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Predators on private land: Broad-scale socioeconomic interactions affect large predator management



A paper recently published by Prof. Graham Kerley deals with the issue of predator management on private reserves. The issue of sustainable predator densities is of particular interest. Kerley and colleagues assessed the area requirements for lion and cheetah, and also put this in perspective in terms of the policy guidelines.

Evidence showed that lions tend to be stocked sustainably (in terms of the available prey base), whereas cheetah tended to be overstocked in 75% of the properties. Furthermore, the evidence indicates that none of these properties were able to support a single cheetah on the minimum area of 1 000 ha as provided for in the then relevant Eastern Cape Certificate for Adequate Enclosure (CAE) policy. Visit the PMF website to download the study or click on this link "<http://www.pmfsa.co.za/images/news/Kerley.pdf>"



Middel teen brandsiekte?

Na aanleiding van 'n berig in *Landbouweekblad* oor brandsiek jakkalse, vra Lizaan Smit of daar 'n teenmiddel vir brandsiekte bestaan.

Die PMF se dr. Gerhard Verdoorn van "Vra die Expert"-faam antwoord dat verskillende myte by verskillende diere brandsiekte veroorsaak. Dit is nie 'n virus of bakteriese siekte waarvoor daar 'n teenmiddel of entstof bestaan nie. Indien brandsiekte-myte wel onder vee voorkom, kan dit met 'n groot verskeidenheid dipstowwe behandel word. Besoek www.saaha.co.za en maak die "Oxpecker chart" oop. Daar kan mens sien dat 43 middels teen brandsiekte-myte geregistreer is.



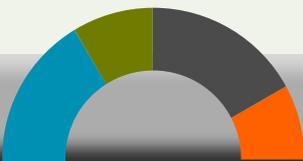
"Daar is tot op hede geen aanmelding van brandsiekte onder vee of wild nie en dit lyk asof slegs jakkalse dié keer die pak vat", sê Verdoorn.

Stop trying to outsmart and fight predators!

At the most recent NWGA National Congress, Niel Viljoen, predator specialist, said that significant successes had been achieved over the past eight years in dealing with predators while working together with the NWGA and farmers throughout South Africa. This was not a result of outsmarting or fighting the predators, but rather of understanding the situation, adapting the system and managing the problem. In the animal kingdom the ability to change and continuously adapt to forever changing situations and circumstances is the key factor to securing the survival of a species.

Initially, Viljoen's goals were to assist farmers in managing predators, thereby contributing to the global production of wool, meat and mohair. He wanted to change the overall picture of the industry from the farm right through to the end of production lines. He wanted to create a better understanding among activists, consumers, customers, retailers and the fashion industry by explaining the current positive approach to predators and predation, and the results of this approach. In order to achieve this he needed to shift perceptions and the general focus on how to engage with predation. The graph below explains this point.

From predator management	→	To predation management
Contractors in charge		Farmers in charge
Contractors used when needed		Continuous management by farmer
Only lethal methods		Using the toolbox to its full extent
Reaction after losses hunting jackal and caracal		Proactive management strategies
Time consuming		Time well spent
Temporary relief		Constant relief
Costly		Cost-effective



Stuur inligting

U word vriendelik versoek om gereeld enige inligting rakende predasie, wenke oor bekamping/voorkoming, insiggewende nuus, aktiwiteite wat in bedrywe aangaan, datums, suksesverhale rakende sekere beheermetodes en interessante navorsing en foto's aan Bonita by nwga@nwga.co.za te stuur.