

LRF NEWS

Join Us at the LRF Stockman School: A Showcase of Resilience in Livestock Farming

Meet Our Esteemed Speakers at the LRF Annual Stockman School! We are thrilled to introduce four exceptional experts who will be sharing their knowledge and insights during our upcoming sessions:

9 October
Session 4 (16:55-17:40)
Dr Jan Myburgh - Professor in Toxicology, University of Pretoria
 Topic: Is there an association between soil and cattle health?
 Dr Myburgh, a seasoned veterinarian and bovine specialist, will explore the vital connection between soil health and cattle well-being.

9 October
Session 1 (9:00-9:45)
Prof. Theo Venter - Professor of Practice at the College of Business and Economics, University of Johannesburg
 Topic: SA agriculture's resilience to ensure growth within the livestock sector

10 October
Session 5 (9:55-10:40)
Erin Graham - Technical Manager at Mlaleke
 Topic: Strategic feeding during drought
 Erin brings her passion for animal nutrition and years of experience to the table, guiding us through strategies to maintain livestock health and productivity in challenging conditions.

10 October
Session 7 (13:25-14:25)
Dr Robert Treadwell - Director of Embryo Plus, South African partner lab of the Vytelle Group
 Topic: Breeding a resilient herd faster with hormone-free IVF: Practical demonstration
 Dr Treadwell, with his extensive experience across Africa and South America, will demonstrate innovative techniques for breeding resilient herds, leveraging hormone-free IVF technology.

11 October
Session 8 (9:00-9:45)
Prof Arno Hugo - Professor in Meat Science, University of the Free State
 Topic: Meat quality: Farm to fork
 Prof Hugo will delve into the critical aspects of meat quality, emphasizing the journey from farm to fork, with a special focus on the lipid components of meat.

Join us for these enlightening sessions and more at the LRF Annual Stockman School! Don't miss out on the opportunity to gain valuable insights from industry leaders.

[LRF Stockman School Programme](#)

Click the button above to view the LRF Stockman School Programme

[Register for Stockman School Now!](#)

Click the button to the above to register for the LRF Stockman School

LRF Members meeting

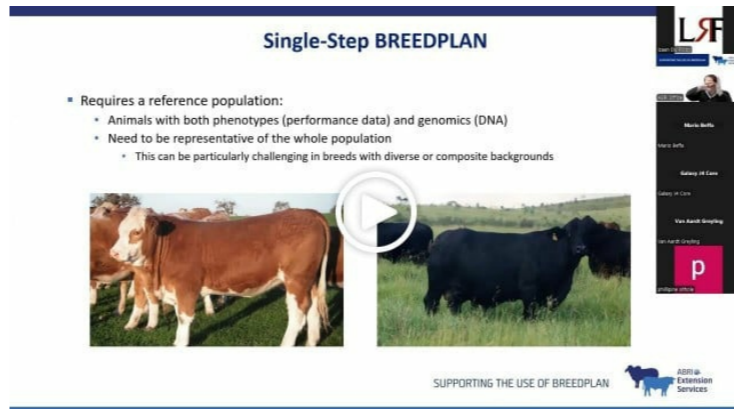
Reminder to all LRF member representatives to join us for the LRF Member's Meeting on Tuesday, October 8th, at Adam Resort in Ventersburg. This gathering is a key opportunity to engage with fellow members, discuss important updates, and contribute to the future direction of our federation. Following the Member's Meeting, the LRF will host a Beef Industry Workshop meeting, providing a platform for broader discussions on industry trends and collaborative efforts. Your presence and input are vital, so make sure to mark your calendar for this important event!

Join Us at the LRF Beef Industry Workshop!

We are excited to invite you to the LRF Beef Industry Workshop, preceding the 2024 Stockman School, on Tuesday, October 8th, at the beautiful Adam Resort in Ventersburg. Building on the success of last year's event, this workshop will delve into strategies to enhance the competitiveness of our breeders over the next 5 to 10 years. With insights from esteemed panelists like Prof Norman Maiwashe, Prof Frikkie Maré, Dewald Olivier, Gerhard van der Burgh, Dr Johnny van der Merwe, and Prof Frikkie Nester, this is an invaluable opportunity for anyone in the beef industry. Booking is essential – please contact Charmainé Alberts at: +27 82 922 3747, email: charmainealberts@gmail.com

LRF 4th Online Course - My breed has Single-Step EBVs: Now what?

If you missed the LRF 4th Online Course - "My breed has Single-Step EBVs: Now what?," you can watch the recording on our Youtube Channel! (Click the video on the right)



Release of the Technical Service Newsletter

We are excited to announce that the next edition of our bi-annual Technical Service Newsletter will be released at the end of September. This issue will feature the latest updates, innovations, and insights in the field of livestock registration. Stay tuned for expert articles, success stories, and important technical information designed to support and enhance your livestock management practices. Don't miss out on this valuable resource!

UPCOMING COURSES

Join us for an insightful course titled "Improved herd fertility – the key to increased profitability" on 11 September 2024, from 10:00 to 11:00. This session will be presented by the knowledgeable Paul Williams.

HerdMASTER/BREEDPLAN NEWS

HerdMASTER: Exciting Announcement

We're thrilled to announce that HerdMASTER 5 is officially launched on the 10th April. It's time for all our users to make the transition to HerdMASTER 5 and experience a whole new level of efficiency and performance. Here are some key highlights of what you can expect:

New Tab Layout: Enjoy a revamped tab layout for seamless switching between windows, making navigation smoother than ever before.

Lightning-fast Sync System: With a completely redesigned central sync system that's now over 100 times faster, keeping your data updated and synchronized is quicker and more efficient.

Cutting-edge Technology: HerdMASTER 5 utilizes the latest Desktop App Framework and Database technology from Microsoft, resulting in lightning-fast load times and minimal impact on performance for PC users.

Enhanced Error Detection: We've overhauled our error detection system to ensure smoother operations and quicker response times, making your experience with HerdMASTER 5 even more seamless.

Take Notice: Development on HerdMASTER 4 will be discontinued. We encourage all our users to transition to HerdMASTER 5. And here's the best part - this is a free migration! Your annual license will be seamlessly transferred.

IMPORTANT! All sync users do not restore your database. A time will be scheduled to migrate your database on the server.

Download link: Click the button below

[Download](#)

BREEDPLAN: Weekly Genetics Review - Don't Neglect Your Breeding Objectives Next Season

A number of enhancements have been implemented for Brahman breeders across southern Africa following the release of the joint July 2024 Brahman BREEDPLAN analysis for Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe. These include:

1. Release of three new Selection Indexes

Going forward, Brahman breeders across southern Africa will all have access to the same three selection indexes. These selection indexes are the:

- **Rangeland Grazing Index**
- **Wean Index**
- **Feedlot Index**

The three new selection indexes were developed by representatives from the Brahman Cattle Breeders Society of Namibia and the Brahman Cattle Breeders Society of South Africa in conjunction with staff from the Agricultural Business Research Institute (ABRI) in Australia. Further information about these new selection indexes is available from the Help Centre on the BREEDPLAN website.

2. Publication of four new EBVs for Zimbabwe Brahman breeders

Brahman breeders recording with the Zimbabwe Herd Book now have access to four new BREEDPLAN EBVs. These are Days to Calving, Docility, Net Feed Intake (Post Weaning) and Net Feed Intake (Feedlot Finishing). This brings the BREEDPLAN EBVs reported for Zimbabwe Brahman breeders in line with those already reported for the Brahman Cattle Breeders Societies of Namibia and South Africa in the same analysis.

Further information on the new BREEDPLAN EBVs can be found below:

- **Days to Calving** EBVs are estimates of genetic differences between animals in the time from the start of the joining period under natural mating until subsequent calving. Days to Calving EBVs are expressed in days, with a more negative EBV being more favourable. A shorter time from the start of mating to calving is mostly indicative of a shorter time to conception. These EBVs are calculated from the natural joining records submitted for both heifers and mature cows. More information on Days to Calving EBVs can be found in the Help Centre on the BREEDPLAN website.
- **Docility** EBVs are estimates of genetic differences between animals in temperament. Docility EBVs are expressed as differences in the percentage of progeny that will be scored with an acceptable temperament (i.e. either 'docile' or 'restless'). Higher, more positive Docility EBVs are more favourable. More information on Docility EBVs can be found in the Help Centre on the BREEDPLAN website.
- **Net Feed Intake (Post Weaning)** EBVs are estimates of genetic differences between animals in feed intake at a standard weight and rate of weight gain when animals are in a growing phase. For example, animals placed in a feedlot post weaning. NFI-P EBVs are expressed as kilograms of feed intake per day (kg/day). Lower, or more negative, NFI-P EBVs are more favourable. More information on NFI-P EBVs can be found in the Help Centre on the BREEDPLAN website.
- **Net Feed Intake (Feedlot Finishing)** EBVs are estimates of genetic differences between animals in feed intake at a standard weight and rate of weight gain when animals are in a feedlot finishing phase. NFI-F EBVs are expressed as kilograms of feed intake per day (kg/day). Lower, or more negative, NFI-F EBVs are more favourable.

Read the full article here -->

[Full article](#)

Process for migrating to HerdMASTER 5 (HM5)

Reminder to all our HerdMASTER 4 users to migrate to HerdMASTER 5. We urge all our users to make use of the free migration as development on HerdMASTER 4 will be discontinued.

IMPORTANT! All sync users do not restore your database. Please contact the office to schedule a time to migrate your database on the server.

- Download HM5
- Select the Bundled installer package (Online)
- Double click the download to install and follow the prompts.
- Restore a backup from HerdMASTER 4 onto HerdMASTER 5
- See the how to video: <https://youtu.be/B-6LgJBH4y7si>

Take note:

The backup is not backwards compatible and a backup from HerdMASTER 5 can't be restored on HerdMASTER 4. Once you have restored your backup on HerdMASTER 5 continue using HerdMASTER 5.

1. You do not have to uninstall HerdMASTER 4 immediately. You can uninstall at a later stage once you are happy that all your data in HerdMASTER 5 is correct and working.
2. Once you have downloaded and installed the update, please contact the office to migrate your HerdMASTER 4 license to HerdMASTER 5

For advertisements in the LRF/BREEDPLAN monthly newsletter, please contact Mrs Izaan du Plooy at office@lrf.co.za.

Vir advertensies in die LRF/BREEDPLAN maandelikse nuusbrief, kontak gerus vir Mev. Izaan du Plooy by office@lrf.co.za