

Meat Board
of Namibia



meat CHRONICLE

NEWSLETTER 1/2021

Agricultural industry provides assistance to the DVS to combat FMD outbreak

The directorate veterinary services (DVS) reported a foot and mouth disease outbreak in the Kavango East region in September 2020. According to information received, the cattle presented with extreme saliva discharge and limping. DVS immediately implemented disease prevention measures, including restrictions on the movement of cattle as well as extensive vaccinations. A new outbreak in the Kavango West region was reported end of October 2020. It appears as if the new outbreak is not related to cases in the Kavango East region but rather to cattle that returned from Angola. Representatives of the meat industry met on 3 November to provide support to DVS in the form of rations for 200 staff members, acquisition of vaccines, supervision of and equipment at road blocks, assistance with the repair, maintenance and monitoring of the veterinary cordon fence, assistance with vehicles needed for vaccinations as well as the supervision, monitoring and transportation of goods from Windhoek to Rundu. The support from these institutions in the meat industry once again demonstrates the Namibian spirit of helpfulness.



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What the Meat Board has done

C-class abattoir training at BH abattoir in Gobabis

The meat standards division, in conjunction with Hygiene Solutions, hosted an abattoir hygiene training session on 3 December 2020 at BH Abattoir in Gobabis for local owners, managers and employees. The main aim of the training was to introduce and create abattoir as well as personal hygiene awareness at C-class level which is currently a big concern in the industry.

The day commenced with a presentation and discussion on hygiene by Hygiene Solutions at the Goba-Goba lodge.

A practical session followed at the BH Abattoir which included a discussion with regards to the environment, processes and procedures as well as general hygiene. The session also included a practical demonstration of the correct slaughter procedure for cattle and sheep.



Meat Board increases stock brand fees

The Meat Board administers stock brands on behalf of the registrar of stock brands which is also the directorate veterinary services (DVS), on a cost recovery basis. Annually, on 1 January, fee increases are adapted to stay on par with the official inflation rate. As of 1 January 2021, the Meat Board increased the following stock brand administration fees to cover administration costs for stock brand registration:

- Registration of a stock brand: N\$147
- Transfer of a stock brand: N\$53
- Issuing a duplicate stock brand certificate: N\$93



Meat Board has limited amounts of bush aborocides

The Meat Board imports and sells bush aborocides on a cost recovery basis to producers to make a contribution towards combating bush encroachment. The eradication of intruder and unwanted bush species increases the carrying capacity of national pastures as well as production statistics. The initial costs of the aborocides might appear to be high, yet cost benefits are significant. The following aborocide is available:

- Tebuthiuron 200 GR (25 kg bag @ N\$4 658.25 VAT included)

To find out about the availability of aborocides, contact Desmond Cloete at the Meat Board head office on 061-275877.

The Meat Board conducts external role player's perception survey

Every three years the Meat Board of Namibia conducts a role player's perception survey regarding the activities of the board. Such a survey was conducted by an independent marketing organisation in November 2020 and yielded interesting results. The Meat Board will update its strategic plan and communication strategy accordingly. In general, the board has shown an improvement as

opposed to previous surveys (2015 and 2017). Commercial farmers requested more involvement from the Meat Board in the search for new markets, whereas communal farmers expressed a need for more information and mentoring sessions to be facilitated by the board. The Meat Board thanks all respondents that took part in the survey.

Industry committee meeting update

The Meat Board of Namibia had its industry committee meetings in February and would like to bring the following to the attention of producers:

Completion of FAN Meat lick, medicine and training registers

The FAN Meat office received very good co-operation from producers during the recent FAN Meat audit of livestock producers for 2020. During the year, 58 farms were audited for compliance with FAN Meat requirements and adherence to requirements was found to be very good. Some aspects that needed attention are the completion of FAN Meat registers, especially the employee training (Form C) and farm management program. The necessary training was given to the audited producers who in turn submitted completed registers to the FAN Meat office. Further awareness and training regarding FAN Meat rules and requirements continues by way of information sessions at farmers' associations' information days, and other gatherings.

Submission of animal health declarations

The FAN Meat office has noted that there is a decrease in the submission of Animal Health Declarations for the last semester of 2020. Many producers have not yet submitted their declarations and are kindly requested and encouraged to submit the declarations as soon as possible. The forms can be completed online on the NamLITS website: www.namlits.com, or the form can also be handed in at the nearest veterinary office. The closing date was 31 January 2021, but producers received a grace period until 31 March 2021 to complete and submit forms, after which automatic restrictions on farms can take place. The forms are used for planning purposes for the Directorate Veterinary Services and the Meat Board.

Implementation of quotas during ear tag purchases

All producers who purchase beef ear tags from the Meat Board in Windhoek, or through the various agents may only buy a restricted number of ear tags depending on the quantity for which they qualify as determined by a quota system established by the Directorate Veterinary Services. The NamLITS database is programmed to automatically allocate this quota to individual producers. The quota is calculated by, among other things, determining how many ear tags have been registered and replaced by producers on the NamLITS database in the past 24 months. However, producers who do not qualify for sufficient ear tags can apply to the NamLITS head office in Windhoek or Ondangwa or to Dr Janet Erastus (0811458430), Dr Luvala (0811489191) or Mr John Ngenokesho (0811482755) for revision of the indicated quota.

Cattle identification and traceability pre-requisites regarding movements to export abattoirs

It remains a requirement, according to the Animal Identification and Traceability Regulation, to identify cattle individually with double ear tags by the age of 6 months. On 27 January 2021, the Directorate Veterinary Services informed producers to have ear tag number(s) on hand when applying for a livestock movement permit to an export abattoir. This provision will also become mandatory from 1 April 2021 for all other final destinations (all livestock movements). The NamLITS database will then only issue a livestock movement permit if the indicated cattle appear on the correct herd list. It is very important that producers make sure that their cattle are already registered and also appear in the right herd. Therefore, regularly verify your herd statement and 90/40 day report if applicable.

Clean-up of the traceability system (NAMLITS)

The accuracy of the information of each producer's farming operations on NamLITS is largely the responsibility of the producer. The Meat Board therefore wants the co-operation of all producers to "clean up" the data on NamLITS in as short a time as possible, in the next nationwide effort by:

1. Gathering of all livestock to be able to confirm the numbers as well as identification numbers;
2. Verification of these numbers and identification numbers against the herd statements on NamLITS.

This process can be done in 3 ways:

- a. On NamLITS online, as the producer can now do tag registrations, replacements and terminations himself. The producer can also complete livestock movements on NamLITS online;
- b. At the local State Veterinary Office; and
- c. At the Meat Board FAN Meat NamLITS Helpdesk office in Windhoek.

Your cooperation will be appreciated.





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FMD outbreak in NCA - the role of the Meat Board

Desmond Cloete
Chief Marketing Officer
Meat Board of Namibia



Namibia, Botswana and Eswatini are the only countries in Africa with OIE-recognised foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) free zones. This, combined with our CBPP and PPR freedom status, Namlits, FAN Meat and national minimum standards and quality assurance scheme, allows Namibia the luxury to export to any destination globally.

The northern communal area (NCA) is separated from the OIE-recognised FMD-free zone by the veterinary cordon fence (VCF) that stretches over 1 200 km from Wêreldend in the Kunene region to the Botswana border along 20-degrees longitude. The NCA is made up of the protection zone that includes the Kunene (north), Omusati, Oshana, Oshikoto, Ohangwena, Kavango West and Kavango East regions (excluding the Ndiyona and Mukwe constituencies). The infectious zone consists of the Ndiyona and Mukwe constituencies in Kavango East and Zambezi.

Before 2015 the NCA protection zone was, for almost twenty years, free of FMD outbreaks. However, the risk of having an open border with Angola was always there. The first major outbreak occurred in 2015, with devastating results for formal livestock marketing in the area. The Oshakati export abattoir used to export deboned beef to South Africa through a series of interventions that varied from quarantining cattle, deboning of carcasses, removing of limp nodes and maturation of carcasses to naturalise beef pH.

In 2020 another series of outbreaks occurred in the NCA. The first was detected on 28 September at Hoha village in the Ndiyona constituency of the Kavango East region. The directorate of veterinary services (DVS) immediately implemented movement restrictions for the area as part of its control mechanism against FMD spread.

Subsequent outbreaks occurred at Shighuru village in Kavango East and Sivara village in Kavango West on 27 October, Ombambi crushpen in Ohangwena on 28 December and Okadhiya crushpen in Oshana on 6 January 2021. The latest outbreak occurred on 19 January at Ekuli village, Kavango West. These outbreaks have been traced back to Angola.

DVS, due to a severe shortage of funds, requested the Meat Board of Namibia (MBN) and



Leon Burger (right), Dr Johannes Shoopala (middle) and Erasmus Ndana, Oshivelo chief watchman, during vehicle bath repairs at the Oshivelo gate.



Private contractors and casual workers were hired by the Meat Board of Namibia and relevant industry stakeholders to assist with repairs on the veterinary cordon fence (VCF).



livestock industry to assist with the implementation of FMD control strategies. The MBN availed funds under its emergency budget to assist as follows:

Repair of the VCF: The MBN, with assistance from the Livestock Producers Organisation (LPO), mobilised fencing teams consisting mostly of farmers associations along the 616 km stretch from the Oshivelo gate to the Nampagne gate near the Botswana border fence. The VCF was repaired in less than two months as the MBN and DVS provided fencing material, and producers the labour.

The MBN appointed a private contractor to repair 130 km of the fence that borders the Tsumkwe and Gam constituencies. The MBN and LPO will apply the same strategy to the VCF that forms part of the southern border of the Etosha game park. This stretch of the fence will be repaired from the Ombika gate westwards towards the Werda gate.

Appointment of private veterinarians: The MBN appointed private veterinarians to assist DVS with surveillances in the NCA. This is a critical function that helps identify FMD symptoms and provide evidence that the disease is not



Members of the Tsumeb farmers association ready to help with repairs on the veterinary cordon fence. The Meat Board and other key industry stakeholders expressed their gratitude and appreciation towards Namibian farmers, their employees and other volunteers for their combined efforts.

Did you know?

The veterinary cordon fence (VCF) was erected in 1896 as an exclusion fence separating northern and central Namibia from the southern parts of the country.

The VCF remains vital to the livestock industry as a means to control animal and meat movement from the north to the south as well as to survey animal disease outbreaks such as foot and mouth (FMD). This is critical in maintaining Namibia's international animal health status.

Additionally it ensures the marketing of animals from south of the VCF with a different disease status as those from the northern communal areas (NCA).



Goliath Tujendapi and Dr. Joseph Kapapero aiding efforts to fix road signs at the Mururani gate.



Damaged fencing southwest of the Onanke gate. It is believed that the majority of damage to this stretch of the veterinary cordon fence is caused by elephants.



The entry point into Etosha national park south of Onanke. It is the end of the high fence west of King Nahale.

spreading. It also helps with the inclusion of new outbreak verification. These results assist DVS to lift movement bans after 90 days from the last confirmed outbreak.

Appointment of casual labourers: The MBN appointed a total of thirty casual workers to assist DVS staff sanitise vehicles and individuals at strategic places along the veterinary cordon fence. Casual workers are currently being deployed to render critical services at the Mururani, Bravo, Oshivelo, Namutoni, King Nehale, Galton, Werda, Ombika/Anderson and Palmwag gates. In addition, the MBN has pro-

cured twelve knapsack sprayers and repaired five firefighters that are being used to spray vehicles. Vehicle baths at the Mururani, Bravo, Oshivelo and Werda gates were repaired and put in operation by the MBN. Repairs of the Oshivelo vehicle bath are well under way.

Assist with vaccination campaign: The MBN, at the request of DVS, paid for the repair and maintenance of four trucks and twenty four-wheel-drive bakkies. The vehicles are critical to transport vaccination teams. The ideal is that cattle should receive first and booster vaccines within 30 days to bolster immunity

against FMD.

Lessons learned from the current outbreak included the realisation that DVS, with assistance of the livestock industry, should develop a proactive long-term FMD strategy that includes operation modalities as well as sourcing of funds. This could be included in the current industry discussion pertaining to the assistance of DVS critical services.

In conclusion, preventative measures should be included in a long-term strategy due to the absence of a physical boundary between Namibia and Angola.

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Financial viability of Namibia's red meat market access to Middle East and China

Desmond Cloete
Chief Marketing Officer
Meat Board of Namibia



Accessing the lucrative Middle Eastern and Chinese markets for Namibian lamb, mutton, goat meat and northern communal area (NCA) produced beef has been high on the Meat Board of Namibia's (MBN) agenda. In consultation with key role players within the livestock industry, the MBN vigorously conducted financial viability as well as market research studies in an effort to acquire export market access for selected red meat products.

The Middle East market is traditionally known for its lamb and mutton affinity which prompted Australia and New Zealand to export huge annual quantities. South Africa also exported up to 5 458 tonnes of deboned beef in 2019 to this destination. However, considering South Africa's current animal health status (no different from that of the NCA), it remains relevant for Namibia to penetrate these markets especially now that the two export abattoirs in Oshakati and Katima Mulilo are operational.

As a result, the Meat Board appointed the North West University to conduct a desktop study on the financial viability of market access for selected Namibian red meat products in specific export markets in the Middle East and China. The study focused on the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and China. With the Chinese market Namibia applied to have import protocols for beef amended to include mutton, lamb, goat meat and offal.

Namibia, as a net exporter of red meat and meat products, depends on an array of lucrative markets. The country's production output is, how-

ever, under severe pressure due to reoccurring droughts and declining carrying capacities abetted by increased bush encroachment. Considering that the volumes are declining, the MBN believes the red meat industry should rather focus on improved quality to maintain a return on investment.

For decades Namibia has depended heavily on the South African live on-hoof and carcass market for lamb and mutton. This market remains important because of its vicinity and affinity for naturally raised Namibian lamb and mutton. Due to logistical and market share challenges experienced in this market, the competitiveness of additional markets remains crucial. Meat Board data has shown that most of the cattle (63%) and sheep (62%) marketed in Namibia during 2019 were exported live, predominantly to South Africa. Furthermore, of the total number of locally slaughtered sheep in 2019, 54% were destined for export markets.

Globally, Namibia is a relatively small exporter. In 2019, it ranked 31st for exports of frozen beef, 36th for exports of fresh/chilled beef and 28th for exports of sheep/goat meat. In the event where cattle exported live in 2019 had been slaughtered locally, total beef exports would have amounted to 62 881 tonnes. This is more than double the volume of South Africa's beef exports in the same year. Similarly, had all the sheep exported live in 2019 been slaughtered locally, total sheep exports would have amounted to 9 048 tonnes.

Figure 1 indicates that most of the recorded export growth was in frozen cuts of beef, with an average annual increase of 61% in volume. Exports of fresh/chilled beef cuts showed an average annual decrease of -14% in the same period.

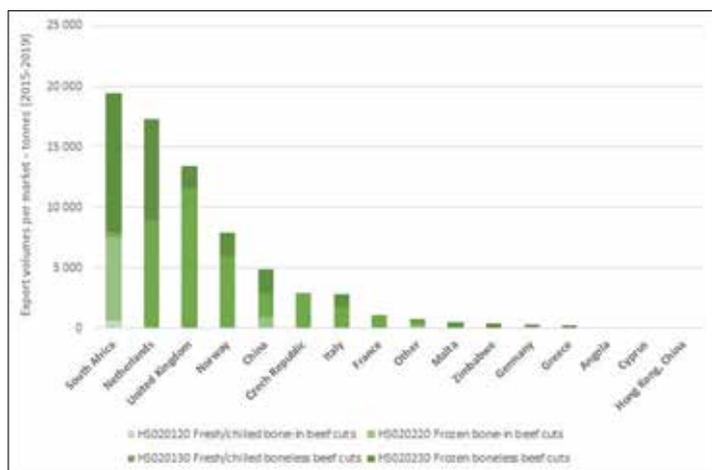


Figure 1: Namibian beef export volumes per destination (2015 to 2019).

Characteristics of Mideast markets

Table 1 displays the characteristics of selected Middle Eastern mar-

Market	Population - 2019 (millions)	GDP - 2019 (US\$ billions)	GDP / capita - 2019 (US\$)	Meat consumption (kg / cap)	
				Beef	Sheep
UAE	10,7	406	37 750	6,5	10,7
Saudi Arabia	34,1	779	22 865	4,0	5,9
Kuwait	4,7	138	29 267	13,4	12,6
Bahrain	1,5	38	25 273	3,7	19,5
Qatar	2,8	192	69 688	4,1	14,5
China	1 400,2	14 140	10 099	3,8	3,2
Namibia	2,5	14	5 842	NA	NA
Norway	5,4	418	77 975	13,7	4,5
UK	66,9	2 744	41 030	11,7	4,1
South Africa	58,8	359	6 100	12,2	2,6

Table 1: Characteristics of the selected markets

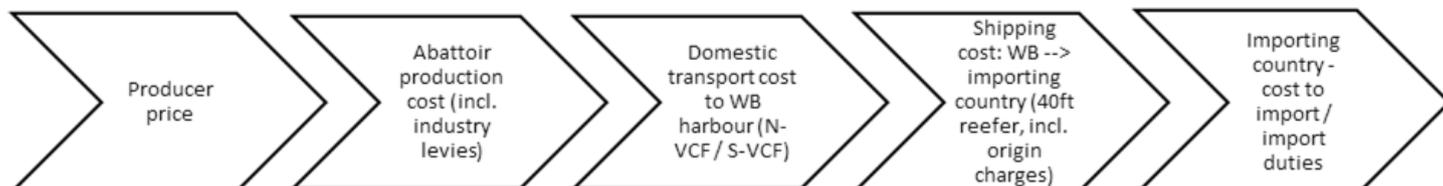


Figure 2: These cost elements were used by the North West University in a desktop study on the financial viability of market access for selected Namibian red meat products in specific export markets in the Middle East and China.

Product group	HS code	Product	Potential price margin of Namibian exports: N\$ / kg					China
			United Arab Emirates	Saudi Arabia	Kuwait	Qatar	Bahrain	
Beef - N VCF	20043	Bone In fresh/chilled cuts	21.25	43.82	80.38	93.77	100.83	
	20067	Bone In frozen cuts	31.85	7.11	19.87	30.48	129.27	
	20091	Boneless fresh/chilled cuts	57.01	37.07	61.43	68.58	89.64	
	20115	Boneless frozen cuts	4.26	1.76	18.46	5.44	3.91	
Beef - S VCF	20120	Bone In fresh/chilled cuts	21.80	44.39	80.95	94.34	101.40	
	20220	Bone In frozen cuts	32.42	7.68	20.44	31.05	129.84	
	20130	Boneless fresh/chilled cuts	57.98	38.04	62.39	69.54	90.61	
	20230	Boneless frozen cuts	3.29	0.79	19.43	6.41	4.88	
Sheep and goat meat	20422	Fresh or chilled cuts of sheep, with bone	70.07	83.48	55.84	80.85	84.28	64.21
	20423	Fresh/chilled boneless cuts of sheep	94.07	75.95	99.01	118.61	84.90	126.01
	20442	Frozen cuts of sheep, with bone in (excl)	12.16	45.80	9.68	28.46	18.54	25.19
	20443	Frozen boneless cuts of sheep	46.89	24.81	41.83	49.59	7.99	16.89
	20450	Fresh, chilled or frozen meat of goats	42.41	41.89	0.54	4.11	75.31	53.70

Table 3: Summary of potential price-margin analysis.

kets versus those of existing markets accessed by Namibia. Sheep meat consumption for most of the the selected Middle Eastern markets shows a higher consumption demand compared with the South African market. However, the beef consumption demand, except for that from Kuwait, is lower than traditional markets.

Sheep meat markets in the Middle East are largely for commodity products in carcass form. The demand for and consumption of premium lamb are forecasted to continue rising, particularly in the Gulf countries. Compared with other proteins, lamb is a superior protein which is more tender, delicious and nutritious. Its comparatively high cost and perceived fattiness are barriers to more regular consumption. The main motivators for consumers to buy lamb include 100% natural, Halal certification, animal origin and welfare, quality grading and food safety certification.

Sheep meat currently accounts for only a small proportion of dietary protein consumed in China (3,2 kg per capita). However, with rising incomes and continued urbanisation, per-capita sheep meat consumption is forecasted to increase significantly over the next decade.

Methodology of the study

The study used the decision support model (DSM), which identifies realistic export opportunities. The model also included the market accessibility index (MAI) based on a methodology developed by the International Trade Centre (ITC, 2008) and was further refined for the DSM. The MAI concentrated on the following dimensions of the importing country:

- Market size: import value and shares in global imports
- Market growth: long and short-term growth in imports, and
- Market access: import tariffs, tariff advantage over competitors, logistical performance index (LPI) of the World Bank, enabling trade index (ETI) of the World Economic Forum (WEF), shipping cost, shipping time, cost and time to import.

In addition, part of the study's scope was to develop an excellent financial viability model that allows for different simulations of different producer prices and exchange rate scenarios. The baseline data covering abattoir production cost, shipping cost and competitor prices can also be updated. This creates an ideal scenario where rapid cost changes over the short, medium and long term can easily be analysed and disseminated to role players along the value chain.

Share in total export cost per kg	Beef	Sheep and goat meat
Producer price (livestock)	68%	75%
Abattoir processing cost	22%	12%
Industry levies	1%	1%
Domestic transport	1%	1%
Cost to export and international shipping cost	6%	6%
Cost to import	1%	1%
Import tariffs	2%	4%

Table 2: Namibian export cost structure to the selected destinations.

However, the calculations in the model are only a broad indication of price competitiveness. Other elements denoting competitiveness, including product quality and competition, are not captured by the analysis. The study considered cost elements shown in figure 2 for its calculations.

Table 2 separated indicates the different cost structures in exporting meat to selected destinations. It is evident from table 2 that producer price and abattoir processing cost represent the main cost structures based on the importing reference price from Namibia.

Potential price margins

Table 3 shows the potential price-margin analysis that compared Namibia's prospective import price with the average import price of each product and its corresponding market. The study found that for beef, Bahrain and Qatar are the most lucrative markets, especially with regards to bone-in cuts. The UAE and Saudi Arabia markets are potentially less lucrative, specifically for boneless frozen cuts.

With regards to sheep meat, China, Kuwait and Qatar are likely to be the most lucrative markets for specifically fresh/chilled boneless cuts. Least profitable are likely to be exports of goat meat from Namibia into the Kuwait and Qatar markets.

Conclusion and way forward

The MBN found that some of these identified markets are to be lucrative and might have real potential. The next step would be to select a clear market entry approach and the study proposed the following strategies:

- Exporting under a private label/brand: This can either be under a local brand name of an importer or supermarket in the importing country or under a brand established in the exporting country.
- Agency agreement: A local agent in the import market assists in marketing the product and building the product/brand.
- Consolidation: Some companies import a wide range of food products for mass distribution. They use consolidators in the exporting country/region to source products from manufacturers/wholesalers.
- Direct imports by supermarkets: Some large supermarket chains import directly from suppliers.

Once a clear entry strategy had been selected, the next step would be to develop and maintain networks. The Namibian meat industry could firstly consult with import countries' foreign missions in Namibia or in the region. Secondly, negotiations could be conducted by Namibian embassies in the respective import markets.

Thirdly, trade missions should be organised either by the ministry of industry, trade and SME development, the Meat Board of Namibia or foreign missions in the region. Finally trade shows could be considered such as Gulfood (Dubai), Sial Middle East (Abu Dhabi), Foodex Saudi (Jeddah), Kuwait International Agro Food Expo and Sial China (Shanghai).

Fourth quarter under review

This article will review the performance of the marketing of cattle, small stock and pork. The review will cover and compare the year 2020 to the year 2019.

Cattle Sector

There was an overall decline in the total marketing of cattle in 2020 compared to 2019. Due to very high marketing undertaken during the period 2017 – 2019, the number of marketable cattle generally declined as producers started re-stocking to capitalise on the rainfall. The decline in cattle marketing was more noticeable at export abattoirs and this resulted in a significant reduction of beef exports. In 2020, Namibia resumed exports to the United States, a high-value market with potential to create value in the Namibian marketing stream.

Production and marketing

- Year on year, a 46,97% decrease was witnessed in the total marketing of cattle during 2020 compared to 2019. Marketing decreased from 467 418 cattle in 2019 to 247 893 cattle in 2020.

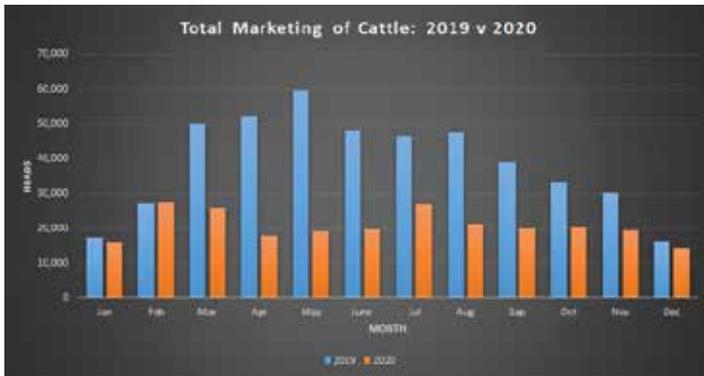


Figure 1: Total cattle marketed 2019-20

- The decrease in total marketing was mainly the result of a drive by producers towards re-stocking after the drought.
- The Katima Mulilo Export Abattoir became operational during 2020 after support from Government and the Meat Board and registered a slaughter of 115 cattle (excluding test slaughtering) during the

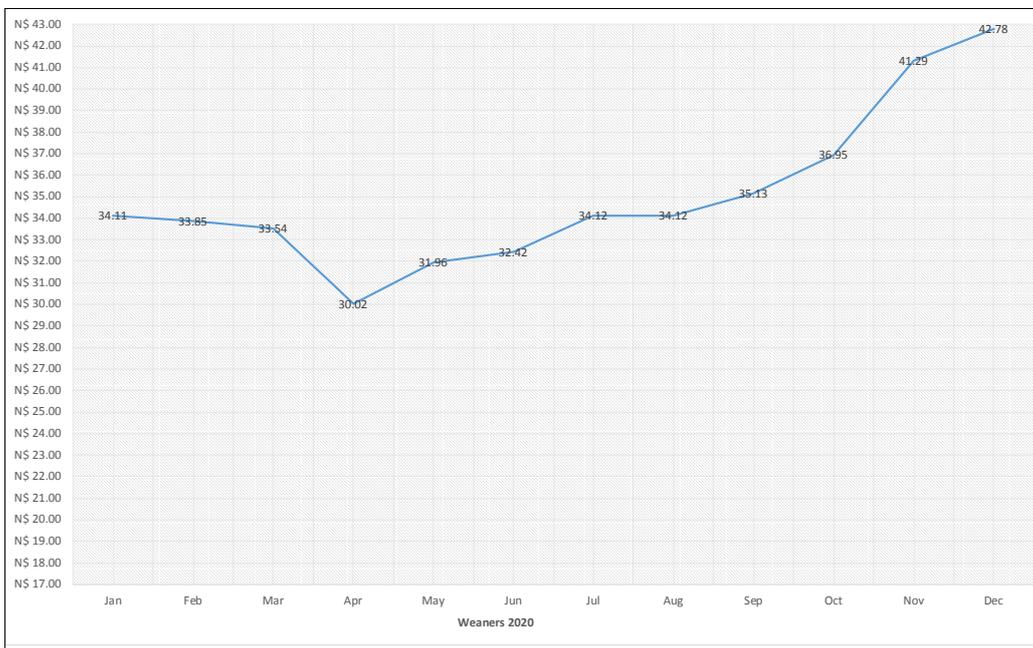


Figure 2: Weaner prices 2020

year. Meanwhile the Oshakati Abattoir will soon resume slaughter activities. Meatco continues to operate mobile slaughtering in Kavango West and registered an increase of 41,84% during 2020 with a kill of 1 661 heads.

- Given the shortage of marketable animals, there was a surge in the price of weaners which continued until the end of the year. Namibian weaner prices averaged N\$35.02/kg which compares favourably to the South African weaner price average of N\$32.27/kg. On the other hand, the Namibian B2 carcass price was more generally stable during 2020, contrary to an expected increase averaging N\$45.50/kg compared to N\$45.35/kg in 2019. A reduction in beef demand due to economic effects of COVID-19 took its toll on both local and international fronts.

Sheep sector

The long term sheep marketing trend continues to depict a steep reduction. The sheep sector performed poorer during the year 2020 compared to 2019, especially slaughtering for export markets.

Industry stakeholders at the historic 2020 Agriculture Conference proposed a raft of measures to turn around primary production in the sheep sector including incentives for production.

Production and marketing

- Total marketing of sheep halved from 741,444 in 2019 to 369,650 in 2020. The export abattoir segment was severely affected to the extent that Farmers Meat Market in Mariental, one of the two existing export abattoirs ceased slaughtering activities.
- A reduced sheep herd is currently a major threat to Namibia's trade position as a net exporter of sheep meat. A total of 26,519 sheep were slaughtered by export abattoirs while B&C-class abattoirs registered a combined slaughter of 115,548 sheep.
- Live exports totaled 227,583 head, a 50.22% reduction in comparison to 2019.
- There remains a marked difference between Namibian A2 sheep prices and those of the Northern Cape. An average difference of -N\$5.86/kg was observed during the period under review with the Namibia A2 sheep price closing at an average of N\$70.90/kg.
- This gap negatively affects throughput at the Namibian abattoirs in favour of RSA slaughtering facilities.

Pork sector

The pork sector has been growing for the past eight years of the Pork Market Share Promotion Scheme. During the scheme period a 57% increase in pork production was observed. In order to consolidate the gains of the scheme, the Board made a decision to extend the scheme with a view to further growth and competitiveness of the sector. The Board also approved an evaluation of the pork ceiling price against the principles of equitable pricing and competitiveness.

Production and marketing

- An total of 44,885 pigs were slaughtered by Meat Board regis-



Figure 3: Total sheep marketed 2019-20

tered abattoirs in 2020, a 6% decline compared to 47,519 pigs in 2019.

- Local pork production serviced 47% of the Namibian consumption requirements during 2020, compared to 50% in 2019.
- During 2020, a total of 4,358 tons of pork (excluding processed pork) was imported into the Namibian market representing 53% of local consumption. Total pork imports inclusive of processed pork amounted to 5,356 tons, of which 68.25% was sourced from South Africa.
- The average Namibian pork ceiling price for 2020 stood at N\$34.83/kg, up by 3.10% from N\$33.79/kg observed during 2019.

Conclusion

Post drought effects had a negative impact on the livestock and meat sector during 2020. The drastic reduction in export abattoir activity reduced the number of slaughter animals and impacted negatively on beef and sheep meat exports. The COVID-19 pandemic reduced disposable income of households both abroad and at home to result in a reduction in demand and more stable beef prices. Sheep prices continued to escalate due to a shortage of slaughter animals but still remained below South African averages.

The industry convened at the Agricultural conference and proposed a raft of measures which if implemented could reverse the downward trend

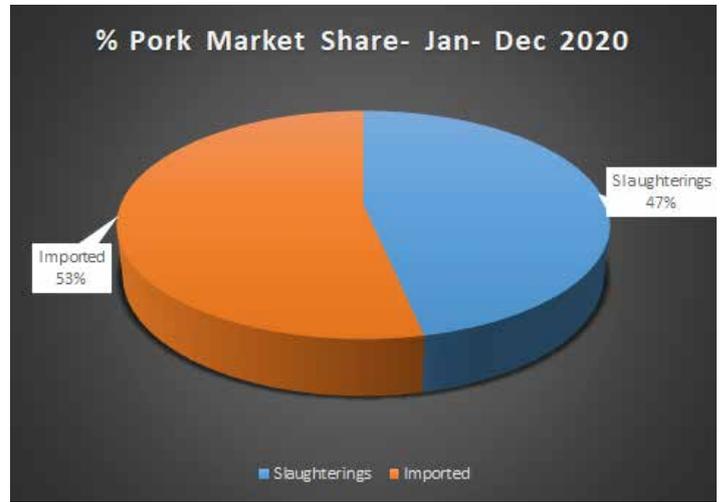


Figure 4: Pork market share 2020

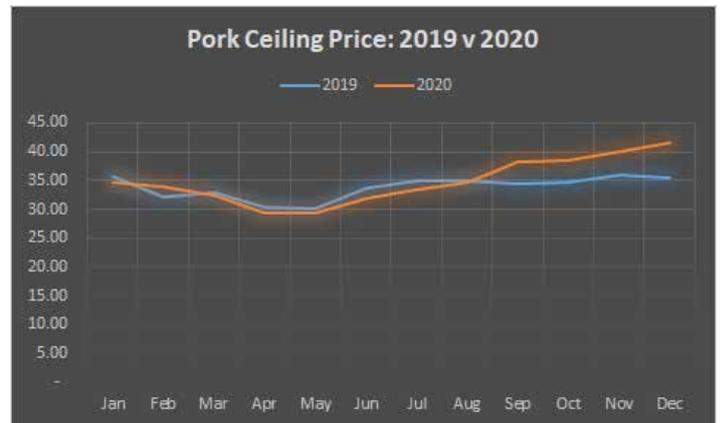


Figure 4: Pork ceiling price 2019-20

in the industry. A concerted effort by all stakeholders in the industry and Government is necessary to ensure growth in the primary production of cattle and sheep. The pig sector's protection boost is likely to result in increased investment in pork production and aid in enhancing secondary activities.



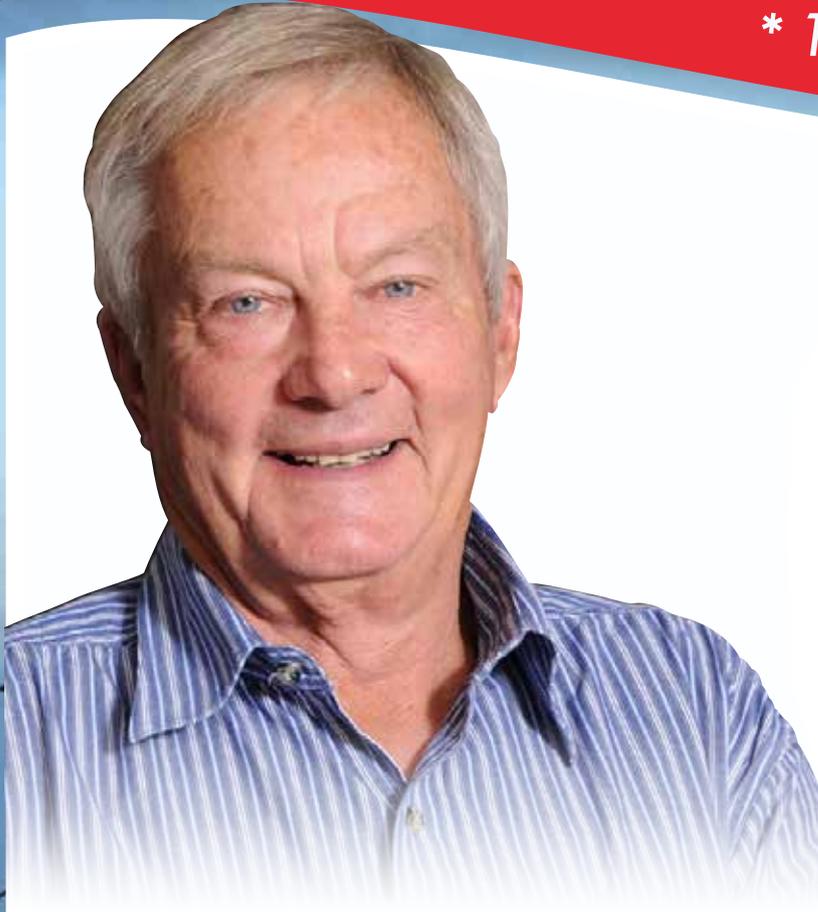


Meat Board
of Namibia

In Memoriam

Dr Archie Norval

* 19.10.1944 † 11.01.2021



Dr Norval served on the Meat Board of Namibia board in various capacities of board member, Vice-Chairperson of the Meat Board of Namibia board, Chairperson of the FAN Meat committee, substitute Chairperson and vice-chairperson of the Animal Health Committee since 1 February 2014.

Dr Norval's great personality and vast experience of the meat industry, especially in the field of animal disease control, accompanied by his extraordinary insight, lead to valuable contributions to the growth of the Namibian meat industry. Amongst

others, his efforts to raise the FAN Meat Scheme to new heights and secure additional funding to the Directorate Veterinary Services to maintain Namibia's access to markets, are acknowledged.

Dr Norval was a person of integrity, a person who could listen, a person who could debate, but most importantly a person who would try to find a solution to a problem. Dr Norval you may not be with us anymore, but your legacy with us will never be forgotten.

You will be sincerely missed.

PATRICIA GURUBES

CHAIRPERSON: MEAT BOARD OF NAMIBIA