Livestock Zimbabwe Update: 20th March 2020

OVERVIEW
Precautions and advisories about the health threat from the outbreak of COVID 19 have been widely circulated and the repercussions and impact upon businesses is already been felt. Staff complements and working hours have been reduced and all meetings are being held using virtual reality platforms. This is an unprecedented time in the history of the world, including Zimbabwe.

At the meeting of the Stockfeed Manufacturers Association, it was reported that government has contracted several entities to import an estimated 760,000mt of maize, but payment delays have caused intermittent interruptions in the supply of maize to the Grain Marketing Board.

The large requirement for maize has created a logistical challenge as the majority of current imports are from South Africa while the remainder is from Mexico through Beira and Maputo.

Board of Governors of the Livestock and Meat Advisory Council
The Board of Governors held their Third Annual General meeting on 13th March and Blessing Ndoro and Solomon Zawe were unanimously elected as Chairman and Vice Chairman, respectively.

Zimbabwe Association of Abattoirs
Following the recent misrepresentation of the beef industry in the local news and on social media, it was noted that DVS had carried out investigations and found no evidence supporting the allegations. There is a need to reassure the public that the regulations governing livestock and meat trade are robust and that livestock movements and abattoir operations are monitored by DVS health officials.

Inclusive Poultry Value Chain Project
The outbreak of COVID 19 has impacted upon the IPVC project and the Team attended a workshop to be briefed on guidelines prepared by the European Union for all staff employed by the various Projects.
Livestock Diary:
Thursday 26th March  Virtual Council meeting of the Zimbabwe Poultry Association
Friday 27th March  Virtual Open Meeting of the Zimbabwe Association of Abattoirs

**** The Fish Farming Indaba scheduled for Friday 27th March has been postponed to a date to be advised ****

Enclosures
- Advert and editorial prepared by the Zimbabwe Association of Abattoirs and published in the Herald.
- Raw Materials Supply, March 2020
- Statutory Instruments 76 and 77, Civil Protection and Public Health Regulations in response to the outbreak of COVID 19