural sector in Zimbabwe will also be reviewed.

#### **Inclusive Poultry Value Chain Project**

Development of the Kurima Mari Poultry Application is on-going and the proposed App is being designed to allow the farmer to use it as a record keeping tool to monitor trends such as the number of birds in the flock and the amount of feed being used. It would then flag

any areas that need attention such as mortality rate and alerting the farmer of any potential threats to the flock e.g. mortality is high, contact the health services supplier etc.

### **Tuli Cattle Society**

The Tuli Cattle Society held its Annual General Meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> February and Petrus Erasmus was elected as the new Chairman. The Society is very active in promoting the Tuli breed and 16 members are on the Tuli Breeders Register. 3,000 pedigree Tuli cattle are registered with the Zimbabwe Herd Book, the national registry for pedigree livestock. The Society will be entering their best bulls and heifers onto the National Breed Sale to be held in July.

### **Livestock Diary:**

Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Council Meeting of the Zimbabwe Herd Book
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Annual General Meeting and Council meeting of the Simmental and Simbrah Cattle Breeders Association
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Council meeting of the Zimbabwe Poultry Association
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Meeting of the Stockfeed Manufacturers Association
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Fish Farming Indaba hosted by the Zimbabwe Fish Producers Association

### **Enclosures**

- NEC General Agricultural Wages and Agreement, February 2020