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Adaptive veld management
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Adaptive veld management

- This system of management operates in a trial and error basis. The farmer is expected to make management decisions by learning from the mistakes and successes of neighbouring farmers including his experience.
- In this system the farmer is not left on his own, it is a joint exercise between the farmer, the extension officer and the researcher.

1. Make an inventory of natural resources on the farm

- Water sources
- Vegetation
- Stock feeds
- Grazing area
- Fencing

2. Set objectives.

- What type of animal he requires?
- What animal performance he requires?
- What veld condition he requires?

3. Assess each veld type or one camp for each veld type.

- Through proper veld survey.
- Take photographs.
- **Assess each camp**
- Camp visit before grazing
- Identification of indicator species
- Utilisation of indicator species

Utilization of indicator species

Utilization class	Palatable species	Unpalatable species
Not utilized/ under utilized	Slightly utilized	Not utilized
Utilized	70% utilized	Slightly utilized
Over utilized	100% utilized	70% utilized

4. Determine the stocking rates.

- Through appropriate techniques
- Browsing and grazing capacity
- Through reliable estimates

5. Design initial management system

- Implement actual veld management.
- All the camps should be monitored and information recorded in the form provided.
- Attempt to achieve objectives set at step 2.
- Record grazing and burning programme applied to each camp.
- Record the rain fall and environmental changes.
- Record the amount of feeds before and after occupation

Record keeping

- Measuring the performance of the animals.
- Measuring change in the vegetation or veld condition.
- Recording the management systems that are being applied.
- Recording the environmental conditions which occur.

Record keeping system for adaptive veld management

Dates		Days	Animal information			Total mass		Stocking		Usage		
In	Out		No.	Type	Herd	In	Out	In	Out	% use	Misc.	

Resurvey the camps again after every two years

- Evaluate the objectives set at step 2.
- Note performance of animals and veld condition
- Identify the mistakes and correct them if any or review your stocking rates
- If things are not doing well the farmer will consult the extension officers or the relevant expert can be contacted through extension officer

7. Return to step no. 5 and repeat the process

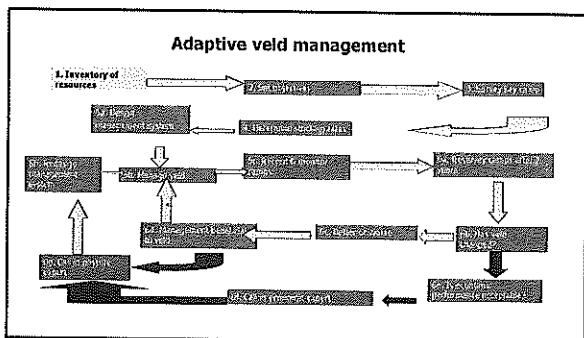
- A unique grazing system can be developed for specific farm and in time modified according to new circumstances and new information.
- If the process continue for a longer period the farmer can develop a model specifically for his farm.
- The information can be passed from generation to generation or even sold to new owner.

TWO TYPES OF VELD MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

- **Continuous Grazing**
 - Manipulate grazing through watering points
 - Summer & Winter grazing areas
- **Rotational Grazing**
 - Multi-camp system
 - Rotate between camps (rest periods)
 - Summer & Winter camps

Conclusion

- Man must measure.
- Man must monitor.
- Man must manage.



Utilization of indicator species

Utilization class	Palatable species	Unpalatable species	Action taken
A = Not utilized/ under utilized	Mhallha=A Mosu=A Mooka=A	Moselha=A Moslasla=A Molshollo=A	Stock and graze
B = Utilized	Morobe=B Mokgalo=B Morellwa=A	Molihaje=B/B Morukuru=A/B Mogodiri=A/B/C	Withdraw animals from camp
C = Over utilized	Mogolloho=C Moselese=C Species 3=C	Mokverekwere=B =A Species 3=A	Withdraw animals Immediately

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