

NORTH WEST DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT. AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICES.

Event: Farmer information day

Title: Record keeping and animal identification

Tswaro ya dibuka le matshwao a leruo



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Dr KK District - Syferfontein
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Agriculture &
Rural Development
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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Introduction

- The Animal **Identification Act No. 6 of 2002**, states that it is by law that all livestock in South Africa must to be marked.
- Each cattle owner must apply for the registration of an identification mark from the Registrar of Animal Identification.
- Purchased animals must be branded within 14 days after he/she becomes the owner of the animal.

Introduction

- Livestock are marked using assorted identification marks:
(ear tags, branding, tattooing and ear notching)
- They are marked in different ways for various reasons which include:
 1. For identifying one animal from the other
 2. To prove ownership
 3. For recording purpose



Methods of identification

Branding



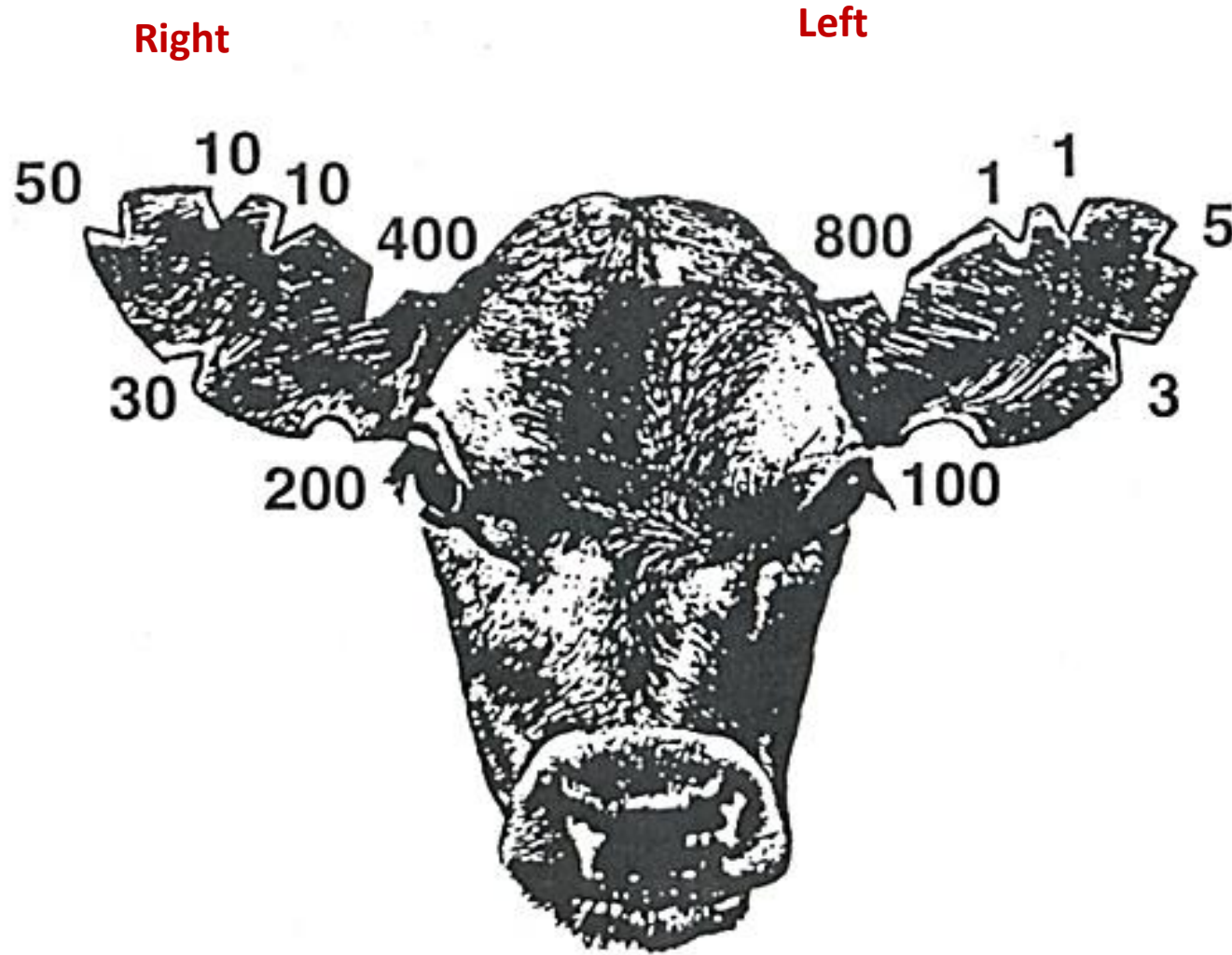
Ear tags



Tattooing



Ear notching



Record keeping

“You can’t manage what you don’t measure.”

Main need in recording
–Individual ID’s



Why keep records?



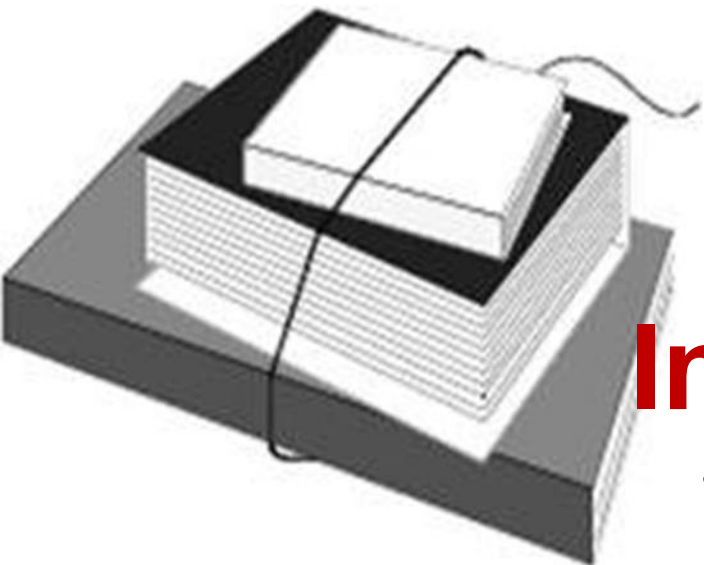
- Used as a management tool
- Records help evaluate herd inventory, maintain biosecurity and track performance of animals in the herd
- Help in decision making and planning: Selection and sales



What records to keep?



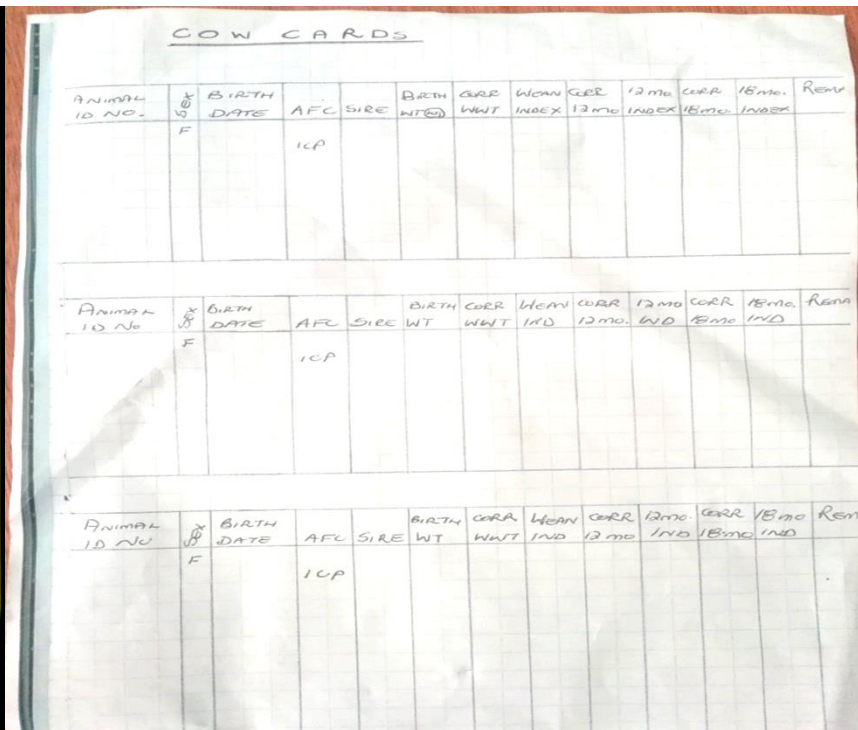
- Production: Number of calves born, Birth weights, Weaning weights, Mortality rates, Fertility test, PD's, *etc*
- Financial: Purchases and sales, loans and accounts



Income – Expenses = PROFIT



How to keep record?



Importance of record keeping

- Improves time and resource management
- Improve farm profitability
- Sustain the farm for future generations



When recording

- ✓ *Make sure you record the correct measurement*
 - ✓ *Scale is calibrated at all times.*
- ✓ *Correct sex and birth weight of a calf is of utmost importance.*
 - ✓ *Cows sometimes swop calves.*



Important records

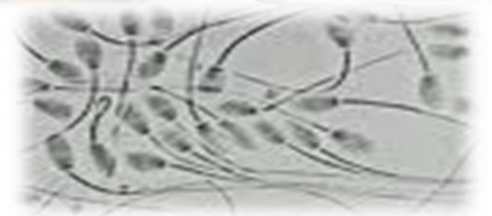


Calve Records	Cow records
Birth date	Calving dates
Birth mass/weight Within 3 days of birth	Pregnancy tests results
Dam and sire ID's	Calving status
Weaning mass & date	Weaning mass
Sex of calve	ICP



Other records

- Fertility test results of breeding bulls
- Mating dates
- Vaccinations
- Purchases and/sales
- Mortalities



BULL AA03-357 IN 04/12/07
OUT 08/01/08

$P = \frac{9}{12} = 75\%$ CONCEPTION RATE





“Om te weeg is om te weet”

KE A LEBOGA! PULA!!!!



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