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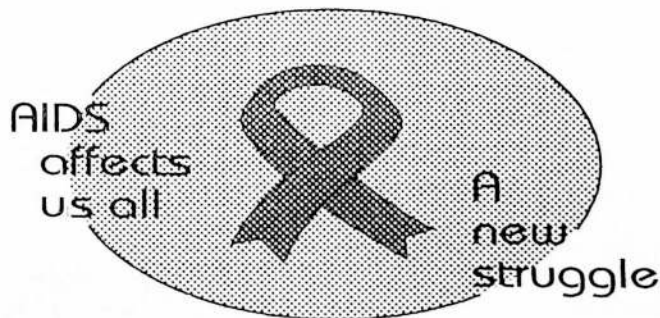
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Vol. 12

BISHO/
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No. 1361
(Extraordinary)

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



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PROVINCIAL NOTICE

No. 17

26 April 2005

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1999 (ACT No. 8 OF 1999)

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

I, Gugile Nkwinti, Member of the Executive Council, responsible for agriculture in the Province of the Eastern Cape, acting in terms of section 4 and 5 of the Agricultural Development Act, 1999 (Act No. 8 of 1999), hereby establish the Livestock Production Improvement Scheme as set out in the Schedule hereto.


G. NKWINTI

MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

RESPONSIBLE FOR AGRICULTURE

EASTERN CAPE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

1. Name and objectives of the scheme

- a) The scheme shall be known as the Eastern Cape Livestock Production Improvement Scheme.
- b) To promote sustainable and profitable livestock production within resource potential. It is part of the natural conservation program, and it is targeted at encouraging sustainable utilization of natural resources, and for that reason the scheme applies to ruminants only (i.e. cattle, sheep and goats).
- c) To supply superior animal genetic breeding material and encourage the use of adapted animals by the Eastern Cape farmers

2. Areas to which the scheme shall apply

The Eastern Cape with particular emphasis on communal areas, as well as commonages, Land Redistribution for Agricultural Development (LRAD) farms, Settlement Land for Agriculture (SLAG) farms, State land farms and emerging farmers.

3. The categories of farmers or land users to which the scheme will apply

The scheme is open to all developing livestock farmers. Emphasis will be placed on the communal farmers in the Eastern Cape

4. The requirements for participation in the scheme for gaining access to any funds or services offered in terms of the scheme:

The criteria for participation in the scheme, is outlined in Appendix A

5. The manner in which farmers or other land users are required to apply for admission to participate in the scheme

Applications should be lodged with the local Extension Officer or Animal Health Technician on a prescribed format as shown in Appendix C.

The application should contain information defining the present situation as well as the envisaged production plan. The following documents or documentary evidence should also be included.

- I. Farmers or other land users that apply for assistance must have a vested right to the land, and proof thereof.
- II. Documentary proof of the identity of the applicant.
- III. Documentary proof of usufruct.
- IV. In case of communal farmers a juristic person must be formed and documentary proof thereof must be provided.
- V. The constitution of the juristic person must make provision for charges and the recovery of charges and the Management Committee together with the Department of Agriculture and Land Affairs shall on a yearly basis determine such charges.
- VI. The farm (grazing area) must be planned.
- VII. All proposed sites shall be visited prior to approval

6. The norms and standards for the selection of applicants for participation in the scheme

- The ability of a community to organize themselves into a Management Forum (with a constitution and a business plan).
- Benefits in terms of livestock production impact, (i.e. numbers of livestock affected), area and number of persons/beneficiaries.
- Profitability and sustainability of the proposed production system.
- Preparedness of farmers to brand their animals accordingly

7. The circumstances, if any, under which participation in the scheme shall lapse

- Written letter of withdrawal from the scheme.
- Dissolution of the Management Forum.
- Failure of the project to make satisfactory progress as measured against its business plan and the objectives of the scheme
- If an applicant is not prepared to pay the required deposit and/or to enter into a formal agreement with the department.
- If any commitment on the part of the applicant is neglected and/or not fulfilled in a reasonable time.
- If at any time it is discovered that false and/or misleading information has been supplied by the applicant.
- If any circumstantial event, situation or evidence exists from which it can be ascertained without any doubt that the applicant is not acting in good faith.

8. The information to be recorded or kept by participants in the scheme

- Farm plan indicating the following:
 - Geographic area
 - Proposed camps, stock dams, water sources, handling facilities
 - Existing infrastructure
 - Essential infrastructure
- All official correspondence.
- Records of construction works
- Animal management data: numbers, herd composition, reproduction figures, mortalities, production parameters and marketing information.
- Veld management data: location of the veld, areas and times rested; areas and times of burning.
- Animal health and animal care data.
- Financial records

9. The facilities which participants in the scheme must themselves provide

- Infrastructure:- Labour for the erection of infrastructure
- Infrastructure maintenance plan
- Animals for breeding
- Grazing area (sufficient)
- Labour
- Day to day management

10. The department or institution appointed to administer, implement, or assist with the implementation of the scheme

- a. **Regional Senior Managers** will be responsible for the implementation and administration of the scheme in their areas of jurisdiction.

- I. **Directorate Veterinary Services** through the State Veterinary Surgeons and Animal Health Technicians will assist in the development of dosing and vaccination programmes, monitoring of the health status of the animals in the areas where the animals are placed, and all correspondence pertaining to the Scheme.
 - II. **Directorate Projects and Planning** will assist through the development of business plans, monitoring of projects as per business plans.
 - III. **Directorate Engineering Services** will assist with plans and infrastructural development, monitoring of construction as per plans and specifications
- b. **Directorate Agricultural Technology Development and Transfer** at Dohne:
- I. The Animal Science Section of the Directorate will be responsible for the supply of superior genetic material (bulls and rams) through the Small stock and Large Stock sub-sections to the Livestock Production Improvement Scheme, training of farmers on animal production management aspects based on the need.
 - II. The Pasture Science Section will be responsible for the recommendations on the veld management strategies for the proposed projects and training of farmers on veld management.
- c. **The Livestock Production Improvement Scheme Office** will be responsible for:
- The overall administration of the Scheme (i.e. approval of applications, monitoring of the progress of the projects)
 - Development of communal breeding schemes where possible
 - Purchasing or sourcing of genetic material from breeders in cases where the demand is more than what is available from the Departmental herds
 - Liaise with all other organizations or institutions assisting with the implementation of the Scheme).
- d. **Institutions that will assist in the implementation of the Scheme:**
- I. **Commodity Associations/Organisations (National Wool Growers Association (NWGA), Nerpo)** will:
 - assist in the promotion of commodity production in the emerging sector and communal areas
 - assist in the sourcing and supplying of superior adapted and the exchanging process with the unproductive animals in the farms and communities
 - organization of farmers in the commodity

- II. **Farmers union** will be responsible for the organization of farmers at community level, information sessions on sustainable farming practices, mentoring of emerging farmers.
- III. **Breed Societies**, (Nguni, Bonsmara, Brahaman, Afrikaner, Dohne Merino, Merino, Boer goat, etc.), will assist in supplying of superior adapted breeding animals and exchanging with unproductive animals.
- IV. **Non-governmental organizations** will assist in the implementation of the Scheme, through their community development projects based on livestock.
- V. **Livestock Marketing Agents/Agencies** will assist in the establishment of regional auctions throughout the province.
- VI. **Research/Tertiary Institutions**: will assist in researching on the strategies to improve the implementation of the scheme, also as agents for the implementation of the scheme
- VII. **Municipalities** will assist in the infrastructure development and supply of adapted breeding animals in their respective localities for the implementation of the scheme

e. The MEC shall appoint an executive officer to take full responsibility of the Scheme and the management thereof

11. Procedure for administering and accounting for any funds allocated to or expended in respect of the scheme

The executive officer shall exercise the powers and perform the duties conferred upon him by the MEC or under the scheme. The executive officer shall only approve any payments of subsidies if he has checked and compared all statements or reports against the information on the application forms, the farm plan, consent issued and the notices of completion by the land user. Subsidies that may be paid in terms of this scheme in respect of the construction of infrastructural developments shall be calculated in accordance with applicable tariff list approved by the MEC with the concurrence of the MEC for Finance.

12. The procedure for monitoring and evaluating the scheme

- a) The Executive Officer shall:-
 - I. Manage the delivery and implementation of the Scheme
 - II. Ensure sound financial management of the funds allocated to the Scheme
- b) Livestock Production Improvement Scheme Manager shall
 - I. Be responsible for the coordination and monitoring of the Scheme
 - II. Ensure adherence to the objectives of the Scheme
 - III. Provide advise, guidance and assistance to the regional projects in reaching their objectives
 - IV. Undertake frequent visits
 - V. Submit quarterly and annual reports to the Executive officer

- VI. Intervene where progress is slow or problematic
 - VII. Monitor and evaluate the financial and technical progress of the projects under the Scheme using key performance indicators
- c) Regional Livestock Production Improvement Coordinators shall:
- I. Be responsible, together with the local extension officer, identify key performance indicators of the projects
 - II. Ensure that the information is verified
 - III. Provide advise, guidance and assistance to the projects in achieving their targets in the business plan
 - IV. Submit quarterly and annual reports of regional projects to the Scheme office
- d) Local Extension officer or projects and planning officer shall:
- I. Identify key performance indicators for the projects
 - II. Ensure adherence to the objectives of the Scheme and project
 - III. Submit progress reports (bi-monthly) to the Regional Livestock Production Improvement Coordinator
 - IV. Ensure effective and efficient management of the project
- 13. Benefits in terms of the Scheme**
- a) Infrastructure development (A once-off amount for fencing, handling facilities and water points) which may be required, to be erected by the beneficiaries.
 - b) Bulls and rams from the Department of Agriculture and other organizations nominated to do so.
- 14. Any other matter which the MEC considers necessary or desirable to achieve the objectives of the scheme**
- The MEC may find it necessary to deposit initial funds in the trade account (Livestock Production Improvement Fund) to activate the implementation of the scheme

APPENDIX A: CONDITIONS FOR THE PARTICIPATION IN THE EASTERN CAPE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION IMPROVEMENT SCHEME

1. Any community interested in this scheme shall contact its local Agricultural Extension Officer or an Animal Health Technician. These officers shall prepare the interested community through a series of meetings (community facilitation/mobilization), and training sessions on animal and veld management. They will together identify the available resources that would be needed to sustain the livelihood of the animals:
 - a) Availability of adequate grazing land or pastures
 - b) Availability of clean fresh water
 - c) Availability of a dipping tank/handling facilities
2. A formal agreement of co-operation between the respective community and the Department as represented by the responsible extension Officer, has to be signed, and it shall contain an undertaking of the community to do the following:
 - 2.1 Form a management forum (which must be reflected in the "Constitution" of the project together with community rules with respect to Livestock Production)
 - 2.2 Provide a list of beneficiaries indicating livestock numbers and herd composition/structure per participant and Identity numbers
 - 2.3 Draw a management plan, which contains details of all available infrastructures/resources; a complete quantitative census
 - 2.4 Draw a maintenance plan (fund) for the infrastructure provided
 - 2.5 The community project management must commit itself to keep records of existing and future animal performance indicators such as reproduction rate, growth rate, mortalities, yields, and marketing data in a format approved by the Department of Agriculture, for the purposes of evaluation.
 - 2.6 Align the actual stocking rate with the departmentally recommended grazing capacity with 12 months of participating in the Scheme. The purpose of this condition is to ensure that animals have access to sufficient fodder, as the benefit of superior breeding material cannot be realized if the nutritional status of the environment is poor.
 - Commit the community to comply with the veld management practices as stipulated from time to time by the Department.
 - 2.7 Commit the project management to exclude competition from other local male animals by selling all excess males. The project

management must also adopt a controlled mating system to be aligned in such a way that the lambing period coincides with the availability of feed (good grazing).

- 2.8 Join a recognized commodity group; and must undertake to provide adequate secure facilities to house the male animals.
- 2.9 The project management must establish a Local Livestock Project Fund, and open own account for the care of the animals and their progeny.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS INTO THE FUND (Minimums) PER PROJECT

Animal Class	Large Stock	Small Stock	Recommended Period of use
Male	R1000.00 per bull	R400.00 per ram/buck	2 or 3 years

- 2.10 To comply with the identification method in place so that the impact of the new breeding material on the productivity can be monitored and evaluated.
 - 2.11 Bulls and rams are to be issued to successful project applicants (subject to availability of the animals), and will stay in that project for a recommended period of time not exceeding three (3) years for the bulls and two (2) years for the rams, unless there are measures to prevent inbreeding (i.e. males mating their own daughters) in place. Thereafter, the communities participating in the scheme can exchange the animals amongst themselves after the necessary veterinary inspections and tests have been completed. This is mandatory so as to avoid inbreeding. The Livestock Production Improvement Scheme will assist in these exchanges in as far as the logistical arrangements are concerned.
 - 2.12 Disposal of the Animals, after the last year of service, the animals must be returned to the Department of Agriculture (The animals remain the property of Government) for disposal; and the funds so realized shall be credited into the Livestock Production Improvement Fund.
3. Approved project must be registered with the Livestock Production Improvement Scheme in the Department of Agriculture.
 4. A signed co-operation agreement is only effective and binding on the Department of Agriculture when the required assistance has been provided (infrastructure and/or breeding animals).

APPENDIX B: INFORMATION TO BE RECORDED (EASTERN CAPE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION IMPROVEMENT SCHEME)

The applicant will be expected to comply with the following record keeping:

1. Animal Production

- Animal numbers
- Herd composition
- Breeding management
 - Mating season and duration
 - Mating method
- Animal health
 - Dosing and vaccinations
 - Tick control
- Bull Management
 - Condition
 - Health status
 - Fertility status

2. Veld Management

- Veld condition
- Veld management practices
 - Resting
 - Burning

3. Supplementary feeding**4. Off-take**

- Unproductive animals
- Slaughtered animals
- Animals used for lobola
- Animal sold (calves, heifers, bulls, etc)

**APPENDIX C: APPLICATION FORM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE EASTERN
CAPE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION IMPROVEMENT SCHEME**

An application for participation into the Scheme shall be made on this FORM obtainable for this purpose from any local Extension Officer.

This form MUST:

- a) Be completed by the office bearers of the community project (names must be stated in full followed by an ID number) together with the list of participants as an annexure
- b) Be endorsed by the owner of the land, on which the Scheme is to be run, giving permission for the project to be undertaken on it
- c) Be forwarded to the regional Livestock Production Improvement Scheme Coordinator who is designated to receive and register the Project; and upon his/her satisfaction, and after site inspection and verification of the information on this form. He/she shall register this project in his/her register of projects, and endorse his/her recommendations
- d) Upon approval of the application by the Regional Senior Manager of the area, the application form must be forwarded to the Livestock Production Improvement Scheme office at Dohne
- e) If assistance for infrastructure is a precondition for the project to go ahead, this must be stated on the application form; indicating the level/amount of local contribution available
- f) Be accompanied by all the necessary attachments (e.g., constitution, business plan, list of participants, production plan, grazing plan, farm plan etc)

Applications must be submitted before the 30 June of every year

**EASTERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE: LIVESTOCK
PRODUCTION IMPROVEMENT SCHEME****1. DETAILS OF APPLICANT:**

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____

Telephone no: Code-----no-----

Fax no: Code -----no-----

Signature: _____

2. PROJECT DETAILS**2.1 NAME OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT:**

2.2 LOCALITY OF THE PROJECT:

Region: _____

Municipal District: _____

Town/Village: _____

Property number: -----Ref-----Long-----Lat-----

Physical Address: _____

3. AVAILABLE RESOURCES:**3.1 Natural Resources (Land and infrastructure):**

Veld type: _____

Total ha available: _____

Grazing capacity: _____

No of camps (if any): _____

Perimeter fences: _____

Availability of water: _____

Annual rainfall: _____ mm

3.2 Human Resources:

No. of Livestock owners: _____

Total No. of beneficiaries: _____

Who is managing the stock: _____

Availability of labour: _____

3.3 Capital Resources:

Indicate own capital for the project: R_____

Indicate if other capital can be obtained: R_____

Total estimated capital required for the project: R_____

3.4 Animals available: _____

3.5 Total Stock in the Project: -----

	Cattle	Sheep	Goats
Mature females			
Mature males			
Oxen/Wethers			
Offsprings (Male)			
Offspring (female)			
Total LSU/SSU			
Reproduction rate			
Mating season			

4. Nature of Request:

Infrastructure development: -----
(Fences, handling facilities, etc) -----

Breeding material
Number

Type

Breed

Bulls

Sheep Rams

Goat Rams (Bucks)

5. Participants

5.1 Approval of registered land owner: Name: -----

Signature: ----- Date: -----

5.2 Project Committee

Name

ID no:

Date

Chairperson: -----

Secretary: -----

Treasurer: -----

6. INDICATE THE DATES AND COURSES RECEIVED IN ASPECT OF ANIMAL MANAGEMENT (by whom)

Course	Date	Course Instructor
-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----
-----	-----	-----

7. ATTACH AN OUTLINE OF A MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: (Management calendar including dosing & vaccination program, marketing strategy, etc.)

8. RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS:

	<u>EXTENSION OFFICER</u>	<u>ANIMAL HEALTH TECHNICIAN</u>
Name:	-----	-----
ID no.:	-----	-----
Signature:	-----	-----
Date:	-----	-----

9. Recommended/Not recommended

Comments: -----

Manager Extension (ATD & T):

Name: ----- Signature: -----

Date: -----

10. Recommended/Not recommended**Comments:**

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Manager Veterinary Services (Where applicable):**Name:** **Signature****Date:****11. Recommended/Not recommended****Comments:**

.....

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Manager: District Municipal Office (Coordination):**Name:** **Signature:****Date:****12. Approved/Not Approved****Comments:**

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Regional Senior Manager:**Name:** **Signature:****Date:**

04050000

13. Approved/Not Approved**Comments:** -----

Head/Executive Officer Livestock Production Improvement Scheme:**Name:** ----- **Signature:** -----**Date:** -----

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