



## Livestock and Meat Advisory Council

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## Livestock Zimbabwe Update: 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021

### OVERVIEW

The President recently announced additional measures to curb the spread of Covid-19 in the wake of rising new infections. Key highlights are;

- Commerce and industry to open from 8am to 3.30 pm in compliance with curfew 6.30pm to 6am.
- Industry to decongest workplaces to 40 percent with the rest working from home.
- Intercity movements prohibited except for production and movement of food and medicines.
- Travellers from countries with alpha and delta variants will be quarantined and tested on the first, third, fifth and tenth day at their own expense.
- Travellers with fake Covid-19 documents face custodial sentence after arrest.
- Ministers and Parliamentarians will disseminate information on vaccination in their constituencies.
- People operating at marketplaces, tobacco auction floors cotton sales floors to be vaccinated before they can operate. Those who refuse will not be allowed to operate.

The Level4 Lockdown policy includes specific exemptions to Agriculture and the food and agro-processing industry. These exemptions have, in the past, allowed the stockfeed industry and abattoirs to operate day and night shifts.

### **Update on Policy Engagements:**

LMAC clarifications from RBZ on SI127 of 2021 attracted a lot of attention from members of LMAC allied Associations. The business community is a breathing a collective sigh of relief that RBZ is indeed only narrowly enforcing the Statutory Instrument to ensure that beneficiaries of the auction system apply the auction rate when costing the foreign currency component of imported raw materials. The livestock industry is slowly returning to normal, trading under the multicurrency regime.

Following a chaotic start to 2021/22 agricultural marketing season under GMB marketing monopoly, the stockfeed industry received some good news from GMB. The marketing monopoly has availed 9,000MT of locally procured soyabeans to the stockfeed and oilseed industry using a quota system established last year with input from industry. The monopoly

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LIT  
Livestock Identification Trust



MPAZ  
Meat Processors Association of Zimbabwe



PPAZ  
Pig Producers Association of Zimbabwe



SMA  
Stockfeed Manufacturers Association



ZAA  
Zimbabwe Association of Abattoirs



ZADF  
Zimbabwe Association of Dairy Farmers



ZICORBA  
Zimbabwe Rabbit Breeders Association



ZFPA  
Zimbabwe Fish Producers Association



ZAFRA  
Zimbabwe Free Range Animal Farmers Association



ZHB  
Zimbabwe Herd Book



ZPA  
Zimbabwe Pig Producers Association



ZQAP  
Zimbabwe Quality Assured Pork

marketing parastatal also reported that it has cumulatively purchased a total of 240,000MT through its network of 1500-plus buying points over the first three months (April to June). Hopefully, GMB will now stop rationing maize orders from the feed industry and to move the bulk of these stocks to the depots located in major towns closest to the industrial off-takers.

Taking a leaf from the African Union initiative to localize production of Covid19 vaccines strategically in selected African countries, the Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water and Fisheries has announced that it too shall be promoting local manufacturing of vaccines for such livestock pandemic diseases as tick-borne diseases. According to the Herald article, this initiative shall be implemented under the auspices of the national Livestock Growth Plan and funded through private sector partnership with Government.

### **Zimbabwe Fish Producers Association**

The Zimbabwe Fish Producers Association held a meeting on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021. The meeting was well attended by ZFPA national executive and regional coordinators. Among the major resolutions was ZFPA budgetary support for formalization of the ZFPA regional structures and election of substantive regional executive leadership guided by the ZFPA constitution and committed to implementation of collective action strategies for addressing local fish-farming and marketing challenges under their regional service delivery charters.

The process of formalization of ZFPA regional chapters is meant to deepen inclusivity by broadening membership to include small-to-medium sized fish farmers organized into autonomous regional business associations affiliated to the ZFPA council through representation in the national executive council. LMAC has spearheaded similar organizational development in the small-scale poultry sector and smaller-scale pork production sector in partnership with the EU-funded ZAGP project.

Commending AGRITEX for organizing a successful Fish Farming Competition for Matabeleland region held last month in Bulawayo, ZFPA national council resolved to partner AGRITEX national office in organizing Fish Farming Competition in all the major fish farming regions of the country culminating in the nomination of finalists for the National Fish Farmer of the Year Awards. A subcommittee of regional members coordinated by Mr. Katano with technical support from the LMAC secretariat will spearhead this action.

### **Inclusive Poultry Value Chain Project (IPVC)**

The IPVC project completed training of members of the Poultry Business Associations on Good Agricultural Practice and Biosecurity covering all the five regional chapters affiliated to ZPA. This week, LMAC and IPVC initiated joint-program with Department of Veterinary Services to bring together (virtually) veterinarians from the public sector and private sector companies of the poultry industry to review and update the National Rapid Response Action Plan for Avian Influenza Outbreak and for Newcastle Disease Outbreak. The working group operating under the leadership of DVS shall launch in partnership with private sector partners, a 6-month long Public Awareness Campaign on Avian Influenza designed to educate and inform the farming community and poultry market players on all aspects of Avian Influenza in terms of symptoms, causes and consequences, and socially responsible control measures and reporting channels for suspected cases.

### **Zimbabwe Commercial Rabbit Breeders Association (ZICOBRA)**

The Zimbabwe Commercial Rabbit Breeders Association (ZICORBA) marked its first anniversary in June 2021. During its maiden year, the Association made significant strides establishing a national office and provincial structures across the country to mobilize and coordinate membership engagement in various programs. The African rabbit producers congratulated the Zimbabwe Commercial Rabbit Breeders Association (ZICORBA) on its first anniversary. Formed in July 2020 by a group of rabbit farmers, ZICORBA is a voluntary membership-owned business organization representing the collective voice of member rabbit farmers in Zimbabwe. ZICORBA has established strategic partnerships with fellow Associations of rabbit producers in a number of African countries – including South Africa, Botswana, Eswatini, Mozambique in Southern Africa, Kenya and Uganda in East Africa, and Nigeria in West Africa.

### **Livestock Diary: July 2021**

- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> Stockfeed Manufacturers Association Open Meeting
- Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> Zimbabwe Poultry Association Council Meeting
- Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Pig Producers Association Open Meeting

### **Enclosures**

- ZICOBRA Newsletter, June 2021 edition