

NORTH WEST DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Adaptive veld management

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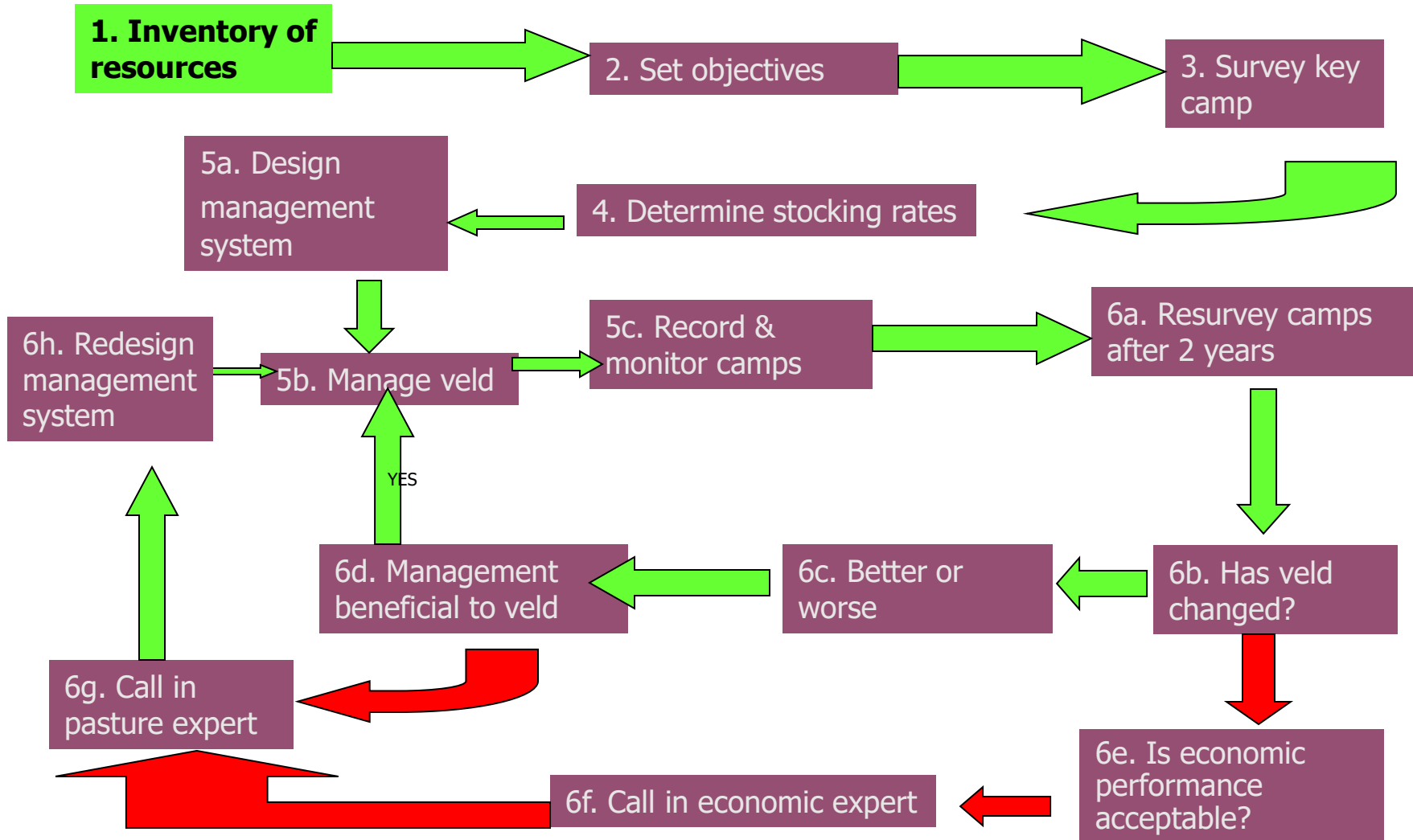
Morokweng Farmers' day

2020 December 10

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.

Adaptive veld management



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.

1. Make an inventory of natural resources on the farm

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

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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.



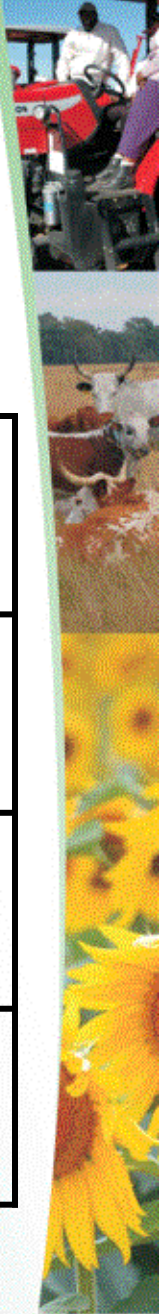
3. Assess each camp

- 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



Utilization of indicator species

Utilization class	Palatable species	Unpalatable species	Action taken
A = Not utilized/ under utilized	Mhatlha=A Mosu=A Mooka=A	Mosetlha=A Mosiasia=A Motshotlho=A	Stock and graze
B= Utilized	Morobe=B Mokgalo=B Moretlwa=A	Motlhaje=B/B Morukhuru=A/B Mogodiri=A/B/C	Withdraw animals from camp
C =Over utilized	Mogotlho=C Moselesele=C Species 3=C	Mokwerekwere= B =A Species 3=A	Withdraw animals immediately

Adaptive rangeland management

4. Determine the stocking rates.

- Through appropriate techniques.
- Through reliable estimates.



5. Design initial management system

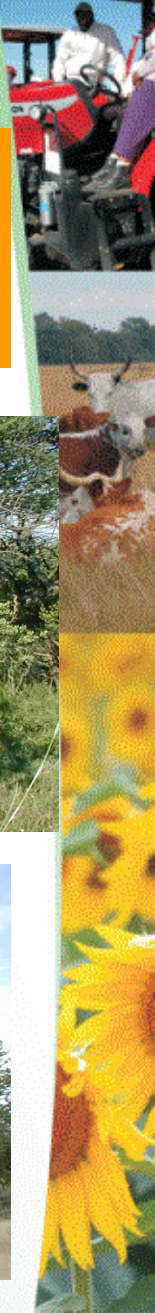
- Implement actual veld management.
- All the camps should be monitored and information recorded in the form provided.
- Attempt to achieve objectives set at step 2.
- Record grazing and burning programme applied to each camp.
- Record the rain fall and environmental changes.
- Record the amount of feeds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



Record keeping system for adaptive veld management.

Dates		Days in	Animal information			Total mass		Sup. feeding	Forage			
In	Out		No.	Type	Herd	In	Out		In	Out	% use	Misc.

Monitoring



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.



Conclusion

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

