

agriculture & rural development

Department:

Agriculture and Rural Development North West Provincial Government REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Weaning on Pastures

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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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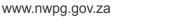


Types of stress to avoid

- 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.





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Pasture preparation

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



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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.



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