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FRONT COVER

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page 16

COMMENT, by Pete Bower — Smallholder farmers



Land and reform programme. Smallholder agriculture. Commercial farming. Food security ~ four terms that raise the temperature of anybody contemplating the subject of farming in South Africa.

On the one hand, you have the ANC, and by extension the government, attempting to fulfil the desires of previously dispossessed families for land by expropriating or otherwise acquiring land currently owned by whites and "returning" it to its previous owners. This, by the very nature of previous land tenure, means the development of a "new" class of small farmer, and some effort is being put by government into formalising the nature of this new supposedly agrarian class.

On the other hand, it is no secret that commercial farming in South Africa is suffering. Farm security is an issue, with thousands of farmers and their families having been murdered in recent years. As one commentator recently pointed out, if a similar number of workers in any other single trade or profession (say, 4 000 plumbers, or 4 000 teachers) had been wiped out in the same number of years you can be damn sure there would have been a vigorous official response.

The drought this year has also not made farming any easier, but the real problem is the low prices paid to farmers for their efforts, particularly when viewed against the high prices paid by consumers at the other end of the food chain. The processors and retailers have got the food industry by the shorts, to the detriment of both consumers and the primary producers.

Finally, dumped imports from producers in countries that enjoy huge government subsidies mean that South African farmers are playing on a distinctly unlevel field.

All of this plays a role in the question of individual, local and national food security, or the ability of families, regions and the nation at large to feed itself.

Leaving aside the political merits of the ANC-led land reform programme, will the emergence of a large new class of smallholder farmer help in the fight for food security? The answer is yes. And no.

At a family and even a regional level, the emergence of large numbers of people growing their own food should indeed ensure plentiful supply, or at least the absence of hunger, at a family and even a local level.

For if the idea works, for many ~ and let's be blunt here ~ peasant farmers, the ability to grow and sell produce and livestock is the first step to a better and more prosperous life. The key however, is in the word "ability", which implies both the will, and the knowledge and skills, to do so. At some stage the government will realise that merely rehoming families on newly-expropriated land does not constitute the development of a new class of smallholder farmer. It only means you have created a new class of homeowner, namely one whose home includes a tract of land.

Cynics might even argue that the desire by government to vigorously pursue its policy of creating a smallholder class of landowner is nothing more than social engineering aimed at deflecting attention away from the fact that it ~ government ~ has no workable plan to tackle unemployment by enabling an economic environment that creates sustainable, profitable, private-sector jobs.

To turn a homeowner with land into a productive small farmer requires training and education, access to cheap finance for the acquisition of movable assets such as tractors, irrigation equipment and annual inputs, and established channels through which to market and distribute the result.

But the vast majority of the population is urbanised, and survives on food grown and processed by others. Nobody (unless they are farmers) grows their own wheat, yet everybody eats bread. Very few people grow poultry, yet many rely on processed chicken as a source of protein.

This mass production of staples (eg, grains, sugar, meat, poultry, dairy products) is most efficiently done by large commercial ventures able to work large tracts of land which afford them huge economies of scale. This kind of agriculture is not best suited to small farmers with limited resources.

Neither is, frankly, smallholder agriculture best suited to environmental factors such as carbon emissions. A single, large, modern, fuel efficient tractor working a 1 000ha field will use far less fuel and emit far less greenhouse gas than 100 probably old, possibly Chinese, small tractors each working the 10ha allocated to 100 new smallholder farmers. Either the government hasn't realised this, or it simply doesn't care. One thing is clear, however, is that government needs to take more care of commercial agriculture if it is to ensure and guarantee the country's long-term food security.

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Livestock census under way in Gauteng

A province-wide livestock census is to be undertaken in Gauteng by the veterinary services division of the Gauteng Dept of Agriculture & Rural Development (GDard) between May and July. The census is aimed at establishing the size of the animal population in the province, as well as their location. The livestock census helps the veterinary services division assist farmers with animal health management, as well

as in planning and execution of disease interventions and risk assessment. According to GDard, only 6,2% of households in Gauteng are broadly defined as agricultural households, while under stricter definition only 2,6% are classified as agricultural households. Our own figures show that there are roughly 25 000 smallholdings in the province, and 80% of those keep some form of livestock, with 63% of the total keeping two or more species. Domestic animals (dogs and cats) and exotic pets are the most frequently kept animals, with poultry, waterfowl, sheep, horses, cattle and pigs following in that order. However, with most of these properties being relatively small (ie smallholdings) the livestock on them, although

few in number per property, live relatively close to each other, and are therefore more susceptible to the transmission of disease from property to property than herds on larger agricultural properties. That, and the fact that many smallholders are either neglectful or ignorant of regular vaccination and dosage requirements for their animals means that outbreaks of disease can spread very quickly, and cause considerable loss, in the region. Veterinary officials undertaking the census will go to farmers and households who have livestock to conduct the census. All information obtained in the exercise will be used internally only and not given to third parties. Male officials will be identified as follows by their clothing

which will be either a khaki shirt or brown shirt or navy blue polo shirt marked VETERINARY SERVICES GAUTENG in red, or by a khaki and green shirt marked

Continued on page 6

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NEWS

Kyalami still battling K-road proposal

The Greater Kyalami Conservancy (Gekco), and residents of Glenferness and surrounding areas, are still locked in battle with the Johannesburg Roads Agency over the proposed K56 road, sewer line and

high-density development in Greater Kyalami which, says Gekco, will cause the loss of thousands of local jobs. The K56 road is one of many that were originally planned in the 1970s when greater Johannesburg was still run on

apartheid lines. The 5km section between William Nicol Drive near the current entrance to Dainfern, and Main Road in Kyalami, which it joins on the bend between Zinnia Rd and Dahlia Road, is being proposed, and although

required by the developers, it is not wanted by the majority of residents, says Gekco. "In fact, a petition against the road received 2 126 signatures from people in the area." The road cuts through the equestrian suburb of Glenferness, with an offshoot along Erling Road to the entrance of Steyn City. Gekco says: "For decades, Greater Kyalami has supported a thriving equestrian industry – in fact, it is home to the largest population of horses in the southern

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RAINFALL

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GAUTENG VETERINARY SERVICES in yellow, or by a green polo shirt marked GAUTENG VETERINARY SERVICES in yellow. Female census takers will

wear either a green polo shirt marked GAUTENG VETERINARY SERVICES in yellow or a khaki shirt or brown shirt or navy blue polo shirt marked VETERINARY SERVICES GAUTENG in red. In addition all officials will bear a letter of introduction signed by the Gauteng Chief Director Veterinary Services & SRM, Dr Malcom De Bude, bearing a State Veterinarian official stamp. The letter bears the full names and identity number of the individual official.

The motor vehicles used by the census workers are either private and varied, or branded in blue with the logo of the Gauteng Dept of Agriculture.

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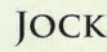


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NEWS

From page 6

hemisphere. This multi-billion rand industry contributes significantly to the economy, with thousands of full time workers employed in the area. The majority of these are horse grooms, who usually live on site with their families. In fact, on many equestrian properties, the live-in workers and their

families substantially outnumber the residents. "These workers have minimal education but have learned very specific and important skills which allow them to find work easily in the local equestrian community. They earn a good living, usually including salary, accommodation, groceries, as well as tips from horse owners and clients

at livery yards which can add substantially to their income. Every worker supports an average of five dependants, so their earnings are playing a crucial role. "In addition, there are hundreds of small companies in the area that service the equestrian industry, and who employ additional permanent staff. These include feed

merchants, farriers, vets, equestrian clubs, horse transporters, trainers, saddlers, tack shops, arena and stable construction firms and equestrian centres such as the Shumbashaba Community Trust which offers after-school programmes for Diepsloot youth. All of these

Continued on page 10

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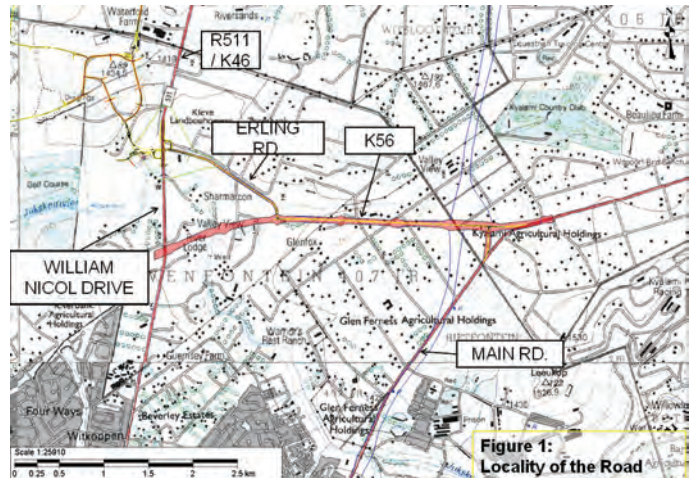


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Locality of the Road

Map of Glenferness and Kyalami showing the proposed K56 road

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NEWS

Drought: E Gauteng rain more than last season

With the heavy showers experienced over Gauteng in mid-May you'd be forgiven for asking "Drought? What drought?"

For in reality the most recent rainy season was much wetter

than the previous one, by more than 250mm. For the rainy season from September to May 2016 we recorded 869mm in Eastern

Gauteng. The rainfall for the same period in 2014/5 was only 606mm. The problem with this year's rainfall, however, was that it

fell in relatively few, heavy showers, with long periods of hot, dry weather in between. While Eastern Gauteng's

Continued on page 12

KYALAMI ROAD

From page 8

will go out of business if the area is destroyed," claims Gekco.

Along with the road is a proposed sewer line, required by the Pivotal Fund, developers of the Kyalami Village shopping centre on the corner of the R55 and Main Road, but which will be used by other developers if it goes ahead.

Its route goes through a bird sanctuary in Beaulieu, and cuts through Kyalami and Glenferness, joining an existing sewer line near William Nicol Drive. The sewer line will enable high-

density development along its route, and numerous applications have already been submitted, Gekco claims. The sewer line is currently being contested in court by Gekco.

"The end result is that the ambitions of a few developers, who want to make a fast profit, are jeopardising the livelihoods of thousands who work in a unique and irreplaceable local industry. Most seriously, a vulnerable section of the population will be affected, who cannot simply relocate to a new area at will, and whose resources are already thinly stretched

due to supporting numerous dependants," claims Gekco. For more information: Kristin Kallesen cell 083 600-6091, chairperson of the Greater Kyalami Conservancy

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NEWS

Gauteng dairymen hold info day in July

The 2016 Milk Producer's Organisation (MPO) Gauteng Dairy Day will be held at an historic venue in Bapsfontein on Thursday July 28. This event has grown dramatically over the past three years, drawing increasing numbers of people interested in and involved in

dairy farming. The event offers new and existing farmers alike valuable information on a variety of topics, and is also a good meeting place, with networking opportunity for everyone. The main attraction of the day, is the series of talks by speakers covering a wide range of topics.

And, exhibitors have the opportunity to display their goods and services, which in past years have included financing institutions, label

machines, feed and fodder suppliers, milking machines and equipment, cheese making requisites, cheese moulds, yoghurt preparations, cleaning chemicals, veterinary supplies, specialist estate agents, vacuum pack machines, scales and more. Being presented in Gauteng, many of the attendees are small scale farmers and smallholders and many who have attended in the past have seen that they can actually make an income from

dairy activities on smallholdings. This year's venue is the newly-renovated and re-opened Bapsfontein Hotel, which will serve coffee, tea and rusks to delegates on arrival and will have lunch and refreshments on sale during the day. Entry is free but booking is essential please. Bookings with Karen Serfontein – sms 076 850-3185 or email petitechevresa@gmail.com for your registration form.



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RAINFALL

From page 10 rainfall may indeed have been better than last year and, indeed, better than average, the same cannot be said for rainfall over the rest of the country where the effects of the drought persist.

While mealie plantings have taken place in much of the traditional dryland maize regions, the plants themselves are smaller, and their cobs less well formed, than in a good year. However, while initial

estimates were that South Africa would have to import 7,7 million tons of maize this year, local crop estimates have improved, and it is expected that less than half that tonnage will not need to be imported.

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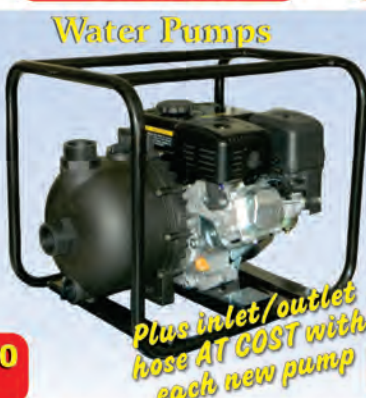


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SEEN AT

A bit smaller than last year, with some notable absentees among the exhibitors, but with a good crowd of visitors over the four days nonetheless, the Nampo Harvest Day show remains a must-see event for anybody involved in southern African agriculture.

Here are a selection of items of interest to Gauteng's smallholders.



Above: Permanent stands of exhibition plantings exist on the eastern boundary of the showgrounds, separated from the main exhibitors' area this year by open space. Here is Brazgrass' stand of fodder crops.



Left: Stihl highlighted their battery-powered machines, including string trimmers, blowers, chainsaws and pruning shears.

Right: Tracked machines, big and small, are becoming increasingly popular. Here is a tracked John Deere ATV



Above: Afri-Ca Implements of Bothaville have developed a 4-wheel drowside drawbar trailer for smallholders



First-time Nampo exhibitors Groenvoer introduced their galvanised bale saver to a wider audience, with good results.



Flexible 18 litre backpack sprayers for firefighting have become popular. At least three makes were featured on different stands.

Right: Husqvarna featured their 580BTS petrol-powered blower, suitable for firefighting



Bauer travelling water cannons will soon be available through Turfmaster of Nigel.

Right: Entries in the "Boer Maak n Plan" section were disappointing this year. About the best was this bottle and can crusher made by Bertus Goosen of Botswana.



Solar energy (left) is becoming a heavily-featured component at Nampo, while just about every machinery exhibitor is offering a range of standby generators of various sizes (right).



Left: Agro Tractor House of Benoni has put together a "start-up package" for farmers of less than 25ha, comprising a tractor, plough, harrow, planter, cultivator and trailer.

Right above: Mnani Implements has developed a 3-point mounted, PTO driven compressor for pumping tyres, spraypainting in the field etc.

Right below: Mnani's petrol powered hammermill and electrically-driven mealie sheller.

NAMPO 2016



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Rototank's answer to a French drain on a septic tank system



Left: South Africa's love-affair with Chinese 254-series tractors appears to be over. About the only one of its kind at the show was this YTO 254 model.



Grogr's Workhorse powered transporter has grown a canopy.



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Backsaver hand-push pumpkin/watermelon seed planter.



The range of Backsaver hand and animal-drawn implements developed by Michris Janse van Rensburg on his Bultfontein farm continues to grow, and now includes this two-row tractor-mounted planter. Inset: note toothbrush to ensure even seeding.

NAMPO

The new M-F35 that isn't (really)

When is a Massey Ferguson 35 not a Massey Ferguson 35? Easy. When it's rebranded as a Tafe 35. OK, so when is a Tafe 35 not a Tafe 35? When it's rebranded as a Massey Ferguson 35. Confused? Don't be. With the introduction by Agco of the M-F35 this year at the Nampo show, two brand models of the popular small tractor are now available in



Massey-Ferguson 35, built in India

South Africa, specifically aimed at small farmers. Both are manufactured by Tafe (Tractors & Farm Equipment) in Chennai, India. One has been available locally as the Tafe 35 for some years while the most recent (re)introduction is of a Tafe-built M-F35. The popular tractor was first introduced in 1956 as a



Tafe 35Di, built in India

replacement for the ubiquitous Ferguson Vaaljaapie, the tractor that introduced hydraulics to the farming world in 1946. Production of the M-F35 ceased in 1964 in the UK, although it continued in India, where it has been built

Continued on page 17

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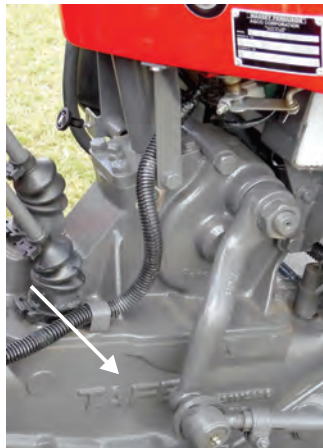
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Giving the game away: TAFE casting on the M-F35's gearbox housing.

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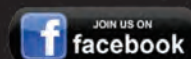
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Apiarist's tasks for the dead of winter

June, July and August, winter months, are a rest period for the bees, the

queen and the beekeeper, especially as the queen needs at least 14 weeks' rest from

her heavy egg laying months. During this period she produces only a few hundred

per month, and breeding continues through the winter but only on a small scale. By June all cropping of the past season's honey must have been completed and either bottled or stored away until required.

The brood nest of the swarm will have been reduced by reduced egg laying and the

Continued on page 18

M-F 35 LOOKALIKE

From page 16
under licence by Tafe since 1960.

The 35 series is of similar design, especially in the rear to the Vaaljapie, making the procurement of spares easy and widespread.

In the engine specifications the two are different. The Vaaljapie was a four-cylinder

petrol/paraffin-engined machine coupled to a single-ratio gearbox with a single clutch, while the 35 series is

fitted with a three-cylinder diesel engine driving a dual ratio gearbox with double clutch.



Or go for an original... These two 1961-vintage M-F35s, restored to showroom condition, are to be seen in the museum at Nampo Park

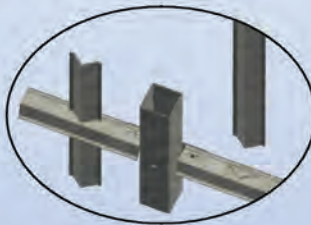
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BEEKEEPING

From page 17

bees will have solidly packed honey around this much reduced breeding area as an insulation against the penetrating cold air of the winter. The size of the entrance to the hive will have been reduced and all other leaky cracks and holes will have been sealed up with propolis to keep out winter draughts. It is most important that the hives must not be

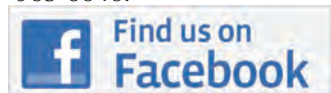
opened during the winter thus breaking down this sealing so laboriously performed by the bees. On strong hives, the beekeeper will have removed the cold metal queen excluder between the brood chamber and supers that draws the cold into the hive and on medium and weaker hives he will have removed the super to reduce the volume of air in the hive to

be warmed by the bees. In this way the bees consume less honey stores to keep warm and the stores last much longer and well through the winter months. Wind-breaks that ward off that cold south wind help to create a greater extended protection for the bees, and it is for this reason that hives in our hemisphere should always be placed on the north or north-east sides of woodlots.

All dry grass and weeds that can burn easily will have been cleared away from the hives, which themselves are highly flammable. Heat about the hives causes the wax to melt and dribble out of the hive and ignite, which then ignites the hive, and all that is left is the metal lid and four small heaps of nails from the corners of the burnt out brood boxes. Avoid standing hives on old tyres, that also burn very easily.

For the beekeeper this is a

good time to renovate and clean out all those empty hives from which bees had either died out or absconded. Wax moth will no doubt be about in some of the hives. The juicy little worms make good protein for one's egg laying hens. Now is a good time to service the honey house equipment, repair tears in one's gloves and overall, clean and renovate the smoker and service one's workhorse bakkie, because in all too short a time spring and a new season's work will be upon the bees and their master. Article by Peter Clark at 011 362-2904, author of *Tales of an African Beekeeper* and chairman for 2016 of Eastern Highveld Beekeeper's Association, assisted by the secretary Mike Alter at 011 965-6040.



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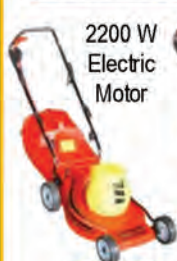
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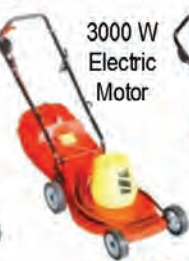
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SCORPIONS

Movies have given them a bad rap

Hollywood has done scorpions no favours by allowing people to believe that they are all highly dangerous and that a scorpion sting is bound to be fatal. This is far from the truth. There are about 130 species of scorpion found in South Africa, and in fact only two species cause death.

Contrary to popular belief not all scorpions are highly venomous. Southern Africa is home to the world's least venomous scorpion as well as one of the world's most venomous scorpions. As Jonathon Leeming, renowned local arachnid specialist points out, more people are killed by dogs, run

over by cars or die of lung cancer than from scorpion stings.

Scorpions are predatory arthropod animals of the order Scorpiones within the class Arachnida. They have eight legs and are easily recognised by the pair of grasping pedipalps and the narrow, segmented tail, often carried in a characteristic

forward curve over the back, ending with a venomous stinger.

They generally eat anything they can overpower. This includes insects, spiders, other scorpions, earthworms, gastropods, as well as small reptiles, mammals and amphibians.

South African scorpions can be divided into three

ecological categories according to their choice of habitat, namely burrowing scorpions, rock-dwelling or arboreal species.

The scorpion to look out for is the thick-tailed *Parabuthus*-genus. It can grow up to 11-14cm long.

Parabuthus transvaalicus is one of

Continued on page 22



Parabuthus transvaalicus

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SCORPIONS

From page 20

the biggest scorpions in the family *Buthidae* and is usually found in areas of low rainfall



Found in Gauteng: *Uroplectes triangulifer*

where they are ground-dwelling, and dig shallow burrows at bases of shrubs, under rocks, under logs or any suitable structure.

It is dark brown to black in colour and has hair on some parts of its body.

This genus is found all over South Africa. It likes to dig shallow burrows in sand or hard soil and can mostly be found under logs or rocks.

It will often wander into houses and can be quite aggressive.

The *Parabuthus* scorpion has

neurotoxic venom and its sting can be regarded as potentially lethal.

A scorpion is ready to sting when the tail with stinger is held over the head, but interestingly enough *Parabuthus* can also sting sideways (so never try to pick it up with your fingers).

As with all venomous encounters, some people are more at risk of serious complications such as the elderly, the immune-



Found in Gauteng: *Opisthophthalmus pugnax*

compromised, allergic persons and small children. There are four scorpions commonly found in

Continued on page 23

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SCORPIONS

From page 22

Gauteng: *Uroplectes triangulifer*, *Hadogenes gunningi*, *Pseudolychas ochraceus* and *Opisthophthalmus pugnax*. They are all small, ranging from 28 mm to 70 mm and their stings are similar to that of a bee. Antivenom is not necessary.

There are some precautions that one can take. Scorpions are nocturnal, which of course means they wander around at night, so wear footwear at night. Be careful when lifting rocks and when

collecting firewood. Never handle scorpions with your bare hands. Never sleep directly on the ground when you are camping. Shake out footwear, clothes and bedding to make sure nothing crawled in. Clear clutter around your house – scorpions love to hide under rubble. If you have scorpions wandering into your house regularly, clear clutter from the floor, and shake out bedding before you get into bed at night.

Lemming offers the following advice in cases where someone has been stung:

- ☐ Keep calm. A scorpion sting does not mean instant death – but you should go to a hospital as soon as possible.
- ☐ Try to identify the scorpion – does it have a thick tail or thin tail?

If the victim was stung by a thick-tailed scorpion, get some medical attention immediately. There is antivenom available for scorpion stings.

- ☐ If the victim was stung by a thin-tailed scorpion, mild pain and local inflammation are probably the only ill-effects he or she will suffer.
- ☐ Put ice or a cold compress



Found in Gauteng: *Hadogenes gunningi* on the sting site. Clean the wound and bandage.

☐ Give some paracetamol or aspirin for pain.

Continued on page 26



Found in Gauteng: *Pseudolychas ochraceus*

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Essential maintenance tasks for winter

By now, all your preparations for the winter fire season should be complete. You should have cut your fields and baled, or stacked, the hay. You should have burned or ploughed firebreaks, and cleaned any remaining long grass around any fence posts and other fixtures with a

SCORPIONS

From page 23

☐ Victims must receive a tetanus shot to prevent infection.

Some scorpions have the ability to produce sound by rubbing together certain body parts. This is called stridulating and is normally used as a warning sign to intruders. Arachnophobes will be sorry to hear that scorpions generally have a life span of about four to 25 years.

brushcutter.

In the vegetable patch, the last of your summer crops should have been harvested, frozen, bottled or otherwise preserved, and seedlings of your winter crop should be in the ground, covered protectively against frost.

In the future ~ late July or August ~ you can look forward to pruning and spraying your fruit trees and roses.

And so now you have six to eight weeks of early winter down-time in which to put your feet up and contemplate your navel? Well, no, you don't. Because now is the time to do the maintenance and repair tasks that one doesn't get time to do during the rest of the year when one is busy ploughing, planting, harvesting etc.

First and foremost, you have

probably used your mower for the last time this season so before you forget it, prepare it for winter.

Start by draining the remaining fuel from the tank and fuel line, using this in your tractor or another machine such as a chainsaw or brushcutter that is still in winter use. That's because

petrol, although an oil derivative, is hygroscopic ~ it absorbs moisture ~ which means that, come summer, you will experience difficulty in starting your mower using the old fuel.

If the fuel tank is made of metal coat the inside with a light machine oil to prevent

Continued on page 28

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ON THE PLOT

From page 26

corrosion.

If it is an electric-start machine, disconnect the battery.

Remove the spark plug, or plugs, squirt a few drops of light machine oil into the cylinder and crank the engine by hand to coat the inside of the cylinder and the top of

the piston as protection against corrosion. Use this opportunity to clean the spark plugs, shining up the sparking faces with some fine sandpaper and checking the gap clearance. Or if the plugs are old, replace them now.

Ensure you tighten the plugs back fully because you will likely forget to do so come summer if you just screw them in finger-tight now.

Don't, at this stage, drain the sump and replace the oil. That's a task you'll do after your first usage of the machine in early spring, when you use the mower in dry and dusty conditions to remove much of the dry, dead old lawn growth. This is a dirty, dusty job and any dust from the resultant cloud that you will be enveloped in that enters the sump and contaminates the oil has the potential to act as an abrasive and increase the wear on the engine.

So minimise this effect by draining the sump and

replacing the oil immediately after this first usage (which will also have the effect of loosening and mixing up any sludge in the sump already, so that the new oil you put in enters a relatively sludge-free engine).

Now is also a good time to clean or replace the air filter element.

Under the cutting deck, scrape away any caked grass and mud and generally wipe the machine down well to remove dust and dirt.

Although it makes sense to check the blades while you are grovelling around under the machine, don't replace them now unless they are irrevocably damaged. Rather, use the old blades to do your first, abrasive, dusty mow next season, when they are set as low as possible, thus abrasively making contact with uneven ground, mole hills, stones etc. Then, at the same time that you replace the sump oil, replace the blades with sharp new ones for the

rest of the season.

Of course, if there are any major repairs or replacements necessary on your mower, now is a great time, when mower repair shops are quiet, to get these done (and you'll be surprised at how few mower owners get around to doing so, rather leaving their repairs until the last moment, when the grass is already growing, in the spring, and the mower shops are frantically busy).

Finally, pack the mower away, covered in a dust sheet. Don't use plastic, which allows for "sweat" to build up under the sheet, encouraging rust.

Continued on page 30

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ON THE PLOT

From page 28

With the machinery taken care of, it's time to look at your infrastructure. The working lives of gates and fencing can be greatly lengthened if their components are well looked after. Which means dealing with

any rust and repainting in the case of metal components, and in coating wooden components with some form of preservative.

At the same time, the integrity of fences, and their lifespan, can be enhanced if you take the time to tighten loose strands, fix any breaks and refasten strands to posts and droppers.

It is also worth noting that the galvanising ~ that coating of tin which is added to metal components and wire after manufacture to protect it against corrosion ~ is very quickly burnt off in a fire. As a result, your fire prevention preparation should include removing any combustible material (eg tall grass and weeds) growing near fences. This can be done using a brushcutter or by hand by "skoffelling" under the lowest strand of fence with a spade. When attending to metal

gates and fence posts it is sensible to have everything you will need to complete the job ready at the same time, in the form of a kit. Thus, wire brushes, scrapers and rust remover (and water to wash the residue off with), metal primer and paint brush, and top coat and paint brush. Rather than doing all the rust scraping and removal around the plot, then all the priming, then all the top-coating, rather do each component (eg gate or post) in one operation. Thus, you will scrape or otherwise de-rust one gate, wash the deruster off and allow it to dry for a few minutes, then apply the primer to the exposed spots. After a further couple of hours to allow the primer to dry, apply the finishing coat. With one gate complete, move on to the next etc. That prevents scraped, bare metal from being exposed to

the elements, dew etc, allowing for corrosion to set in before the primer is applied. Also, for best adhesion of the paints, undercoats such as primers are best overcoated before they have a chance to dry out completely. Once your gate and fencework is attended to, examine your irrigation and water-handling infrastructure. For a start, your fire prevention preparations should also have taken into consideration your plastic pipework which,

Continued on page 33

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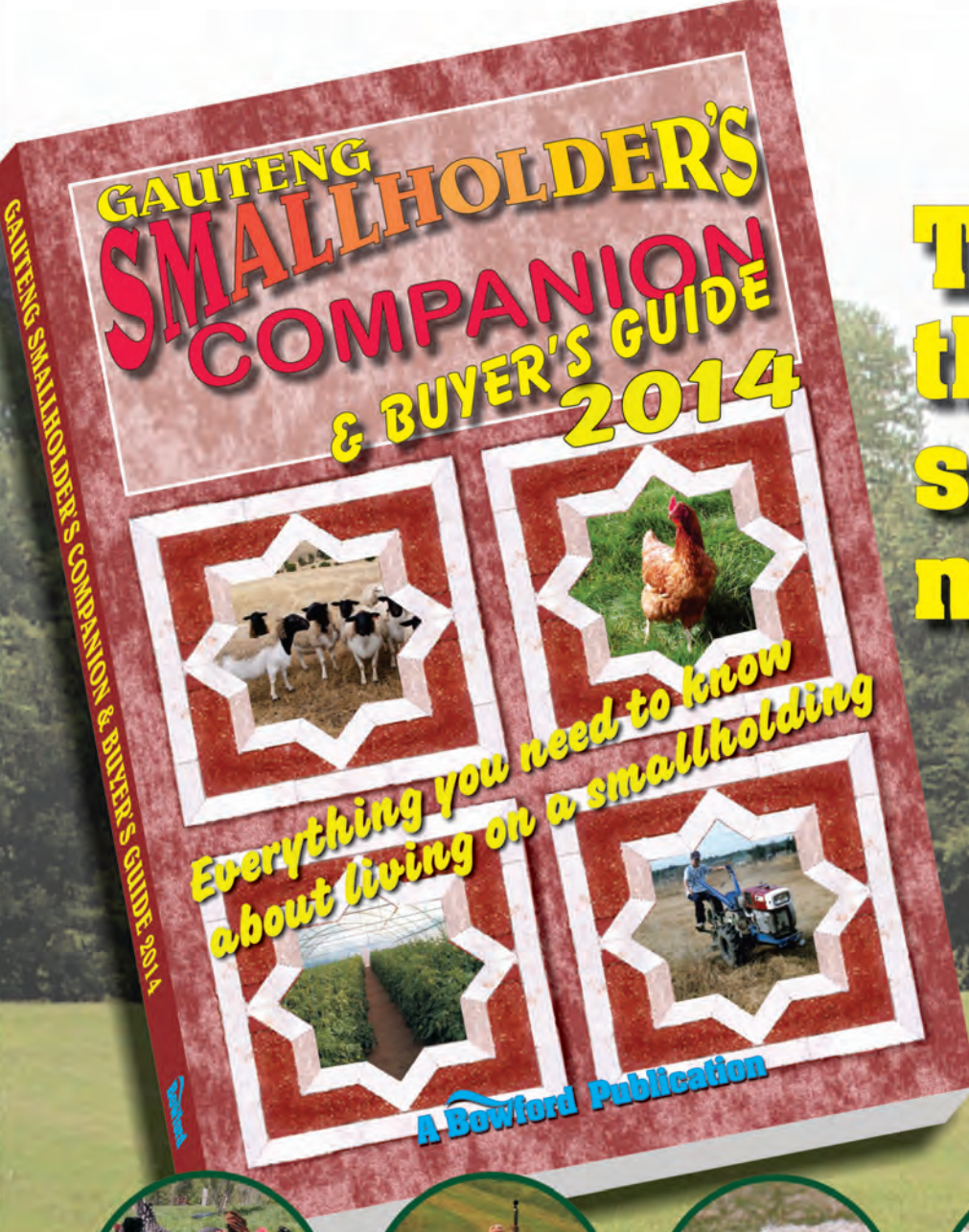
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ON THE PLOT

From page 30

if exposed above ground, will melt or be severely damaged if exposed to fire. So, like your fences, the area immediately around your pipework should be skoffelled or cut absolutely clear of all grass and weed. At the same time, leaky taps and valves can be replaced or repaired, clamps tightened or replaced and underground leaks detected and fixed. This is particularly easy at this time of year and will be indicated by an unusually green spot in the midst of the more usual uniform khaki of your dry grass.

Now is also a good time to service and clean sprinkler and mist sprayer heads.

Finally, no outside maintenance would be complete without attending to your security set-up.

If you have infra-red security beams in your garden your annual maintenance should include removing the covers and cleaning out the inevitable

collection of ant-eggs and other "goggas" that take up residence inside. Wash the covers in soapy water and dry well before refitting them, taking care to ensure that all smear marks are removed as you

dry them.

With the covers off examine the connections of your comms and power cables. Because of the galvanic reaction between the copper wire and the metal connector as a result of the constant current passing through, a residue can build up which can cause a break in connectivity if not cleaned off. If you see a grey powdery residue on the wire of connector, loosen the screw, wipe both the end of the wire and the connector clean and retighten the screw. Even if the connection looks clean it makes sense to check the tightness of the connector screw.

If your transmitters or receivers are attached to trees (which grow and change shape over time) or metal poles (the bases of which can be shifted by roots and other ground movements) now is also a good opportunity to check that they are targeting their opposite lenses accurately.

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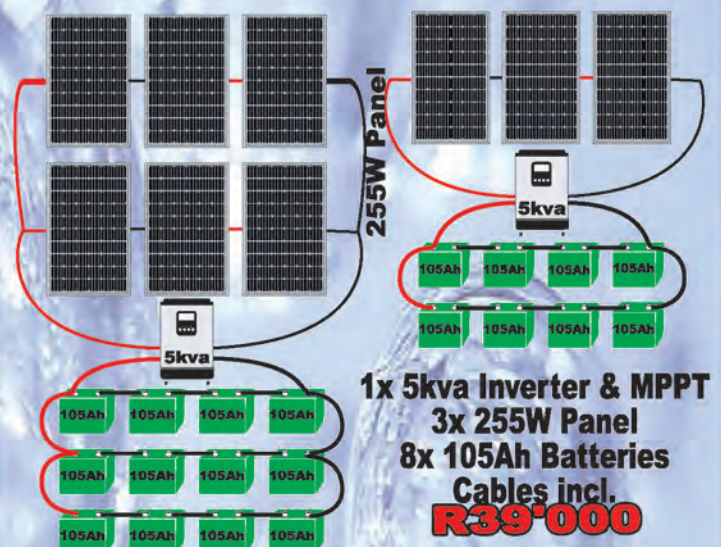




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Emus, although they can run fast, don't need a great deal of space, so are suited to smallholding conditions.

The emu is the world's second largest bird ~ only the ostrich is bigger. They can reach 1,9m in height. Females are usually slightly larger than males and are substantially wider across the rump.

The emu is flightless, but its

legs and feet are adapted to enable it to run fast. When walking, the emu takes strides of about 100cm, but at full gallop a stride can be as long as 275cm. Its legs are devoid of feathers and underneath its feet are thick, cushioned pads. The birds can reach speeds of 48 km/h.

There are few predators capable of attacking an emu. It has sharp claws on its toes which are its major defensive

attribute, and are used in combat to inflict wounds on opponents by kicking. They are also able to jump high when attacked, so are able to get their heads and necks out of danger.

This ability will explain why it has become popular for smallholders to keep emus to

protect flocks of sheep. They are protective and territorial and can be aggressive when threatened. They are not afraid to approach a predator and perform different display signals when they see a nearby threat.

These signals let you know

Continued on page 37



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LIVESTOCK

From page 35

that something negative is in the area: fast pace running, loud hissing, a display of jumping and running, standing tall or shrinking down.

The vocalisations of emus mostly consist of various booming and grunting sounds and must be pretty scary for a would-be thief to encounter. Some of the booms can be heard from 2km away. Emus have a powerful forward kick which can rip open clothing and exposed flesh.

If you want to keep an emu for security purposes, however, remember that it sleeps at night, so you will need to ensure that whatever it is protecting is put away safely at night as well.

The other reason for keeping emus is, surprisingly, oil production. There is a large pocket of fat on the back, as well as on the belly, which is processed into oil.

The oil is used in dietary supplements, therapeutic products and in cosmetics, depending on the grade of oil. It has external and internal use for human and animal medical conditions.

The skin, meat and feathers are also used. The meat is similar to ostrich, in that it is lean, low in cholesterol and rich in nutrients.

The birds are slaughtered at between 14 and 18 months, yielding a slaughter weight of 14kg of meat and 10kg of fat. The hides can be tanned, yielding a soft, thin leather. Not surprisingly, the eggs are large ~ on average 13cm by 9cm diameter ~ and weigh between 450 and 650g.

Emptied eggs are used decoratively and are sometimes engraved with pictures. In the field, emus forage a variety of plant species, including leaves and grasses. They also eat insects and other arthropods, including grasshoppers. They will need concentrates

as well and will eat ostrich pellets, although feed specially formulated for emus is preferable.

The female emu is ready to breed at about two years. She can lay up to 40 eggs a season, which lasts from April to October. Commercial breeders incubate the eggs, which take eight weeks to hatch.

In the wild the male emu sits on the eggs and looks after the chicks once they have



Emus in a smallholder's paddock

hatched. The eggs range in colour from turquoise to deep blue or even black.

Initially the chicks are kept

for a few days in a heated room, but are then kept in a grassed enclosure until they

Continued on page 38



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LIVESTOCK

From page 37
are a couple of months old.
After that they will be put into
an enclosure with young of a
similar age. They reach full
size after around six months.
The backs of their legs are
covered in a hard, scaly
serration that requires
handlers to wear heavy gloves
to protect their hands from
cuts and abrasions.
Camp sizes vary according to
the size and number of birds,

starting off at 5 x 20m,
ranging up to 30 x 70m for 20
young birds. A breeding pair
is kept in a camp of 10 x
20m.
The fencing is important.
Most breeders use diamond
mesh to a height of 2m. Be
careful to ensure that there
are no jagged edges or wire
knots on the inside of the
fence, as the birds walk along
the fence and could injure
themselves.

The plumage varies in colour
due to environmental factors,
giving the bird natural
camouflage. The juvenile
plumage develops at about
three months and is blackish,
finely barred with brown,
with the head and neck being
especially dark. The facial
feathers gradually thin to
expose a bluish skin. The
adult plumage has developed
by about 15 months.
Although they are hardy,
emus are vulnerable to

internal and external para-
sites. They have been affected
by avian influenza in other
parts of the world but there
have been no reports of
infections in South Africa,
while their ratite cousins the
ostriches have been casual-
ties.
As with any livestock, emus
need to be carefully moni-
tored so that any health
condition can be identified
early.

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BOOKSHELF

Richly-illustrated guide to spider & scorpion emergencies

With our article this edition on scorpions, here is a useful book if you encounter these on your smallholding, or if you fear poisonous spiders. Entitled *First Aid Guide to Spider Bites & Scorpion Stings*, it is written by renowned arachnid specialist Jonathan Leeming. This book links spider and scorpion biology, natural history, medical science and common sense. It will give

A must-have book for a plot with scorpions, spiders

you the ability to measure and understand the seriousness of a bite or sting when and where it happens. More importantly it gives you the tools to take the next step and act responsibly and quickly. Identification of the culprit is often key to the treatment of spider bites and scorpion stings. Most people have difficulty in identifying a

spider or scorpion even to the most basic group. The guide includes physical characteristics, lifestyles as well as egg sacs that will help you reach a positive identification of the culprit.

In case the villain is not seen, characteristic symptoms of the various spider bites at different time frames are included. Many scorpion stings need very little medical attention, others require urgent medical attention.

Using the symptoms as a guide, the decision to seek professional medical help can be made and acted upon. There are over 200 photos. It lists medically important spiders, explains when to consult a doctor and emphasises what not to do. The scorpion section is similar, including descriptions of symptoms and what first aid to carry out.

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GROENVOER MARKET



Youngest stallholders, Jarred and Fallon, sold out of hamburgers before the end of the market

Groenvoer's Mother's Day Market featured not only a variety of food and craft stalls, but also a variety of entertainment, including a display and talk by the Hoëveld Nguni Klub, flower arranging, snake-handling and belly dancing. Pictures: Gian Shipton



Beautifully coloured, indigenous breed ... a display of Nguni cattle by the Hoëveld Nguni Klub



Stalwart stallholder Stan sells home-made chocolates, toffees and caramels



Right: Carol Taggart demonstrated how to create stylish flower arrangements on a shoestring budget ~ uring garden flowers, nifty hints and a sprinkling of panache



Belly dancer Pavia Abrosie shows her elegant moves

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GALVANISED MESH

AVAILABLE WIDTHS: 915mm
1220mm
1830mm

Galvanised AFTER welding

Block size in mm	Wire dia.	QTY
6.4mm x 6.4mm	0.7mm	30m roll / per metre
9.6mm x 9.6mm	0.9mm	30m roll / per metre
13mm x 13mm	1mm	30m roll / per metre
13mm x 13mm	1.6mm	30m roll / per metre
13mm x 25mm	1mm	30m roll / per metre
13mm x 25mm	1.25mm	30m roll / per metre
13mm x 25mm	1.5mm	30m roll / per metre
13mm x 25mm	1.6mm	30m roll / per metre
13mm x 25mm	2mm	30m roll / per metre
25mm x 25mm	1mm	30m roll / per metre
25mm x 25mm	1.5mm	30m roll / per metre
25mm x 25mm	1.6mm	30m roll / per metre
25mm x 25mm	2mm	30m roll / per metre
25mm x 25mm	2.5mm	30m roll / per metre
25mm x 25mm	3mm	30m roll / per metre
25mm x 50mm	1.5mm	30m roll / per metre
25mm x 50mm	1.6mm	30m roll / per metre
25mm x 50mm	2mm	30m roll / per metre

Galvanised BEFORE welding

Block size in mm	Wire dia.	QTY
25mm x 25mm	2.5	30m roll / per metre
25mm x 50mm	2.50	30m roll / per metre
25mm x 50mm	3.00	30m roll / per metre
50mm x 50mm	1.60	30m roll / per metre
50mm x 50mm	2.00	30m roll / per metre
50mm x 50mm	2.50	30m roll / per metre
50mm x 50mm	3.00	30m roll / per metre
50mm x 100mm	2.00	30m roll / per metre
50mm x 100mm	2.50	30m roll / per metre
100mm x 100mm	2.00	30m roll / per metre
100mm x 100mm	2.50	30m roll / per metre

Green Plastic Coated Mesh

Block size in mm	Wire dia.	QTY
13mm x 13mm	1.25mm	30m roll / per metre
13mm x 25mm	1.25mm	30m roll / per metre

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AVAILABLE WIDTHS: 915mm
1220mm
1830mm

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Block Size	Block Size	Block Size	Block Size	QTY
13mm	25mm	75mm	90mm	
width available	600mm	600mm	--	50m roll / per metre
width available	900mm	900mm	900mm	50m roll / per metre
width available	1220mm	1220mm	1220mm	50m roll / per metre
width available	1500mm	1500mm	--	50m roll / per metre
width available	1830mm	1830mm	1830mm	50m roll / per metre

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2kg	R 85	50kg	R 1,160

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Standard Feeding Bowls

200ml, 11.5cm, R10
350ml, 14cm, R14
700ml, 16.5cm, R18
1600ml, 21cm, R28



Coop cup with hanger hook

130ml, 7.5cm, R14
290ml, 9.5cm, R22
5250ml, 12.5cm, R30
845ml, 15cm, R41



Coop cup with nut clamp

130ml, 7.5cm, R18
290ml, 9.5cm, R25
5250ml, 12.5cm, R32
845ml, 15cm, R42



GAUTENG SMALLHOLDER CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

ABSOLUTELY FREE TO PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS. CONDITIONS:

1. Animals (including horses), birds, poultry, fodder, bedding, etc must be paid for as SuperSmalls (see p 48).
2. Wanted ads, services of any kind are also SuperSmalls.
4. No Commercial ads accepted as classifieds (see display ad tariff - p 1).
5. Placement maximum of 3 months

SUPERSMALLS

Entries in this yellow-shaded section cost R120 VAT included for 25 words, plus R1/word thereafter.

WANTED

Gesoek: Stukkende tweede-handse brei masjiene benodig vir parte. Vir skool vir mense met geleerdheids probleme. Rosa 082 684-9534.

Gesoek: Goeie tweedehandse implemente benodig vir trekker. Lusermsnyer, 4 tol hark, 1,2m slasher en 2 skaar ploeg of skottelskaar ploeg. Kontak Mike 082 920-6157.

FOR SALE

BIRDS & POULTRY

Chicks, day old to 3 weeks. Potch Koekoek, Rhode Island Red, Black Australorp etc. Hatch weekly. Contact Jolette 083 510-5626 9:00 to 20:00 Sunday to Friday.

Week oud Swart Australorp kuikens weekliks beskikbaar. Skakel Johan 083 611-1006 of Estelle 083 508-5154.

Orpington chickens available. Buff, White, Black, Koekoek, Blue, Splash, Golden, Lace and Lavender, from R150-R300 depending on age. Contact Mike 082 920-6157 between Pretoria and Hammanskraal

Day old Pekin ducklings regularly available. Please contact Gwaine (The Duckman) 074 550-4315

Potch Koekoek week-olds available mid June. Pete 072 587-9137 Bredell

White pigeons, no special breed but pretty nonetheless, R15 each, only ten left. Pete 072 587-9137 Bredell

MISCELLANEOUS

Stop thieves: Outdoor wireless alarms for houses, cottages, outbuildings. 4 outdoor wireless sensors, Main control panel, 2 remote controls, siren, battery, etc. R2 800 installed in JHB or DIY. Also cut fence alarm, www.stopthieves.co.za or contact Colin 079 180-2853.

Stainless steel farm donkey. 210 litre, fire-heated. Constant hot water. From only R3 730 incl VAT. Contact 011 762-1212, 082 456-0973 or stainlessspecial@absamail.co.za.

PRODUCE, PLANTS & FODDER

Thousands of young indigenous trees for sale: Acacias, Bush Willows, Karees and more. COD. R35 each (negotiable). Own transport required. Call Louise 084 550-7658. Timsrand AH (Midrand)

Fruit and nut trees. Olive, peach, nectarine, plum, almond, apricot, walnut, prune, pomegranate, pecan nut, apple, cherry, pear, fig, quince, mulberry, lemon and grape vines. Contact Douw 084 506-5125 Vereeniging.

Indigenous trees. 40 varieties available. Aloes also in stock. Contact 082 801-9555.

FOR SALE

Entries in this section are FREE OF CHARGE, but are for used items, private property sales/rentals and employment offered/wanted only.

FARMING REQUISITES

Used battery cages for 240 layers. Possible buyer to collect and assemble on his own. R10 000. Contact Joseph, Nigel area. 079 696-0341

Large shed 15m long x 9,6m wide 4,75m at Apex high IBR roof and sides double lock doors 5m x 3,2m high R75 000 Hartbeespoort 082 771-6460.

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DIARY

ATTENTION CRAFT MARKETS, CLUBS ETC: If you would like details of your events included in the Diary, please fax or email your information to the Editor. For non-commercial enterprises this service is FREE.

NOTE: FARMERS' & CRAFT MARKETS. For a listing of REGULARLY HELD markets and fairs please see the separate section on page 47. Only markets that are

held infrequently are now listed in this calendar section.

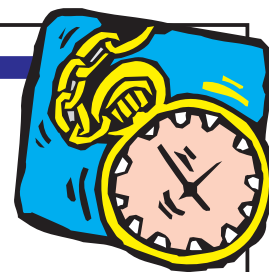
Every Sunday
Cattle drive with City Slickers breakfast, Diamond X Cowboy Ranch, near Cullinan. Call Rudan on 082 410-3180
horses@diamondx.co.za,
www.diamondx.co.za., R400 per person.

Mnandi Methodist Church, 09:00, Mnandi Centre, cnr Tulip and Short Streets, Jen 012 651-5509. Gail 072 477-0708., A small community who worship together. We have a Youth and Children's church.

Premier Mine Presbyterian Church, Lower Oak Ave, Cullinan. Garden of Remembrance (Columbarium), 079 060-9990 or 012 734-1640, Worship and Sunday school. Holy Communion for all on

the 1st Sunday of every month.

Continued overleaf...



Free Classified Ads

MISCELLANEOUS

Computers for sale: 3.2 dual core CPU 3 gig ram 120 gig hard drive windows XP, 512mb ddr2 graphics card R2 500. 2.5 quad core CPU, 3 gigs ddr2 ram 500 gig hard drive 1 gig ddr3 Asus graphics card gigabyte system Windows 7 ultimate, in an xpreditior large gaming box 550W power supply 12 colour fans. R6 000. Contact Jaime 079 414-4532.

Garsfontein Hoërskool skooldrag: (87L) splinternuwe baadjie, etiket nog aan. (87) oortrekrui (pullover) en langmoutroi (nog nie gedra nie) plus nuwe sportsak. Alles teen weggeeprys R 850. Kontak 082 856-3295 of 071 206-9973.

Finnbuilder pillar type (new not used) R3 500 Hartbeespoort 082 771-6460 .

Knysna blackwood furniture tea trolley R6 500, server R12 000, drinks cabinet R18 000, bench R7 000, Hartbeespoort 082 771-6460.

Push up roller shutter door, 1 000 x 1 500, sliding locks fitted on T-bar and frame. R2 300. Contact 083 319-7651.

PROPERTY FOR SALE/TO LET

Rietvleiview Country Estate: House to share, with a rural atmosphere. Possible alternative to a retirement estate, seven kilometres from Woodlands Shopping Centre. Would suit a retired couple or person to share with retired couple who own the house. Two meals a day and laundry included. Please call 082 474-0301 for further details.

Lanseria: For rent. 4 bedroom home. Huge upstairs lounge and study, modern kitchen, gas stove, Jetmaster fireplace, swimming pool in courtyard. Large garden, secure double garage, three bay carport, alarmed electric fence, armed response. House alarm. DSTV dish. Available immediately. R15 000 pm negotiable. (excludes electricity. Meter installed. Water included). Deposit required. Contact Jill 082 490-9707 Luke 071 591-1069

Van der Bijl Park: Farm for sale. Centrally located with easy access to major roads. 169ha well developed farm, 112ha land with 12ha under irrigation. 4 bedroom house with landscaped garden and vegetable garden, 5 labour houses, double garage with outside buildings and 3 barns. 5 boreholes of which four are equipped with Mono pumps (+/- 25 000lt per hour and +/- 50 000lt per hour) and windmill. Cattle, goat and sheep facilities. Walk in farm. Contact Hendrik 079 286-3301 or plaastekoop1@gmail.com.

TOOLS

As new 30Amp battery charger R1 950. 200lt 3HP D/head belt driven air compressor R7 000. 180Bar petrol HP washer on trolley + pipe/gun R8 000. 62cc petrol chain saw R4 000. 75mm petrol water pump R3 300. 8.75kVA petrol generator R9 000. All available Honeydew. Call Gary 071 449-2057.

TRACTORS & IMPLEMENTS

Case W7C laaigrawe, 1 weekend en 1 vir parte. R50 000 vir al 2. Skakel Johan. 074 785-5843.

VEHICLE & SPARES

Fiat Uno towbar, second hand R2 000. Opel GSI 1988 Model starter motor, brand new R1 300. Contact Andrea 082 463-5200.

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BRUCE 072 635 8820
jlbgas.installations@gmail.com

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1 ton bakkie load collected - R450
(from Muldersdrift)
1 ton bakkie load delivered - R550
(North & Northwest Johannesburg)
Call Deon 082 652 0975
deonm46@gmail.com

Fruit Trees
Olive, peach, nectarine, plum, almond, apricot, walnut, prune, pomegranate, pecan nut, apple, cherry, pear, fig, quince, mulberry, lemon and grape vines.
Shade Trees Vrugtebome
Olyf, perske, kaal perskes, pruim, amandel, appelkoos, okkerneut, pruimedant, granaat, druive, pekanneut, appel, kersie, peer, vy, kweper, moerbe en suurlemoen.
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Fanie
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nethout1@gmail.com

DIARY

... from previous page...

Every Monday
Alcoholics Anonymous. 'Courage to Change' Group meeting, 19:30, Benoni Agricultural Holdings, Marcus 082 042-7730. Warren 082 335-0049. Glen 072 239-3024. If you want to drink – that's your problem! If you want to stop – that's our problem! No fees; no dues; just concerned fellowship.

2016

June

4: Hands-on 2016 Summer Course for Beginner Beekeepers commences with orientation day at 186 Uys Street Rynfield Benoni, (next door to Highveld Honey

farms), from 09:30. Cost: donation for tea. Contact Peter Clark 011 362-2904.
5: World Environment Day
5: New Moon
7-10: Introductory Course in Pig Production at the ARC Irene. Contact Annetjie Loubser 012 672-9153 or aloubser@arc.agric.za.
8: World Oceans Day
12: First Quarter
12: Astronomy with Claire Flanagan at the The Sheds, Gemstone Road, Crocodile River Reserve from 09:00 until mid/late morning. Cost: R60 pp (kids R30); Refreshments included. Info and booking: Jenny Cornish, jcornish@mweb.co.za or 082 570 4798. Bring water, walking shoes, hat, sunscreen, camera. www.crocodilerverreserve.co.za
17: World Desertification Day
18: Eastern Highveld Beekeeper's Association monthly meeting at 186 Uys

Street, Rynfield Benoni commencing at 9.30 am. Contact Peter Clark 011 362-2904.
19: Workshop: Making Herb Wines and Liqueurs. From 09:00 to 13:00. Refreshments, notes and some ingredients are included. Prepaid booking essential. R300. Venue and list of ingredients will be given with booking. Patsy Vergeer, Patsy's Potions, The Herb and Indigenous Plant Guild. Telephone office hours 011 393-3427 or 076 265-4948. patsyspotions@vergeer.co.za.
20 Full Moon
20: Workshop Making Herb Wines and Liqueurs. From 09:00 to 13:00. Refreshments, notes and some ingredients are included. Prepaid booking essential. R300. Venue and list of ingredients will be given with booking. Patsy Vergeer, Patsy's Potions, The Herb and Indigenous Plant Guild. Telephone office hours 011 393-3427 or 076 265-4948. patsyspotions@vergeer.co.za.
20-24: Introductory Course in Poultry Production at the ARC Irene. Contact Annetjie Loubser 012 672-9153 or aloubser@arc.agric.za.
21: Solstice
22: Benoni Farmers Supply in liquidation. Auction of new and used agricultural equipment at 65 Unity Avenue, New Modder, Benoni at 10:30. Viewing on Tuesday 21 June from 10:00 to 15:00. For info contact Leroy Augustyn 082 565-2482.
26 June: Advanced Snakebite First Aid Course facilitated by African Snakebite Institute, Heia Safari Ranch, Muldersdrift. Contact Johan Marais 082 494 2039 or johan@aficansnakebiteinstitute.com
27: Last Quarter

July

4: New Moon
4: Aphelion
12: First Quarter
18: Eastern Highveld Beekeeper's Association monthly meeting at 186 Uys Street, Rynfield Benoni commencing at 9.30 am. Contact Peter Clark 011 362-2904.
19: Full Moon
22 & 23: Workshop Making Dream Catchers. From 09:00 until 13:00. Same course on both mornings. Refreshments, notes and kit included. Prepaid booking essential. R300. Venue will be given with booking. Patsy Vergeer, Patsy's Potions, The Herb and Indigenous Plant Guild. Telephone office hours 011 393-3427 or 076 265-4948. patsyspotions@vergeer.co.za.
26: Last Quarter
30: Experience Chelsea 2016. Talk with David Davidson at Garden World. 09:30 for 10:00. Cost: R80 pp & includes the talk & slide show presentation, refreshments, as well as fabulous prize giveaways and entrance to the designer gardens. Contact Garden World on 011 957-2545, 011 956-3003 or 083 997-6142 or visit www.gardenworld.co.za.

...continued overleaf...

LIVESTOCK SALES

Auctions: Bronkhorstspuit - Every Tuesday

Gys Taute 083 253 6906

Delmas - 2nd & 4th Thursday

Johan Taute 073 204 7646

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DIARY, cont'd

August

2: New Moon

6: Delicious Urban Gardening: Growing Food in the City. Talk with Jane Griffiths at Garden World. 13:30 for 14:00. Cost: R120 pp & includes the talk / demonstration, refreshments & fabulous prize giveaways. Contact Garden World on 011 957-2545, 011 956-3003 or 083 997-6142 or visit www.gardenworld.co.za.

10: First Quarter

13: Designing Small Spaces & Up Cycling. Talk with Tuis/Home Magazine & Bernadine Drath & Fiona Lear at Garden World. 09:30 for 10:00. Cost: R120 pp & includes the talk/demonstration, a goodie bag, refreshments & fabulous prize giveaways. Contact Garden World on 011 957-2545, 011 956-3003 or 083 997-6142 or visit www.gardenworld.co.za.

15-19: Introductory Course in Small Stock Management at the ARC Irene. Contact Annetjie Loubser 012 672-9153 or aloubser@arc.agric.za.

18: Full Moon

20: The art of creating your own work. Talk with Lizz Meiring at Garden World. 10:30 for 11:00. Cost: R150 pp & includes workshop, refreshments as well as fabulous prize giveaways. Contact Garden World on 011 957-2545, 011 956-3003 or 083 997-6142 or visit www.gardenworld.co.za.

20: Mother & Child Fun Day with a Flower Arranging Course with Interflora at Garden World. 13:30 for 14:00. Cost: R100 pp & includes workshop, refreshments as well as

fabulous prize giveaways. Contact Garden World on 011 957-2545, 011 956-3003 or 083 997-6142 or visit www.gardenworld.co.za.

25: Last Quarter

26 & 27: Start of new 20 module herb course. One module a month. Prepaid booking essential. R300,00 per event. Includes refreshments and notes. Small classes for individual attention. Venue will be given with booking. Patsy Vergeer, Patsy's Potions, The Herb and Indigenous Plant Guild. Telephone office hours 011 393-3427 or 076 265-4948. patsypotions@vergeer.co.za.

27: 100 New Herbs with Rooi Rose, Mayford Seeds & Margaret and Sandy Roberts at Garden World. 09:30 for 10:00. Cost: R100 pp & includes the talk / demonstration, a goodie bag, refreshments & fabulous prize giveaways. Contact Garden World on 011 957-2545, 011 956-3003 or 083 997-6142 or visit www.gardenworld.co.za.

September

1-7: National Arbor Week

1: New Moon

1: Lunar Eclipse

5-9: Introductory Course in Beef Cattle Management at the ARC Irene. Contact Annetjie Loubser 012 672-9153 or aloubser@arc.agric.za.

9: First Quarter

10: Topic: In Tune with Nature – Join Mayford Seeds for a Fun Morning with Music in the Garden featuring Richard

Cock & Tanya Visser at Garden World. 09:30 for 10:00. Cost: R95 pp & includes the event, a goodie bag, refreshments & fabulous prize giveaways. Contact Garden World on 011 957-2545, 011 956-3003 or 083 997-6142 or visit www.gardenworld.co.za.

12-16: Meat Processing Course at the ARC Irene. Contact Annetjie Loubser 012 672-9153 or aloubser@arc.agric.za.

16: World Ozone Day

16: Full Moon

17 September: Eastern Highveld Beekeeper's Association monthly meeting at 186 Uys Street, Rynfield Benoni commencing at 9.30 am. Contact Peter Clark 011 362-2904.

22: Equinox

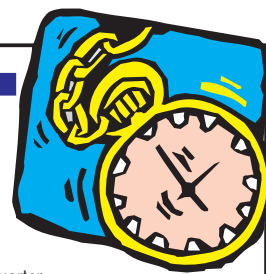
23: Last Quarter

25: Propagating workshop in the garden. From 14:00 to 17:00. Complete list of all ingredients needed will be given with prepaid booking. R60,00 per person includes refreshments. Venue will be given on booking. Patsy Vergeer, Patsy's Potions, The Herb and Indigenous Plant Guild. Telephone office hours 011 393-3427 or 076 265-4948. patsypotions@vergeer.co.za.

October

1: New Moon

4: World Habitat Day



9: First Quarter
10-14: Introductory Course in Poultry Production at the ARC Irene. Contact Annetjie Loubser 012 672-9153 or aloubser@arc.agric.za.

...more details next edition...

QUIRKY



To find out why this picture appears here, read this month's Back Page column by Blommetjie

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Regular Gauteng Farmers' Food Markets

NOTE: This is a listing ONLY of markets held to a regular weekly or monthly schedule. Markets held less frequently are listed in the DIARY section of the magazine and we urge readers to check each month for dates and events of interest. We would like this list of food markets to be as comprehensive as possible. If you know of farmers' food markets that are not listed here, please email us the contact details of the organisers, and details of the market. Only FOOD markets are included. Similarly, if you know of markets in this list that have CLOSED please inform us so that we can delete incorrect or outdated information. We invite you to tell us of your experiences when visiting these markets so that we can better inform our readers. Were they as advertised? Was the produce on sale plentiful, well-priced, well-presented and fresh? Email your comments to gautengsmallholder@gmail.com

DAY	WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	WHO TO CONTACT	WHAT TO EXPECT
Thursday					
Every Thursday	Bryanston Organic & Natural Market	09:00 to 15:00	Culross Road (off Main Road), Bryanston.	Konrad or Glenda 011 706-3671 or glenda@bryanstonorganicmarket.co.za	Quality hand crafted goods, unique art and fresh organic and naturally grown produce
Friday					
1st Friday	The Shed Night Market	18:00 to 22:00	109 Malcolm Road, Randvaal	Felicity 073 232-0017 or 081 011-9456	Food & craft market.
Saturday					
Every Saturday	Wholefood Country Market	09:00 to 14:00	Sawasdee Exotic Nursery, cnr Main & Zinnia Roads, Kyalami	Robyn 083 311-4768 wholefoodmarket@gmail.com	Variety of organic & homemade foods.
Every Saturday	The Shed Food & Craft Market	08:00 to 15:00	109 Malcolm Road, Randvaal	Felicity 073 232-0017 or 081 011-9456	Food & craft market.
Every Saturday	Pretoria Boeremark	05:30 to 09:30	Pioneer Open Air Museum, Silverton.	012 804-8031 or 082 416-3900 blingsa@lantic.net	Fresh produce and traditional bazaar treats like jaffles, kaings with pap and boerewors rolls.
Every Saturday	Bryanston Organic & Natural Market	09:00 to 15:00	Culross Road (off Main Road), Bryanston	Konrad or Glenda on 011 706-3671 glenda@bryanstonorganicmarket.co.za	Quality hand crafted goods, unique art and fresh organic and naturally grown produce
Every Saturday	The Hazel Food Market	08:00 to 14:00	Greenlyn Village Centre, cor Thomas Edison & Mackenzie Sts, Menlo Park, Pta	Rietha 083 554-5636. www.hazelfoodmarket.co.za	Fresh produce straight from the producer. Coffee, eats on sale
Every Saturday	Walkerville Farmers Market	09:00 to 15:00	R112 Main Road, Walkerville	079 076-7680 info@wfmmarket.co.za	Fresh produce, arts & crafts, food court and kids play area
Every Saturday	Walkerville Agricultural Market	09:00 to 15:00	K154 T-junction with R82	Dominique 082 775-0802 market@walkervillesa.co.za	Organic produce and Crafter's Market. www.walkervillesa.co.za
Every Saturday	Bosheuvel Fresh Produce	09:00 to 15:00	54 Glory Road, Muldersdrift	Mitch 082 553-2846	Meats and vegetables, delicacies, honey, cheese, brewery, crafter's market and children's entertainment.
Every Saturday	Jozi Real Food Market	08:30 to 13:00	Pirates Sports Club, Braeside Avenue, Greenside	083 532 2992 whitespace@mweb.co.za	Arts & crafts, music & entertainment, inspired cuisine organic vegetables & coffee, pet products
Every Saturday	Market @84	09:00 to 14:00	84 On Main, Walkerville	Ariel 078 223-9238	Fresh organically grown produce and crafters market
1st Saturday	The Green Market	09:00 to 12:00	Pretoria Botanical Gardens 2 Cussonia Avenue, Brummeria, Pretoria	Melissa 083 562-5249	Products ranging from solar equipment to organic food
1st Saturday	Victus Christi Arts & Crafts Market	08:00 to 14:00	24b Miles Sharp Street, Rynfield, Benoni (north side of Bunny Park)	Schalk 082 561-9409 info@victuschristi.org.za	Arts & crafts, fine art, food, fresh meat & produce and home industry
2nd Saturday	Brakpan Boeremark	09:00 to 14:00	cnr van der Walt and Dirk van der Hoff Brakpan	Marius 011 744-2322 082 904-8852	Over 50 stalls. Food, arts, crafts, etc.
Last Saturday	Fresh2U Farmers Market	08:00 to 14:00	Corner Main Street and High Street Modderfontein (behind 33 High Street)	Jane 083 376 5567 Chantelle 082 338 7818 wardek@iafrica.com	Over 50 stalls. Fresh produce, home made goods, plants, food and more.
Last Saturday	Fresh Produce Market	08:00 to 13:00	Lakeside Mall Boathouse	Alma 079 940-0201 realfood4realpeople@gmail.com	Local fresh produce direct to the public
Sunday					
Every Sunday	Fourways Farmers Market	10:00 to 15:00	Corner Montecasino Boulevard and William Nicol Drive, Fourways	011 465 0827 www.ffmarket.co.za	Get your groceries...In the garden!
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Pork sausage? No thanks!

Thank heaven for Tim Noakes and Mr Banting. Together they have made mealtimes a pleasure again, have removed the guilt associated with eating all the nice things on one's plate (meat and fat and vegetables that taste of something) and not feeling guilty about leaving all the tasteless starch, which is going to kill you in time, anyway. And they have turned on its head all the rubbish information punted by global starch and sugar processors and their cohorts, the REGISTERED dieticians (ever noticed how dieticians, before they start their strident diatribes about how low-fat-high-carb eating is far preferable and more healthy than Noakes' and Banting's suggestions always tell one that they are REGISTERED dieticians. That's like a dentist telling you, before he attacks your mouth with a drill, that he's a QUALIFIED dentist. Well, hell, would you allow treatment from an UNqualified one?). My wife and I are staunch followers of the Banting way. Since changing to the diet, both of us have more vigour, are actually consuming less, feel hungry less frequently and have lost considerable amounts of weight. And not for us any more boxes of carb- and sugar-rich breakfast cereals in the morning. We consume a delicious hot breakfast which varies daily: Bacon and tomato, bacon and egg, scrambled egg, fried haddock, sardines on toast, pork sausage...

Well, pork sausage until recently... Until, in fact, I discovered what commercially-made pork sausages, and vienna sausages, polony and other processed pork products can contain. For there I was, innocently trolling around Facebook, when I came across a picture, taken in a cold room, of some cartons of frozen product (you can see the picture on Page 46, which proves that I'm not making this up). I was immediately interested to find out where these cartons emanated from, whence they were headed and, of course, what they contained. The labels clearly stated they were of USA origin, certified by no less an authority than the US Dept of Agriculture. And their contents were plain for all to see: "DEBONED PORK RECTUMS (INVERTED)"

My curiosity piqued, I immediately wondered what kind of bone it is one usually finds in a pork rectum and, more importantly what one does with a deboned pork rectum, inverted or not. Curry it? Hot chilli sauce? Deep fried in batter? And what effect does the inversion of the rectum have on the rectum? Does it, like beating a calamari steak with a mallet, render the rectum more tender?

I had no idea, and I don't think I have a recipe book that could help, so I asked my friends. One, who has spent a lifetime in the food industry, answered in a flash: "Ground up with the other ingredients, they are used as extenders in products such as pork sausage, viennas etc, to make the "real" pork go further and thus reduce the cost of the sausage."

So that's me done with processed pork products from now on.

Because while I know that pigs are remarkable for the usage of every available part (pigs' ears, deep fried, are a delicacy somewhere, my own father used to like nothing more than a plate of pig's trotters, and even I crunch down with delight on a nice piece of crackling off the Sunday roast), I'd never really thought about what happens to the very end of the animal's alimentary canal. And now that I know, I rather wish I didn't. But here's another thought. Somebody in the pork preparation factory must be involved in the process of inverting the rectums.

And this reminded me of the popular Springbok Radio show in the Sixties and Seventies entitled *The Skip Show 21*, in which a panel of radio celebrities, which included, I think, personalities such as Leslie Richfield, Dennis Smith, Donald Monat, Victor Mackeson, and Evelyn Martin could ask a contestant a total of 21 questions to ascertain the contestant's job.

My father-in-law, a brickmaker by profession, entered once and was mighty proud that it took the panel 18 of the 20 questions (they were shrewd, that lot) to discover what he did.

The listening audience would be in on it from the outset, with a "ghost voice" telling listeners before the questioning started what the contestant did ("Basil from Springs is a brickmaker. He makes bricks," the voice would sonorously intone).

Now imagine the ghost voice telling the audience "Clarence from Crown Mines is a pork rectum inverter. He inverts pigs' rectums." How many questions would even the most perspicacious panel need to ask to arrive at the correct answer?





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