



**Agriculture &
Rural Development**

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Agriculture and Rural Development
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Event	:	Farmers' Study Group Training Day
Presenter	:	Mr N.P. Bareki
Presentation title	:	Generalised Beef Cattle Management Programme
Location	:	Ipopeng, Amalia in Mamusa
Date	:	18 May 2021
Requesting Agric advisor	:	Mr A.C. Mallo
Aim	:	Training of selected study group farmers farmers
Purpose	:	To enhance farmers' understanding of the generalised beef cattle management programme.

MONTH	REPRODUCTION	MANAGEMENT	FEEDING	RECORDS	HEALTH
NOV	Breeding Season for heifers Calving period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grouping of breeding herds. • Heifer condition scoring. • <i>Mid-month</i>. Breeding of heifers begins (24 months olds). 	Summer lick. Production lick - nursing cows in poor condition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update records. • Calf records: (<i>Birth weight, ear notch, calf to cow identification</i>). 	Always consult your area Veterinarian or Animal Health Officer on all Animal Health matters FIRST
DES	Breeding heifers and cows. Calving period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cull non-productive cows. • Cow condition scoring. • <i>Mid-month</i>. Cow breeding season starts. 	Summer lick.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update records. • Calf records: (<i>Birth weight, ear notch, calf to cow identification</i>). 	
JAN	Breeding Season	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breeding of heifers ends 1st week (\pm 42 days) or mid-month. (\pm 63 days) • Dehorning and tattooing. 	Summer lick.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update records. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan for Black Quarter & Botulism vaccination in February.
FEB	Breeding Season - cows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-calving condition scoring • End of cow herd breeding mid-month. (\pm 63 days). • Dehorning and tattooing . 	Summer lick.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feed requirements • Order feeds for the coming winter. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccinate all animals for Black Quarter; Botulism and Anthrax.
MAR	Breeding season ends \pm mid-month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End of cow herd breeding mid- month. (\pm 92days). 	Summer lick.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Order or prepare winter licks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan for follow up vaccination for Black Quarter & Botulism.
APR	Pregnancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pregnancy diagnosis at the end of the month. 	Summer lick. Consider Winter lick		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second black quarter & botulism • CA Vaccination

MONTH	REPRODUCTION	MANAGEMENT	FEEDING	RECORDS	HEALTH
MAY	Pregnancy Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pregnancy Diagnosis • Weaning of calves - during May. • Select replacement heifers • Cull reproductively poor cows and heifers • Conditioning scoring • Branding of calves <i>(compulsory)</i>. 	Start with winter lick <i>(depending on the condition of the veld)</i> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update records. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan for TB test.
JUN	Pregnancy Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finalise culling & selection. • Introduce pregnant heifers to cow herds. 	Over wintering on rested veld / Winter lick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Balancing of books & records 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite Veterinarian (VET) for TB tests.
JUL	Pregnancy Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Culling and buying of breeding bulls, sale of all culls. • Monitor condition of bulls. 	Winter lick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update records. 	
AUG	Pregnancy Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Condition scoring on bulls. • Prepare for calving 	Winter lick Feeding of breeding bulls <i>(if necessary)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare books for calving seasons. 	
SEPT	Calving Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First heifers start calving. – Observe for any difficulties. 	Provision of extra feed to animals <i>(if necessary)</i> . Winter lick.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recording of new born calves <i>(Birth weight, ear notch, calf to cow identification)</i>. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite VET for fertility tests on all breeding bulls.
OCT	Calving Period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heifers' calving – Observe for any difficulties. • Cows start to calve. 	Consider summer lick <i>(depending on the veld condition)</i> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recording of calves <i>(Birth weight, ear notch, calf to cow identification)</i>. 	

* Weigh lick remnants every month before adding fresh lick to determine lick intakes for the specific period.

* Lick supplements and Water (separately) should be readily available to animals by all times.

* Dipping should be done according to tick infestation/load to save costs, animals may have some few ticks but don't dip clean animals.

* Record keeping is a key to successful and productive farming (and it refers to recording of every activity on the farm for later reference).