

HOW TO GO ABOUT BRANDING

Which cattle must be marked with a stock brand?

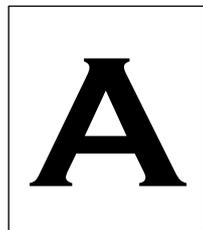
- All cattle older than 6 months, OR younger if they are moved before the age of 6 months.
- If animals are bought OR received as a gift, they must be identified with the stock brand of the new owner within 30 days.
- Cattle intended for **export to** must be branded with an “**N**” on the left cheek.
- Imported cattle must be marked with “(—)” on the left cheek.

Branding irons

- The stock brand owner is responsible for the branding iron. The iron can be manufactured by the owner himself or by a company / another person.
- The owner of the stock brand is responsible for the safekeeping of the branding iron.
- To prevent unlawful use of branding irons, Traditional authorities may request community members to surrender them for safekeeping.

What does a brand look like?

- The sketch on the Stock Brand Certificate shows the correct arrangement of the stock brand characters.



Max 100mm x 100mm

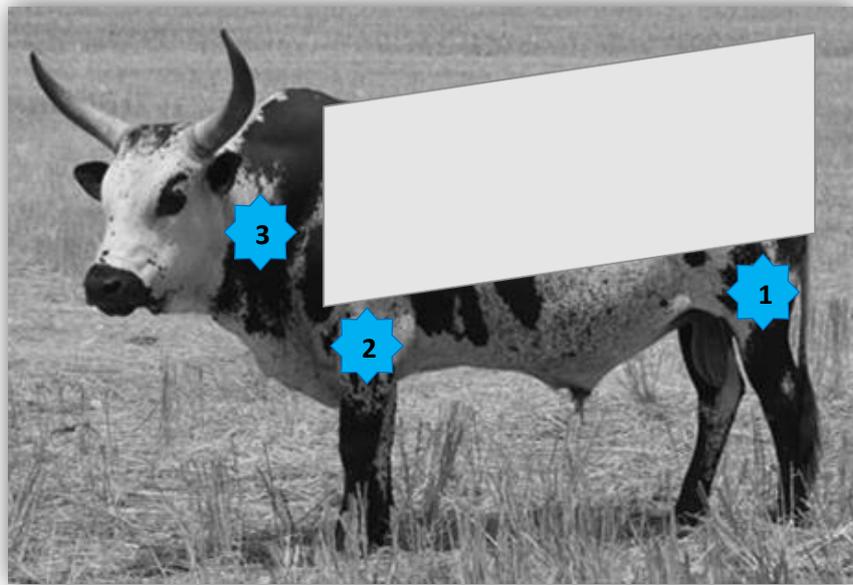


Min 30mm x 30mm

- The space between characters must be at least 12,5mm but not more than 19mm.

Where must cattle be branded

- The brand must be clearly visible.
- Order of branding in the case of change of ownership:
 1. Left hind leg
 2. Left shoulder
 3. Left neck
 4. Right hind leg
 5. Right shoulder
 6. Right neck
- Please refer to the following picture. The brand must be placed outside the rectangle in the prescribed sites.



Correct placement of commercial brand

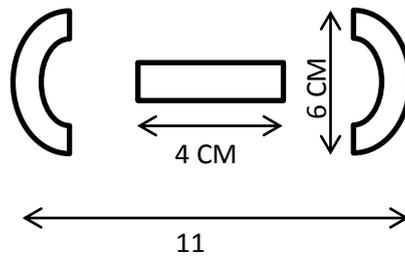


Import brand



Export brand

Import brand specifications:



Branding with a hot iron

- Have the equipment ready before your start branding.
- Make sure you have enough people to assist. Assistants must restrain the animal firmly. Branding will be easier if the animal is restrained in a crush.
- Heat the iron well in a fire or a gas flame. The iron is ready when it becomes reddish. The iron should never be bright red! Test the iron on piece of wood.
- Make sure the animal cannot hurt anyone when being branded.
- Hold the iron against the animal at the prescribed site. Only VERY SLIGHT pressure is needed FOR 3 - 5 SECONDS.
- Spray cold clean water on brand to cool skin down. Spray wound oil on the brand. NOT MANURE!
- Release the animal and check the brand in a few days for infection.

Branding stud animals

- Stud animals are to be branded with the brand registered with the Namibian Stud Breeders Association.
- If a stud breeding animal bearing a stud brand is being culled / cancelled OR sold as commercial livestock, the animal must be re-branded with the owner's commercial brand.

Sheep, goats and pigs

- Sheep, goats and pigs are NOT branded. Pigs are identified with ear tattoo marks. Sheep and goats are identified with ear tags bearing the unique stock brand number of the owner.
- Sheep and goats imported / exported must be branded on the left cheek as described for cattle.

For any enquiries please contact the Stock Brands Office
at the Meat Board of Namibia at 061 – 275 842/57 or
stockbrand@nammic.com.na OR any DVS office.