



agriculture & rural development

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North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Weaning on Pastures

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Pasture Science

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Wean Selection Demonstration Day - Machavie Experimental Farm

20 July 2022



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INTRODUCTION

- The major priority in beef production is to produce as many calves as possible. The main objective of weaning is therefore to enable a cow to calve every year by allowing her to regain condition after weaning.
- Weaning allows the cow to transfer nutrition, previously going into milk production to her own normal body functions including improving her own condition and preparing herself for the next calving.



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Types of stress to avoid

- Environmental stress
- Nutrition stress
- Physical stress
- Social stress



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Pasture preparation

- It is critical to have good availability of high quality pasture at weaning time on your own weaning time mainly winter weaning or summer weaning. This will ensure that calves have a diet which they will perform well on.



Pasture preparation

- Providing high quality pasture and allowing selective grazing to take place will generally ensure favourable calf performance during the weaning period



Fences

- The idea that weaning fence needs to be five (5) feet which is 1.5m high and should be goat proof.
- This is because calves are looking for a way out to escape to their mothers.



KE A LEBOGA!



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