

NW DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Beef cattle Identification and Branding

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Animal Science

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Wolwerand



Guiding principles in farm animal identification



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Guiding principles cont...

- Farm animal identification is governed through the Animal Identification Act, Act No. 6 of 2002.
- Application of Act
 - The Act applies -
 - (a) in respect of the animals declared by the Minister, as *Gazetted*; and
 - (b) to the whole of the national territory of the Republic of South Africa.



Responsibilities of owners

- Each owner of animals must:
 - ✓ apply for registration of an identification mark
 - ✓ mark his or her animals in the prescribed manner
 - ✓ mark the animal clearly with his or her identification mark, within 14 days after acquisition
 - ✓ Brand all calves at the age of 6 months

Permanent Cattle Identification

- Permanent Id marks can be put on animals by means of hot iron branding, freeze branding or tattooing. (*Paint won't last*)
- **Why??**
- Without animal Id, you cannot keep records on your animals.
- It helps you to identify one animal from others, furthermore,
- An animal Id mark shows to whom the animal belongs. This makes it possible to trace the owner.
- An identification mark consists of not more than three letters of the alphabet or symbols (Herd prefix characters).



Permanent Cattle Identification

- Branding, must be ≥ 40 mm and ≤ 100 mm in width
- and ≥ 40 mm and ≤ 100 mm in height at the highest part.
- Tattooing, must be ≥ 20 mm in width at the widest and 20 mm in height at the highest part
- The basic id has : Herd designation mark, Year of birth and Sequence number, e.g.

TAM 19-012



Cattle Identification, Practical Demonstration



Mr T A Maseko's animals . Branded on 26/06/2020



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At Wolwerand farm by NP Bareki