

2024 INCLUSIVE GROWTH TRAINING REPORT



Empowering
FARMERS TO THRIVE

PREPARED BY
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INTRODUCTION

During 2024 RMIS Inclusive Growth focused on the completion of the AgriSeta Red Meat Project, 2022-2025. The project included the training and transfer of red meat industry farming knowledge to new-generation/ small scale African farmers, aiming at better quantity and quality produce.

All topics presented aligned with the objectives of the AAMP and Red Meat Industry Strategy 2030. Reporting includes the 2024 targets for AgriSeta as well as the RMIS statutory funding project.

AgriSETA PROJECT

- 12 Training Courses
- 10 Farmer's Days
- Participation in the UP Livestock School and Study Groups
- 50 Farm Visits
- 7 Feedlot Interns

RMIS PROJECT

- 10 Training Courses
- 10 Farmer's Days
- Dip Tank Pilot Project
- 10 Webinars
- Study Groups
- Farmer Database



BRIEF OVERVIEW

TRAINING COURSES



STUDY GROUPS



FARMERS' DAYS



STOCK THEFT WORKSHOPS



FARM VISITS



FEEDLOT TRAINING



WEBINARS



DIP TANKS



OTHER

- African Farming Ibizo exhibitor and panelist
- Food for Mzansi Indaba – exhibitor and panelist
- Tabazimbi Cattle School - facilitator
- Boshoff Bonsmara - exhibitor
- ARC Afrikaner Farmers Day - presenter
- Presenter ASAAE Annual Conference
- External assessor Tompie Seleka Agricultural College
- Speaker at 4th level Animal Science Symposium
- NAMPO ALFA – Speaker NaLFA SA Conference
- World Food day UNISA – Speaker

11 579 FARMERS REACHED TO DATE IN 2024

TRAINING

The RMIS offers AgriSeta-accredited as well as non-credit-bearing courses. These courses are based on a needs analysis to address the priorities of both the industry and the farmers.

RMIS delivers the courses in collaboration with industry stakeholders who are already involved in organised projects/ farmer groups to support the development of new-generation red meat farmers. The courses are both theory- and practical based, and farmers receive certificates upon successful completion of a training course.



**TOTAL OF 19 COURSES
WERE PRESENTED**



**TOTAL OF 514 FARMERS
WERE TRAINED**



COURSES



Cattle Marketing Management



Basic Herd Management



Herd Health Management



Veld & Pasture Management



Reproduction Management



Financial Management



Livestock Handling



Animal Husbandry

FEEDLOT DEVELOPMENT COURSE

The training program was inspired by a gap identified by the Feedlot Association for the development of future feedlot managers. The 12-week course, delivered in partnership with Serdev and Sernick, combined both classroom instruction and practical work-based feedlot training. Students also completed a 25-credit course on Intensive Feedlot Production and Operations, presented by i3A (International Agricultural Academy). The students received 3 weeks of classroom and on-farm training, whilst the remaining time was dedicated to group- and individual assignments.

The course aims to identify farmers and livestock professionals who can be trained as trainers. These individuals will be equipped to advise and support other farming communities in reaching their feedlot development goals.

12 WEEK PROGRAMME
16 STUDENTS



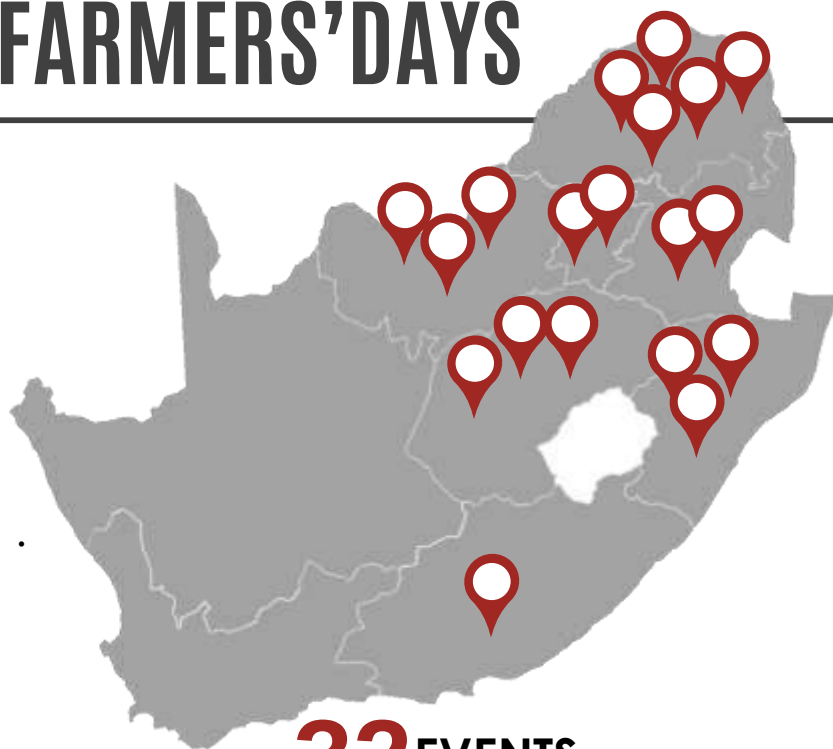
**AIM TO CULTIVATE TRAINERS
FOR FEEDLOT DEVELOPMENT**

THEORETICAL & PRACTICAL TRAINING MODULES

- | | |
|--|--|
|  Time management |  Production efficiency |
|  Economic considerations |  Feedlot health and biosecurity |
|  Feedlot environment |  Financial performance and sustainability |
|  Feedlot feeding and phases |  Feedlot business plan |



FARMERS' DAYS



32 EVENTS

PARTICIPANTS 3 680

	Pietermaritzburg		Moletane
	Burgersford		Pretoria
	Mokopane		Dipakapaka
	Jozini		Bethlehem
	Kwa Jobe		Malelane
	Rustenburg		Porterville
	Ta Nchu		Edenville
	Leandra		Moomane
	Kuruman		Koppies
	Polokwane		
	Louis Trichardt		
	Empangeni		
	Taung		
	Ermelo		

THEMES: INCLUSIVE GROWTH IN THE RED MEAT INDUSTRY, PROFITABLE FARMING, RECORD KEEPING, BEEF AND BREED MANAGEMENT

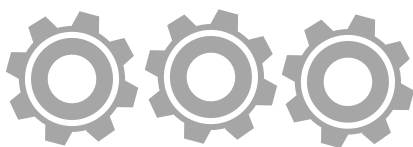
Farmers' Days were held in partnership with African Farming, Food for Mzansi, DALRRD and ARC. During these events, RMIS technical advisors introduced new-generation farmers on the red meat industry strategy 2030, highlighting available services as well as the importance of inclusive growth within the sector. To encourage farmer participation, and supplement RMIS presentations, hampers containing weigh belts, thermometers, syringes, record-keeping booklets, and the RPO's Livestock Production handbook were handed out.



STUDY GROUP SESSIONS

Study group sessions are more informal than training courses and focus on challenges and matters requested by the communal farming groups. Some of the study groups were part of a dip tank project and others of the UP Veterinary School Livestock developing farmer groups.

Topics ranged from animal husbandry and production principles to climate-smart beef production practices and market requirements. Farmers are trained for one-day and receive ongoing support in livestock record-keeping, using the RMIS record-keeping booklets. Some of the study groups were also introduced to the **RMIS Mobile Unit**, where they received practical assistance on branding, vaccination, disease treatment and control, weight capturing, age determination and livestock productivity.



**TOTAL OF 18 STUDY GROUPS
WERE PRESENTED**



**TOTAL OF 488 FARMERS
WERE EDUCATED**



FARM VISITS AND MENTORING

 **50** FARMERS VISITED

THEMES: RECORD-KEEPING + INDIVIDUAL FARM NEEDS
(ANIMAL HEALTH, BREEDING AND ANIMAL MARKETING
REQUIREMENTS)

The farmers were identified through existing databases, as well as farmers participating in the RMIS farmers' days and training. The aim is not just a once-off visit, but to create an environment of continuous education and growth for the farmer with follow-up visits and regular telephonic contact. The intention is to build a long-term relationship giving new generation farmers an uninterrupted communication channel. A structured farm analysis is conducted during each visit.



HANDOUTS: WEIGH BELTS, THERMOMETER, SERINGES AND
LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION MANUAL



MONTHLY WEBINARS

The RMIS offers free monthly webinars to meet the growing demand for industry and production insight for new generation farmers. These webinars are open to the public and are also available on YouTube for ongoing reference. To date the RMIS_SA YouTube channel has reached over 4700 views for 2024.

FREE WEBINAR
ESSENTIAL STEPS FOR SUCCESS AS AN EMERGING CATTLE FARMER

DATE

09 August 2024

TIME

12:00 - 14:00 PM

LOCATION

Microsoft Teams

FACILITATOR

KHOMOTSO MASHILOANE

GUEST SPEAKER

SUNCAR SHAPPELWANE

Medical Researcher



FREE WEBINAR
FUNDING FOR GROWTH

DATE

26 August 2024

TIME

10:00 - 11:00 AM

LOCATION

Microsoft Teams

FACILITATOR

ERNEST MAKUA

GUEST SPEAKER

TSEBO MOKGASH

Senior President
Association of Moslems
Fund



FREE WEBINAR
ECONOMIC IMPACT OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL PARASITES ON LIVESTOCK

DATE

20 September 2024

TIME

10:00 - 11:00 AM

LOCATION

Microsoft Teams

FACILITATOR

KHOMOTSO MASHILOANE

GUEST SPEAKER

KENNETH MALATJI

Approved Health Technician
at Afrivet




FEB	Requirement for selling cattle at auctions	158
MAR	Ins and outs of feedlots	140
APR	Livestock theft statistics and possible prevention measures	141
MAY	Why follow a lick program	33
JUN	Using selection values for herd improvement	16
JUL	Essential steps for success as an emerging cattle farmer	30
AUG	Funding for growth	50
SEP	Economic impact of internal and external parasites	30
OCT	Optimizing Nutrient Circularity for Profitable and Sustainable Cattle Farming	25
NOV	Best Practices in Farm Animal Welfare - NSPCSA	25



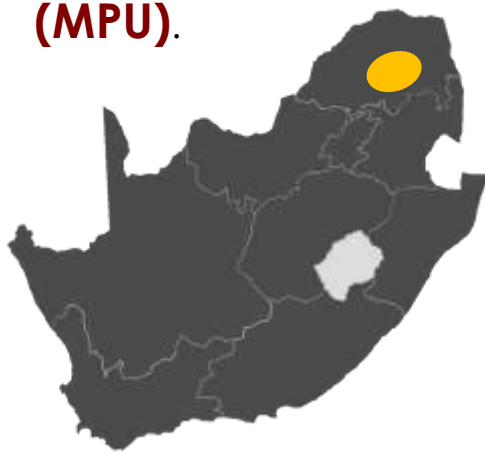
648 Participants
YouTube Views 4766



DIP TANK PILOT PROJECT

RMIS Inclusive Growth launched a pilot project focusing on dip tanks in the Sekhukhune region of Limpopo. As directed in the Red Meat Industry Strategy 2023, this project doesn't focus the development and maintenance of communal dip tanks, but rather the support to existing and active dip tanks/animal handling facilities in communal areas.

Support included collaboration with the community structures, presentation of various training and knowledge sharing initiatives as well as the practical application of the **RMIS Mobile Processing Unit (MPU)**.



- 📍 Makhatle
- 📍 Jane Furse
- 📍 Groblersdal
- 📍 Dennilton

👤 👤 **1868**

Communal Farmers assisted through training and mobile unit

1992 🐮 🐮 🐮

Communal Cattle processed & info recorded



Dip tank Identification

Collaboration & Orientation

- 4 Active dip tanks
- Collaboration with community structures
- DALRRD consultation
- DALRRD Animal Health Technicians
- Needs analysis



Training

Interventions

- Study Groups
- Training Sessions
- Stock Theft Prevention Workshops
- Farmers' Days



Mobile Unit

Interventions

- Ear tagging
- Branding
- Dehorning
- Vaccination
- Dipping
- Supplements

DIP TANK PILOT PROJECT



Farmers trained
598

Animal husbandry and health
Animal identification
Biosecurity
Record-keeping
Market requirements



Cattle branded
729



Farmers assisted with
brand registration
311



Cattle ear tagged
1404



Cattle vaccinated
604



Farmers attend stock
theft prevention workshop
571



Farmers assisted with
Mobile Processing Unit
185



Internal Parasite control
861



External Parasite control
857



Mineral Supplements
858



STOCK THEFT PREVENTION

Stock theft has become a pressing national issue, affecting both commercial and communal farming communities. The National Stock Theft Prevention Forum (NSTPF), in collaboration with the RMIS decided to host stock theft awareness workshops.

With funding secured by RMIS, through AgriSeta, four workshops were organized in the Sekhukune area, where RMIS also took part in a pilot dip tank project. Farmers gained valuable insights into the impact of stock theft on the industry, strategies for prevention, the Animal Identification Act, prosecution procedures, and the crucial role of community involvement. Representatives from the RPO, RMIS, DALRRD, SAPS and the local community structures actively participated in these events.

Why a Stock Theft Awareness Campaign is Crucial?

SAPS reports a noticeable decline in stock theft incidents following these workshops, underscoring the positive impact of community education and engagement.

Nearly 600 farmers attended the four workshops - this proactive approach is helping to safeguard the farming sector against this persistent threat.



IMPACT AND FARMER DATA BASE

IMPACT ASSESSMENT

RMIS Livestock Advisors continuously conduct impact assessments to determine the level of knowledge and skills gained by the farmers through interventions such as farm visits, training and farmer's days.

PARAMETERS:

- | | |
|---|---|
|  Disease identification & treatment |  Selling income |
|  Vaccine and dosing programs |  Bull selection criteria |
|  Selling age and weight of animals |  Farmer networking |
|  Number of bulls in relation to females | |

The training not only aims to improve their individual capabilities, but also to boost their confidence as a contributor in the red meat industry.



FARMER DATA BASE

The RMIS previously utilized the HYDRA Database System for farmer data capturing, but recently transitioned to a more streamlined platform of the RMIS Odoo ERP System. The current database holds information on approximately 2000 new-generation farmers.

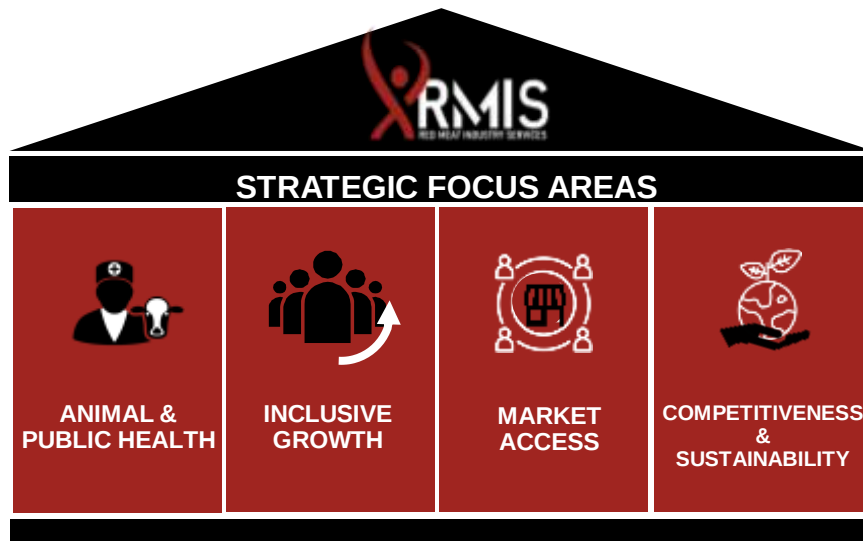
ADVANTAGES

- Consolidation of farmer information
- Segmenting of data for future projects
- Improved coordination for events
- Better resource allocation
- Effective reporting
- Visual representation of farmers' locations
- Communication platform to farmers
- Cost efficiency
- Using data to tell a story

OUTCOMES

KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND TRAINING INTERVENTION DURING 2024

Align with RMIS strategic objectives and projects



- Improved farmers' network with industry stakeholders.
- Improve market awareness and market requirements.
- Linked farmer contacts to received ABSA's  weekly livestock prices.



- Encouraged formal group participation (study groups or associations).



- Focused on productive vs unproductive animals, farming environmental.
- Focus on rotational (camp) grazing for nutritional and environmental sustainability.
- Value of livestock body weight, recordkeeping of weight and financial benefits.
- Assisted with husbandry practices – dehorning, branding.
- Branding registration for rural farmers.
- Improved recordkeeping supplemented by the assistance with ear tagging.
- Improved disease management through assistance with vaccination medicine.
- Area bound vaccination programs.
- Observation and application of treatments.



Positive impact on farmer performance, farm team dynamics, farm growth and long-term sustainability

OUTCOMES



- Emphasis on farmers' business orientation mindset and
- Farming financial impact.

PARTNERS



agriculture, land reform
& rural development

Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Faculty of
Veterinary Science

Fakulteit Veeartseniekunde
Lefapha la Disaense tsa Bongakadiniwa

