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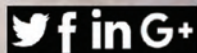


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**FRONT COVER**

Red Kentshire miniature cattle on a smallholding East of Pretoria ... read about them inside

**COMMENT, by Pete Bower**



**Interesting times**

**P**hew! What a month it's been! The speed with which anti-Jacob Zuma sentiment gathered momentum within the ranks of the ANC, and which preceded his recall by the party, which in turn preceded his rather undignified public resignation and disappearance from public life was positively breathtaking to see.

That, and the speed with which the Hawks have started to round up the state capturers and looters, were instructive illustrations of "how the worm turns".

And so South Africa has a new president and, by the time you read this, probably a new cabinet as well.

And the change in national spirit on the weekend immediately after Pres Ramaphosa's first State of the Nation Address was almost palpable.

With the exception of a couple of churlish opposition commentators, the general sentiment on the State of the Nation Address was positive. Ramaphosa's emphasis on unity and renewal was well received by all South Africans who hark back to the halcyon early Mandela years when we as a nation appeared united and unbeatable.

And if nothing else it was a pleasure to hear an articulate president fluently deliver a speech full of more than just clichés, with passion and with humour, and especially pleasurable to listen to the obvious barbs being hurled at some of Zuma's useless cabinet ministers, many of whom looked decidedly glum.

And so Ramaphosa spent his first weekend riding a wave of popularity and enthusiasm that he will probably not enjoy again.

For within his upbeat speech were the snippets of ANC policy which his government wishes to address, and which, in some cases are unworkable and badly thought through, and in other cases which will simply be thoroughly unpopular.

And so, as he tries to implement those policies Ramaphosa will find his popularity waning.

Three bits of ANC policy in particular come to mind.

Land expropriation without compensation. While the need to speed up and properly implement a land reform programme is not in question, the idea of expropriating land without compensation is as bizarre and poorly articulated as it will be destructive if ever it comes to implementation. And the history of this idea within the ANC is instructive. For years it was actively denounced by the more level-headed members of the party as being unworkable. Then Julius Malema broke away from the ANC, formed the EFF and appropriated the idea as EFF policy. Then, late on the last night of the ANC conference in December last year the idea of expropriation without compensation reappeared and, probably because delegates by then were tired and frustrated, it was quickly voted in to the organisation's policy once more.

Whether Ramaphosa actually sees the idea as a good one and has a sensible implementation plan only time will tell. He is a businessman and farmer in his own right, after all, and he may see it, as we do, as unworkable, destructive and unconstitutional.

Jacob Zuma's free tertiary education for the poor. This was actually Zuma's swansong, which he foisted on the government in the most cynical and stupid of his many cynical and stupid moves. At this stage it has been watered down to free tertiary education for first year students of families earning less than R350 000 a year. That in itself will cost R12,7 billion which the government will need to find.

The National Health Insurance scheme. While in the health portfolio Dr Aaron Motsoaledi is undoubtedly the most qualified cabinet minister of the lot, he has fixated on introducing this scheme in the misguided belief that it will improve health care for the poor while not impacting upon the healthcare which the more well-heeled pay for through expensive medical aid schemes. His scheme, details of which will be announced shortly, will lead to higher costs and worse health care for all.

It is worth observing that with all the interventions the ANC has introduced for the poor since 1994 ~ free or heavily discounted RDP housing, free education in no-fee schools, now free tertiary education, social and child grants (given monthly to 17 million citizens) and almost free medical care ~ South Africa is by far the best African country to live in if you are poor.

But back to Ramaphosa. On the basis of the three policy pillars outlined above alone, he has a significant burden which will see his abilities as a negotiator sorely tested, and which may dent his popularity in future.

However, to be fair, nothing and nobody could have been worse than more of Jacob Zuma and we wish Ramaphosa well in his task ahead.



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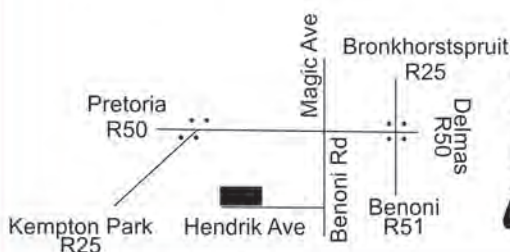
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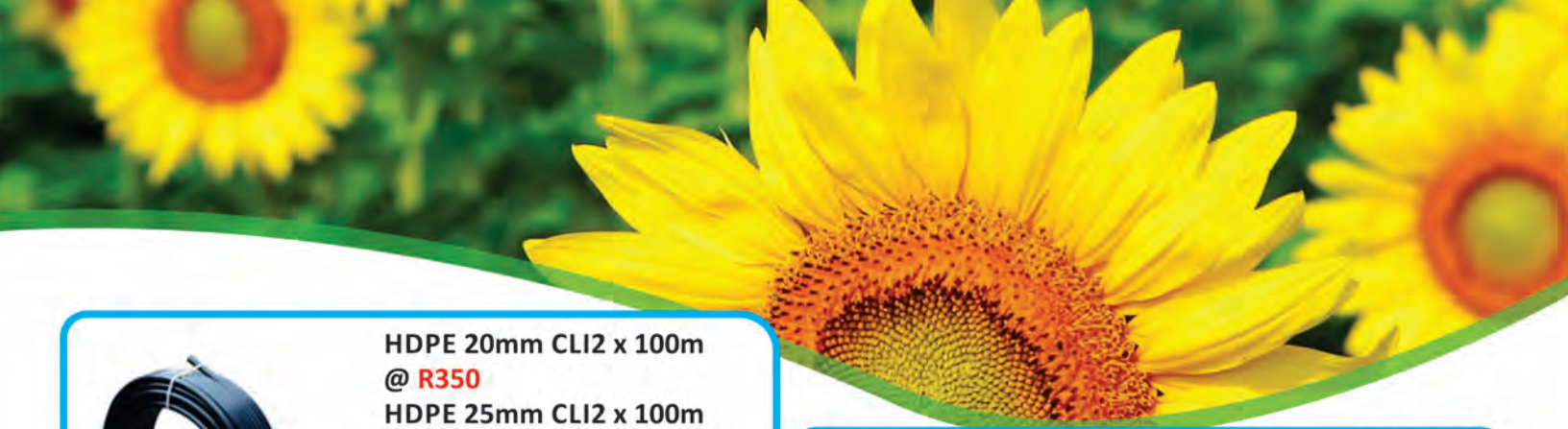


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# 'My Koekoeks aren't laying well'

**S**IR ~ I have a small flock of Potch Koekoeks ranging in age from four months to five years. They are penned at night, but free-range in the garden from about 10h00 to sunset each day as unpaid pest controllers. In their coop they have access to laying pellets ad lib and, of course, their diet is supplemented by insects, greens, fruit etc as they roam each day.

They are, I think, happy chickens.

Of late, however, their laying rate has been pathetic, with no more than an egg a day and often none at all. The situation is so bad that we are almost reduced to buying store eggs (yeucchh!)

Also, to provide replacements and young for my flock I have a small incubator that I run

early each season for a couple of batches.

The last few batches I have run have had a very disappointing hatch rate. For the last two batches I had only two chicks from a dozen eggs to start, with more than half having been infertile when candled out.

I must point out that I am not a beginner with small incubators, having hatched chicken, duck and goose eggs for more than 20 years, in incubators far less sophisti-

cated than the one I have now, and with hatch rates of 80% or more.

What is happening? Why, firstly, are my hens laying so poorly and why, secondly, are my hatch rates so low?

Is anybody else experiencing such drops in laying and hatch rates?

Is it something in the feed? Or water?

Is there anything others have tried to improve such poor outcomes?

For example, are my hens

perhaps not getting enough protein in their diet?

Should I change them to broiler pellets and supplement with shell grit to ensure sufficient calcium for shell production?

Any advice from readers of your wonderful magazine will be gratefully accepted.

**George Stegmann**  
East Rand



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The Editor welcomes your letters, comments and opinions, but reserves the right to edit and shorten as necessary. Senders' names and addresses must be included.

Afrikaans letters will be translated.

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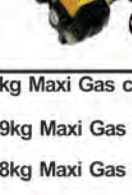

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# NEWS

## Oriental fruit fly warning from Daff

The Dept of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (Daff) has issued a reminder to users of land or land owners of renewed measures that have been taken to prevent and combat the spread of the Oriental

fruit fly. According to recent amendments to legislation, the areas that are infested by this fruit fly include Gauteng, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North West, some parts of KwaZulu-Natal and most recently in Grabouw in the Western Cape. A removal permit will be required to move fruit from these areas to Oriental fruit fly-free areas. It is worth noting that the removal permit will be issued only if the relevant applicant/land user complied with the stipulated good agricultural practices as per the

issued official order and the fruit or material has been found to be free of infestation, following an on-farm/on-site inspection. Anyone intending to move Oriental fruit fly host fruit/material from an infested area to a non-infested area should seek guidance from Daff's Inspection Services, whose staff are responsible for issuing of an official order with a prescribed list of on-farm good agricultural practices, rendering the on-farm/on-site inspections and the issuing of removal permits.



Oriental fruit fly *Bactrocera invadens*. In Gauteng the relevant officials can be reached at telephone numbers 012 309 8735/ 8791/ 8763, or alternatively by e-mail at RemovalPermits@daff.gov.za. The Oriental fruit fly is an exotic fruit fly native to Asia, previously described as the Invader fruit fly (*Bactrocera invadens*).

According to Invasives SA, Asian fruit fly is the world's worst destructive pest of fruit and vegetables. It is now found in at least 65 countries and in most of Africa's sub-Saharan countries. The crop hosts include mango, guava, citrus, avocado, banana, coffee, papaya, passion fruit, pear, apricot, peach, cherry, apple, pepper and tomato. It spreads through the international movement of infested fruits and it then infests commercial fruit crops. The male is red-brown with a reddish-yellow face and an

Continued on page 7

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# 2018 show dates reshuffled

The dates of two of Gauteng's popular agricultural and outdoor shows have been significantly changed this year, one being earlier and the other being later than before. This year's Walkerville Agricultural Show takes place in March, on the 10th and 11th. Previously the show was held at the beginning of April, the problem being that this year the first weekend in April is the Easter weekend. The Walkerville Show takes place on a well-established permanent showground complete with a pub, beer garden, large arena for events and displays and permanent

stabling for livestock displays. The show also features an impressive craft hall where Walkerville's smallholders display and sell their craft, home baking, preserves and produce. In addition, the show is well-attended by sellers of a wide variety of agricultural and horticultural items and equipment, as well as sellers of solar products, power tools, bric a brac and novelties. Children are well-catered for with animal rides and competitions and a festive atmosphere is engendered by the participation of the local radio station. After a disappointing turnout in the livestock department

Continued on page 9

## FRUIT FLY

From page 6

oval black spot in each antennal furrow. Its head has a vertical length of 1,62mm. The wing length is between 5,4~6,9mm. The female is fairly similar to the male. It is likely to be found in any areas where suitable host fruits are available, including natural and man-made habitats such as orchards and gardens.

Mated females deposit eggs within the flesh of the fruit on a host plant.

Larvae hatch in a few days and burrow into the interior of the fruit to feed on the pulp for four to twelve days. The larvae then drop from the fruit to pupate in the soil. Adults emerge seven to ten

days later and feed for a period of time before mating. Many generations are possible annually.

This pest can be controlled by practicing effective orchard or field sanitation, chemical control and control of the removal of host material from quarantine (infested) areas to non-quarantine (non-infested) areas.

Orchard sanitation is the collection of all fallen and rotten fruit or fruiting vegetables, burying them in a pit or trench and covering with half a metre of soil, or placing them in a black refuse bag, closing it and exposing it to the sun.

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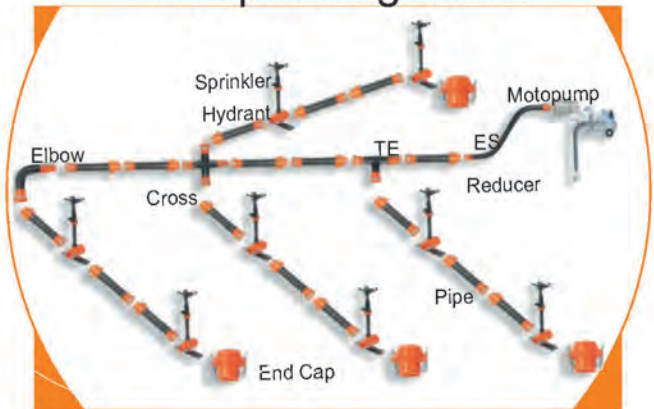
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# SMART SMALLHOLDER

## 'Dexford' pioneer is a Pta maplotter

It was more than ten years ago that Mooikloof smallholder Charles Tiganis was driving behind a bakkie

with a sign stuck to its window advertising small breed cattle. The breed advertised was new in South

Africa ~ the product of years of work by miniature cattle expert Prof Richard Gradwohl of Washington, USA.

Gradwohl had bred a miniature Hereford with a miniature Irish Dexter to  
Continued on page 10

## SHOWS

From page 7

last year because of the outbreak of various diseases it is hoped that farm animals of all types will be back in their numbers at this year's show. And, after a couple of years in which equestrian events were poorly attended and eventually cancelled, it is hoped that the arena will be filled this

year which riders and their ponies taking part in various classes.

Moving later this year is the Solidariteit-sponsored Kragdag Expo held at Donkerhoek. It took place in the middle of June last year, but this year takes place from 9-11 August.

The Kragdag expo has as its core "doen jou eie ding/do your own thing" and as a result has a strong emphasis on off-grid living, home maintenance, solar power, home schooling, security etc. There is also an impressive number of food stalls and a programme of entertainment. Sandwiched between the

Walkerville Agricultural Show and the Kragdag Expo is of course the Nampo Harvest Day, to which Gauteng smallholders make an annual

pilgrimage, in the mielie fields of the Free State near Bothaville.

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# SMART SMALLHOLDER

From page 9

produce a Kentshire (so named for its birth place of Kent, Washington). The aim was to produce a breed with the best characteristics of both foundation breeds. These characteristics were identified as the docile nature and excellent beef standards of

the Hereford as well as the good milk and beef features and the size of Dexters. Thus, when Tiganis called the advertised number, he opened himself up to the world of Red Kentshire cattle. His first purchase was Raoul ~ the product of imported Kentshire semen from a first

generation Kentshire bull called Happy Mountain and a local Dexter. Raoul was the first known Red Kentshire in South Africa. After that, Tiganis purchased the next product of Happy Mountain, a cow named Christine. The breeding process originated out of the International Miniature Cattle Breeding Society (IMCBS). Tiganis' first animals were certified by the IMCBS and

registered on its database. Today, more than ten years later, he has a herd of eight cattle, progeny of his first breeding pair of Red Kentshires, which he now prefers to call "Dexfords" because he has discontinued their registration with the IMCBS. Gradwohl had set out the guidelines for breeding and certification of Red

Continued on page 12



Tiganis' first bull, Raoul, as a newborn calf with his Dexter mother



Tiganis with some of his Red Kentshire/Dexford small breed cattle

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## SMART SMALLHOLDER



Hector, one of Tiganis' current bulls  
From page 10

Kentshires.

- Animals must be 107cm or less at maturity (measured at the hip);
- Parentage must not have evidence of inbreeding from the last three generations unless from approved animals;
- Animals may not be more than 75% of either foundation breed (Dexter or Hereford).

The Red Kentshire is similar in size to the popular Dexter. All Red Kentshire cattle are almost identical in colouring, with white faces and chestnut bodies and limbs, despite the original mothers both being black Dexters. The bulls are short and stocky. They can grow up to 400 ~ 450 kgs and stand just more than a metre tall.

The breed is very docile, and thus an excellent choice for smallholders with children. Tiganis has been impressed with the breed's character. "They are very tame and sweet natured. They make excellent mothers. They are very attentive to their calves and can be protective if they need to be," says Tiganis.

At its largest point, Tiganis' herd consisted of 14 animals. Tiganis was looking for something to use as a natural lawnmower and he has not been disappointed with his Red Kentshires.

He previously grazed them on his 8,5 Ha plot in Mooikloof, Pretoria. However, his original bull, the first South African born Red

Kentshire Raoul, was stolen and slaughtered by thieves. Thereafter, Tiganis made the decision to move his animals to a neighbouring plot where the herd is more secure, particularly at night. During the day, the herd is moved between his and the neighbour's plot to spread the "lawnmowers" and allow the grazing to recover sufficiently. His neighbour is happy to have the animals. He says, "It has helped a lot with keeping the grass low on my property."

Until recently, Tiganis found he did not need to supplement the grazing for the cattle, even in winter. He is very impressed with their hardiness in the Highveld winter. It was only when the Highveld was affected by drought that Tiganis saw the need to buy in bales of eragrostis in the winter months. This is another reason Tiganis recommends the Kentshire for local smallholdings.

In addition to these very simple eating habits, the animals are also quite disease resistant. Tiganis dips them regularly in the summer and

Continued on page 13

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# SMART SMALLHOLDER

From page 12

uses spot spray on smaller areas prone to ticks in between dipping. A recent visit from the state veterinarian confirmed that the herd is healthy and that in fact Tiganis could dip the cattle less frequently than he has been. "The vets at Onderstepoort have been very helpful with advice over the years. They have not seen this breed before and we have all been learning about them together," says Tiganis. Raoul and Christine were the first cattle Tiganis had ever owned. Like so many smallholders, he has learned everything he knows on the job. From the start, he has been a hands-on owner ~ assisting with births, injecting sick animals himself and of course providing plenty of carrot treats and ear scratches for his animals.

Tiganis is desperate to keep the breed alive in South Africa but is also fully aware of the dangers of too many generations of inbreeding. As such, he is on the lookout for interested buyers to purchase animals from him to breed with local Dexters again. He is hoping to keep a record of all sales and new animals to better help in the cross-breeding. "It would be ideal if we could set up some sort of exchange or buy-and-sell process, so that I can buy back or swap new animals for an older Kentshire to mix the bloodlines a bit more," says Tiganis. He believes he has stretched the bloodline of Raoul and Christine as far as is safe for the animals. Tiganis is hoping that the breed's good nature, hardiness and size will appeal to owners of smallholdings. He would especially like to raise

awareness of the breed among young emerging farmers ~ emphasizing their practical uses as well as aesthetic traits. For example, the milk produced is sufficient for a small family and meat is of an excellent quality. Tiganis notes that the marbling of the meat is up there with the highest quality beef used by top-class chefs. Additionally, they are easy on the eye, gentle enough to have around children and require very little in the way of costly food supplements. For landowners hoping to live

sustainably, a small breed such as the Kentshire is ideal, as they require far less grazing and roaming space than larger breeds. Tiganis recommends them over other small-scale livestock as well. He points out that goats can be difficult to manage as they are well-known to be excellent escape artists, while sheep require shearing at a cost and do not typically provide milk for families. Tiganis has found that most of his challenges have been unrelated to the breed but rather caused by external

Continued on page 15



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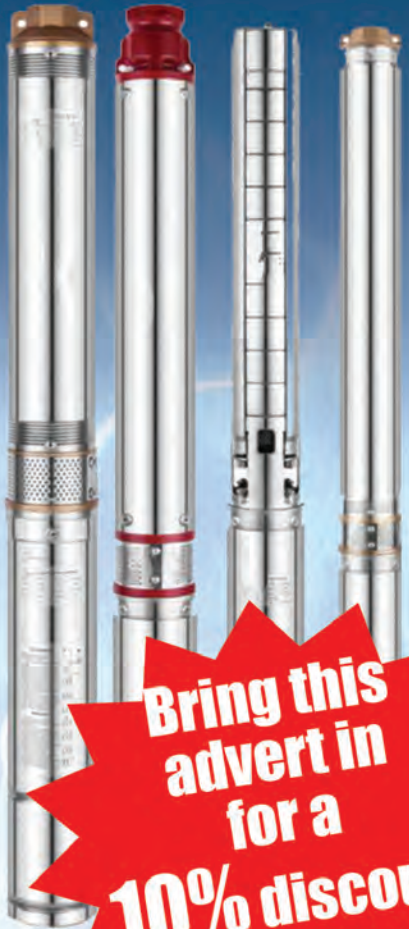
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Dressed for success, a beekeeper with her smoker (though whether the bees will be impressed by the colourful boots is doubtful).

Not so, however, the African bee, a much more aggressive creature, which requires a keeper to be fully clothed in protective gear which, even then, the bees will attack with relish and real anger.

Thus, a South African beekeeper needs a full protective suit, heavy gloves, boots and a veil, all assembled in such a way that every inch of skin is covered and there are no nooks and crannies through which the bees can crawl to reach bare flesh.

This, of course, makes beekeeping in South Africa a hot, sweaty business, counteracted only slightly by the fact that most beekeepers work with their bees at night, or at least in the twilight, when it is both cooler and when the bees are at their most docile.

A beekeeper's attire, in South Africa at least, comprises a bee veil, which is usually a white canvas hat with a broad brim, not unlike a cricket umpire's hat. All around the brim is stitched a voluminous

Continued on page 17

## SMART SMALLHOLDER

From page 13

factors. The drought and tick-borne diseases have been a concern, in addition to stock theft.

But even with these challenges, the breed appears to be adaptable enough that Tiganis has managed to keep his herd numbers stable for more than ten years.

For Tiganis, the Red Kentshire has been a delight to own. The practical benefits of the

breed and their sweet nature have added to the status of their uniqueness in South Africa. He hopes his passion for the small, white-faced animals will encourage more smallholders to investigate this breed for themselves so that it may get the attention and high regard he believes it deserves.

For more information: Charles Tiganis, 082 723-9508

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# BEEKEEPING

From page 15

net veil, the bottom of which is fitted with a drawstring. The brim of the hat ensures that the veil does not touch exposed skin such as ears and cheeks and the drawstring ensures that the bottom edge of the veil can be securely fastened over the shoulders and chest to seal the head and neck off from bees. Even then, bees sometimes manage to crawl in under the veil, and that can be a scary thing for a beginner beekeeper, especially because this happens when one is in the middle of some carefully planned task involving one's hive.

To protect the body, arms and legs a white zip-up overall is worn, and added protection is recommended by wearing a vest and heavy long-sleeved shirt or jersey, and heavy trousers under the overall, because a bee's sting can easily penetrate the fabric of an overall and reach the skin underneath.

Hand protection is achieved by heavy industrial rubber gloves fitted with elasticised gaiters that pull up over the arms. While these protect the hands from stings they tend to make one's handling of intricate components in the hive somewhat clumsy.

Foot protec-

tion is by way of boots, with the bottoms of the overall tucked in.

Of a beekeeper's hand-held equipment by far the most important item is the smoker. This is a metal can with a spout and bellows. The can is filled with a combustible material, and reams have been written about what makes the best material to burn in a smoker, which is lit and which smoulders slowly to provide clouds of the cool white smoke with which the beekeeper keeps his charges calm, and with which he encourages them to move to where he wants them.

Next comes a hive tool, a metal device shaped like a

mini crowbar which the keeper uses to prise open the hive, and to lever out the frames of the super or brood chamber.

Finally, there is a bee brush, a thin, soft brush used to remove bees from frames, hive surfaces etc without injuring them.

This is the basic specialist kit that a beekeeper will need before embarking on his passion. Added to this list of course will be various containers, buckets etc used

Continued on page 18



Left: A bee brush. Above: Hive tool

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# LIVESTOCK

## Animals on the road: Who's responsible?

Living on in the country, most smallholders will have encountered stray animals or herds of animals being driven on our roads, as well as people riding horses. A number of issues arise in these circumstances. The owner of the animal, the herder and rider all have responsibilities. A stray animal is any domestic

animal that is wandering at large or is lost, on a public road or in a public place, and not accompanied by its owner or person responsible for it. According to the proposed National Pounds legislation, livestock owners "must exercise control over (their) animal so as to avoid damage to another person's property"

and owners are "liable for damage caused by that animal". The courts have stated, "Thus where the fence is damaged or broken and animals enter the road causing road

accidents the owner of the fence is negligent and bears the liability for the damage caused. The owner has to take all reasonable steps to ensure that the fence serves  
Continued on page 19

# BEEKEEPING

From page 17  
for transporting frames once removed from a hive. And, if he has a large number of frames from which to extract honey, he will want a honey spinner, which can add a few thousand rands to the value of his equipment.  If you would like to become a beekeeper, contact the beekeeping association nearest to you for help and advice.

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# LIVESTOCK

From page 18

the purpose for which it was erected."

It can be exasperating for smallholders whose fences are stolen or vandalised or whose gates are left open by careless third parties, but the responsibility remains with the owners of the livestock to constantly check the condition of their fences.

Most municipal by-laws state that animal owners must maintain the premises on



which an animal is kept in good repair and in a neat condition, in order to prevent the occurrence of a public nuisance, and that the owner may not leave or allow any animal to be on any section of a public road or leave such animal in a place from where it may stray onto such section of a public road.

If an animal or group of animals is found unattended on another person's property or on a public road, the animals can be impounded.

Most by-laws regarding impounding animals state that

any person may impound an animal found abandoned

upon any street, road, road reserve or other public place. The pound is usually at the local SPCA.

A question of proof of ownership will then arise, if you have to retrieve your animal from a pound.

According to Tshwane municipal health by-laws, "A person claiming an impounded animal must satisfy the pound master that

Continued on page 21

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# LIVESTOCK

From page 19  
 he or she is the owner of the animal."  
 Unfortunately, many smallholders do not comply with the law on identification of their livestock. If you have applied for and been allocated an identification mark and have branded or tattooed your animals with this identification mark, it will be possible for the pound master to trace you and notify you that your animal is in the pound.  
 The same will apply if your dog or cat is impounded. If you have your details on the animal's collar or it is microchipped, you can be notified of the whereabouts of the pet.  
 An owner claiming an impounded animal must pay the pound master the pound fees determined by the municipality, before the animal will be released. If an impounded animal is not claimed within seven days after the day on which the animal was impounded, the pound master may sell or destroy the animal or cause the animal to be sold or destroyed in the manner prescribed in the Animals Protection Act.  
 When it comes to moving an animal or group of animals from one place to another, the person who drives a herd is seen as the driver of a vehicle.  
 According to Regulation 313 of the National Road Traffic Act, "driver" means any

person who drives or attempts to drive any vehicle or who rides or attempts to ride any pedal cycle or who leads any draught, pack or saddle animal or herd or flock of animals".  
 If a member of your staff is taking your animals on the road, make sure that he or she understands the traffic rules and will never leave the animals unattended. According to the same regulation, "no person shall leave or allow any bovine

animal, horse, ass, mule, sheep, goat, pig or ostrich to be on any section of a public road where that section is fenced or in any other manner closed along both sides, and no person shall leave such animal in a place from where it may stray onto such section of a public road."  
 This does not apply to "any animal which is being ridden or is being used to draw a vehicle along a public road". It also does not apply to "any

animal which is being driven from one place to another in such manner as not to constitute a source of danger or injury to any person or vehicle using such road." In this case the driver must display a large red flag and where there are more than ten animals one person carrying a flag should precede the animals and another should walk behind them, also carrying a red cloth.  
 Continued on page 23



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# LIVESTOCK

From page 21

You may not drive any animal on a public road between sunset and sunrise, unless you are carrying a red light.

A person in charge of an animal on a public road shall tend the animal in such a manner as not to constitute an obstruction or danger to other traffic.

Before riding or leading horses on the road, children and adults should be aware



How NOT to ride on a road... In the middle of the road, facing oncoming traffic, and with no safety gear!

of the possible dangers and should understand the rules of the road.

When planning to ride on the road, consider the volume and speed of the traffic at that time of the day. Where possible choose roads that have grass verges.

Most importantly, ensure that you and your horse can be seen by other road users. Reflective bands or bibs are recommended and fit fluorescent leg bands to your horse. High visibility vests should also be issued to grooms who are leading

horses along roads. When you lead a horse next to the road always keep yourself between it and the traffic.

Remember that many motorists are ignorant about horse behaviour, so riders need to be cautious.

Acknowledge considerate drivers by raising a hand or at least smiling.

As a driver of a motor vehicle, traffic regulations

state that you are obliged to stop your vehicle if it is requested by a person driving

Continued on page 26



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## LIVESTOCK



A good idea ... reflective boots for the horse

From page 23

or leading a sheep, goat, pig, mule, ass, ostrich, horse, or cow on a road.

The Arrive Alive campaign makes the following suggestions to motorists:

Take special care near animal crossing warning signs or signs warning of the absence of fences. The signs are there for a reason.

Minimize your distractions from passengers, food, and accessories like cell phones. If your full attention is on the road, you'll be more likely to spot approaching animals with your peripheral vision.

Get into the habit of scanning the roadside as you drive.

Vigilance is the first and best defence, especially when driving on unfamiliar rural roads. Ask passengers to help by scanning both sides of the roadway.

If you see one animal, expect that there are others nearby.

Use your high beams whenever possible. They will give you more time to spot and react to animals in the road.

Always obey the speed limit and wear safety belts.

Slowing down a little gives you and the animal more time to react.

Be aware of your surroundings.

Be especially watchful in areas near woods and water.

If you see a large animal

near the road and think you have time to avoid hitting it, reduce your speed, tap your brakes to warn other drivers and sound your horn.

If the animal is in your path, brake firmly but do not swerve to avoid it. Sound your horn in a series of short bursts to frighten it away.

Provided you can slow down with control, steer around the animal but stay on the road if possible. Watch out for oncoming traffic.

If a collision seems inevitable, don't swerve to avoid the animal; your risk of injury may be greater if you do. Maintain control of the vehicle. Report the accident to the police and your insurance company.

Always consider if the land along the road could host large animals, and if you think it could, anticipate that they might run out into the road. It's much easier to anticipate animal encounters and be ready to react calmly than to deal with the costly expenses, injuries, and guilty conscience of a collision.

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## Hard to catch? How to retrain your horse

Ever had a horse that just refuses to be caught, or worse, one that is downright dangerous to catch? It can be frustrating, not to mention exhausting, tramping around a paddock as the minutes ~ or hours ~ tick by and you miss yet another ride, or arrive late at a competition because it took longer than expected to box the horse.

The usual solution, but the wrong one, is to plonk some cubes in a bucket and, hiding the halter behind your back, sidle up to the nag shaking the bucket so the cubes rattle about enticingly inside. Then, as your little piggy horse plunges his snout into the bucket you quickly wrap the lead rein around his neck and slide the halter up his face with a satisfied grin on yours. Wrong approach, it turns out,



... tramping around the paddock as the minutes ~ or hours ~ tick by...

and one which can actually make the problem worse over time, because he'll soon learn that his bad behaviour leads to the reward of a snack. And by extension, the more bad behaviour he exhibits the more snack he gets.

Here is some advice from an experienced New Zealand equestrian and blogger.

Before teaching the horse to

be caught, one should identify why there is a problem in the first place.

The commonest reasons why a horse might be hard to catch would be that it has never actually been taught correctly how to be caught, has been inadvertently rewarded for this behaviour (see above), or because the rider always gave up before

actually catching the horse, or even that it perceives that every time it is caught something bad happens (always going to shows, lots of vet visits, owner always rushing etc.) If you can figure out which category your horse falls into, you can help to correct the bigger picture. If your horse has a really bad catching problem, bear in mind that the bigger the paddock the harder it will be to stay with him and keep his attention while trying to

Continued on page 29

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# HORSEMANSHIP —



The wrong solution ... enticing the horse by rattling a bucket of feed.

From page 27

retrain him.

It would be preferable to practice catching in a smaller space initially, and then work on the problem in larger places.

Start by getting his attention, and break the problem down into little pieces. It is important for him to understand and accept every step as you work to put the pieces back together.

You want him to stay calm and thoughtful, rather than worried, stressed or inattentive.

Try not to use food to catch him, and don't generally hide the halter or lead rope, though you could start the teaching process without it and introduce it down the line.

In most cases it is better to go about the business of catching the horse in the way you ultimately want to do it, rather than trying to trick the horse in some way.

You want him to understand exactly what is going on and be okay with it.

Also, remember that you get what you settle for... if you really want to change his behaviour you need to spend

the time necessary with no short cuts, and no 'But I could grab him now and go for that ride.'

Start by observing what the horse does when you walk into the paddock. Does he raise his head and look at you or keep on grazing? Start by observing what the horse does when you walk into the paddock. Does he raise his head and look at you or keep on grazing? Maybe he turns his back on you or starts walking away; maybe the problem doesn't arise until the halter or rope comes into play.

It is desirable for him to flick an ear in your direction, look at you, maybe even to turn to face you or start walking towards you. If he does any of these things pause where you are, and possibly take a step or two backwards. If he's been really hard to catch in the past you might even turn and walk away, not expecting him to follow but rather saying 'Thanks, well done, that was all I wanted.' Wait a minute, then turn back to him and start again. When you have made your initial assessment, ignore the horse but start walking straight towards him, looking at the ground in front of you and not directly at him. He will probably move

Continued on page 31

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# HORSEMANSHIP

From page 29

quickly out of that space, which is fine. Psychologically, you are partly claiming that space for yourself, as a more dominant horse might, and partly just piquing his curiosity.

You are absolutely not chasing him around, though if he didn't move as you approached you might make yourself a little bigger, or swing your rope, effectively saying 'You're in my space, you might want to move now'. Do this a few times, until the horse starts paying more attention and wondering what is going to happen next.

Once you are catching the horse, it should understand that it is working and so should begin to behave accordingly. Thus, if he carries on eating you should do something to convey to him that it is no longer acceptable, eg make a noise (clap, stamp) or movement to get his attention back to you. If the process goes on for some time, turn your back on the horse and walk away, in effect saying 'take a break', in which case eating is okay.

Your first step, then, is simply to get his attention. Once you can reliably get that, start to ask for more. Now just an ear flicking your way isn't enough; now he needs to look or turn your way. You might need to move to one side to draw his attention and feet, or to draw his attention away from where he'd rather focus it. If you can keep his head pointing towards you his feet will ultimately follow.

Often, moving towards the hindquarters (making yourself bigger or noisier if necessary) will move them away from you; backing away from the front end, especially at an angle, will draw it towards you.

Only ask for or expect a step or two to start with.

Each time he makes a big effort, or gives you what you asked for a few times in a row, reward him by turning away, effectively giving him a

break by taking the pressure off and letting him relax and think about what is going on. So far you've been doing all this at a distance, with your horse dictating what that distance is; usually no closer than about five to ten metres but further if necessary.

If your horse repeatedly runs away from you, back off a little and do all the same things but at a little more distance. The point that you

Continued on page 33

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9.6mm x 9.6mm	0.9mm	✓	✓	✓
13mm x 13mm	1.0mm	✓	✓	✓
13mm x 13mm	1.6mm	✓	✓	✓
13mm x 25mm	1.0mm	✓	✓	✓
13mm x 25mm	1.25mm	✓	✓	✓
13mm x 25mm	1.5mm	✓	✓	✓
13mm x 25mm	1.6mm	✓	✓	✓
13mm x 25mm	2.0mm	✓	✓	✓
25mm x 25mm	1.0mm	✓	✓	✓
25mm x 25mm	1.5mm	✓	✓	✓
25mm x 25mm	1.6mm	✓	✓	✓
25mm x 25mm	2.0mm	✓	✓	✓
25mm x 25mm	2.5mm	✓	✓	✓
25mm x 25mm	3.0mm	✓	✓	✓
25mm x 50mm	1.5mm	✓	✓	✓
25mm x 50mm	1.6mm	✓	✓	✓
25mm x 50mm	2.0mm	✓	✓	✓



## Mesh: Galvanised Before Welding Sold in 30m rolls or p/m

Block Size	Wire dia.	915mm	1220mm	1830mm
25mm x 25mm	2.5mm	✓	✓	✓
25mm x 50mm	2.5mm	✓	✓	✓
25mm x 50mm	3.0mm	-----	✓	✓
50mm x 50mm	1.6mm	✓	✓	✓
50mm x 50mm	2.0mm	✓	✓	✓
50mm x 50mm	2.5mm	✓	✓	✓
50mm x 50mm	3.0mm	-----	✓	✓
50m x 100mm	2.0mm	✓	✓	✓
50m x 100mm	2.5mm	✓	✓	✓
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100mm x 100mm	2.5mm	✓	✓	✓

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# HORSEMANSHIP

From page 31

are trying to get over to him is that you are not about to catch him; rather you are teaching him how to be caught.

Each time he runs away, walk steadily to where he is going; not to block him, but rather to show him that running off is a waste of time, you're going to be where he is going anyway.

When you get to where you can reliably get and keep his attention and he is standing still, you can start approaching. Notice with your particular horse where the point is that you lose him. Is

it when you get within a certain distance? Or if you approach head on versus to the shoulder? Or when you touch him, or raise the halter? If you can pinpoint when he gets worried or takes off, you can try stopping your approach before that point, standing still, then leaving. Gradually you should be able to get closer.

Perhaps you could just stroke him, then leave; at this point it would be acceptable to give him a carrot or something, as a reward, not as a bribe. If haltering is the problem, get to where you can put it on and off, but not actually catch and lead him.

A lot of times with catching problems, you need to change your horse's expectations of the routine, so doing the whole thing but then not actually taking him out of the paddock can really get him thinking.

Finally, make sure you have considered what is happening

once you have caught your horse. It might be worth making sure that the first few times you bring him out of the paddock, it's an especially nice experience; he gets a nice groom, or a feed, or something else that he likes, then goes back to his buddies. Your horse isn't a machine, and when the chips are down you need him to do exactly what you ask, but then some

of the rest of the time you need to show that you are willing to do the same. One last point: if your horse is one that rushes back to the paddock, and charges off as soon as you release him at the gate, don't let him loose at the gate, not only because of the danger of you getting caught up in a partly-removed halter, lead rein etc as he gallops off.



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**K**nowing the approximate weight of one's animals is useful in a number of circumstances, for example when calculating doses of medication or the size of feed portions, or when transporting them by vehicle, but few smallholders have a scale robust enough for the task.

If you only have a few animals to weigh and a high degree of accuracy is not needed, you can get a good estimate of an animal's weight using only a measuring tape and a calculator.

In most cases you will be measuring the heart girth and the length of the animal and then using a formula to estimate its weight.

### Pigs

If you have a pig, this is what you will do.

While the pig is busy eating and completely uninterested in what you are doing, place the tape measure under the pig just behind the front legs over the pig's heart and measure the circumference of the pig's girth in metres (or centimetres divided by 100). This measurement is known as the Heart Girth.

Then measure the Length of the pig along its back from

the base of its ears to the base of its tail, again in metres.

Then use the following formula. Square the Heart Girth to get the Girth Result. Now multiply the Girth Result by the Length and multiply by 69.3. You now have the weight of your pig in Kg.

Example:

Porky Pig has a Heart Girth of 1.27m and a Length of 1.02m (127cm

divided by 100 and 102cm divided by 100).

Square the Heart Girth  $(1,27 \times 1,27) = 1,6129 =$  Girth Result

Multiply the Girth Result (1,6129) by the Length (1,02) and multiply by 69,3 = 114 Kg.

This procedure is reported to be accurate to within 3%.

Continued on page 37

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# ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

From page 35

## ☐ Horses

You can use the same procedure with a horse. Weight in kilograms equals the girth in centimetres squared, then multiplied by the length of the horse (in centimetres) from the point of the shoulder to the point of the buttock. This number is then divided by 11 900 to give the final result.

## ☐ Foals

Researchers in Chile have come up with a new formula to make it easier to estimate a foal's weight. The method requires only

one measurement to be taken.

The distance around the girth is measured just behind the elbow and 2,54cm behind the highest point of the withers. The measurement is taken just after the foal has exhaled. The formula is  $G^3 \times 90$  (where G = heart girth measurement in metres.)

## ☐ Cattle

A common formula used for cattle relies on measuring in inches – what is known as Schaeffer's formula – and gives the result in pounds:  $W = L \times G^2 / 300$  where, ~ L - Length of the animal from point of shoulder to point of buttocks in inches. ~ G is the chest girth of the animal in inches.

The so-called Minnesota formula gives the result in kilograms:  $W = L \times G^2 / 600$ , where,

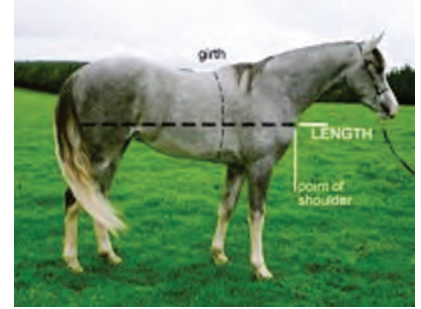
~ L is the length of the animal from point of shoulder

to point of buttocks in inches.

~ G is the chest girth of the animal in inches.

When using this formula without an inch-measuring tape measure simply divide the number of centimetres by 2,54 before entering the resulting numbers into either formula.

When measuring cattle, make sure that the head is up, as



Dimension for the weight of a horse when it is down the girth is expanded.

Continued on page 39

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With steel chassis  
**121.5 cc**  
Tanaka 550  
2-Stroke  
Engine



**Electric Mower**  
**2200 Watt**



**Chainsaws**

- **51.2 cc** 2.4 kW/2800 rpm  
Bar Length: 510 mm (20")
- **72.2 cc** 3.9 kW  
Bar Length: 610 mm (24")



**Earth Augers**  
**63.3 cc**  
2.2 kW/  
2.95 hp  
7500 rpm

DRILL BITS  
SIZES:  
• 100 mm  
• 150 mm  
• 200 mm



**Brush Cutters**

- **32.7 cc Straight Shaft**  
1.00 kW/1.33 hp/7500 rpm
- **42.7 cc Straight Shaft**  
1.035 kW/1.8 hp/7500 rpm
- **51.7 cc Straight Shaft**  
1.50 kW/2.00 hp/6500 rpm

Nylon Line



**Shredder**  
**163 cc**  
Power Pro  
R183  
4-stroke  
Engine,  
3000 rpm



Suitable to chip: Maize,  
Wood, Leaves, etc

**Floor Sweeper**

- Operational Width: 80 cm
- 2 Side Rotary Brushes
- Container Capacity: 40 L



**Concrete Poker / Vibrator**

**37.7 cc**  
1 kW/6500 rpm, 4-Stroke

**NEW!**



**Backpack Sprayer**  
**16 Liter**



**Clearing Saw**  
2.4 kW  
2.95 hp  
7500 rpm

- 10 mm Heavy Duty Shaft
- Heavy Duty Gearbox



**Push Brush Cutter**  
**42.7 cc**  
1.35 kW 1.8 hp  
7000 rpm



**Hand Held Blowers**  
**25.4 cc**  
0.95 kW/1.3 hp/7500 rpm  
Air Distance: 9 m  
Ear Noise: 96 Db

Optional:  
Vacuum Bag



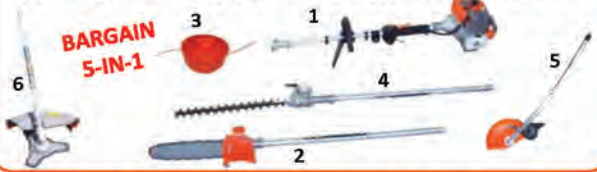
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(4) Hedge Trimmer (5) Lawn Edger (6) Brush Cutter Blade

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**Portable Drill (With Reverse)**  
**25.4 cc**  
0.8 kW / 1.7 hp / 7500 rpm

Drill Diameter:  
13 mm / 28 mm  
Two-stage speed  
Reduction



**Backpack Blowers**

- **51.7 cc** 1.75 kW/2.4 hp
- **63.3 cc** 2.6 kW/3.5 hp
- **82.4 cc** 4.2 kW/5.6 hp



**163 cc**  
**2" - 50 mm**  
**3" - 80 mm**



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JHB, Walkerville	011 949 2338	Stilfontein	018 484 5753
JHB, Randburg	073 686 8248	Vanderbijlpark	016 933 3899
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**Pole Pruner, 25.4 cc**  
2.5 – 4 m Shaft Extension  
12" Guide Bar  
0.85 kW/7500 rpm

**Hedge Trimmer, 25.4 cc**  
0.75/1 hp/7500  
Bar Length: 600 mm  
Dual Sided Scissors




**Mist Blowers**

- **40 cc**  
26 Liter  
Chemical  
Tank
- **82.4 cc**  
20 Liter  
Chemical  
Tank



Also Available from selected OBARO Co-ops Countrywide





# A chicken tractor for your garden

A chicken tractor is a mobile chicken coop, wholly or partially without a floor, which lets

your poultry forage freely on the land, while protecting them from the elements and predators.

The thinking behind it is that the chickens then do a wonderful job of clearing a patch of weeds, weed seeds,

insects and grass, as well as loosening the soil and spreading their manure the

Continued on page 41

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## Sheep & Goats

When you are measuring the girth of a sheep, ensure an accurate measurement by compressing the sheep's wool so that the circumference reflects that of the body and does not include that of the body plus the wool. Body length refers to the distance

from the base of the ear to the base of the tail (where it joins the body). For goats, the length of the animal from the point of the shoulder to the pinbone is measured. The tape must be pliable enough to bend around to the point of the shoulder and to the pinbone. For sheep and goats calculate body weight using Schaeffer's formula for the weight in pounds, which can then be converted to kilograms, ie heart girth x heart girth x body length/300 = animal weight in pounds. Divide the result by 2,2 to get the weight in kilograms. For example, if a sheep has a

heart girth equal to 35 inches and a body length equal to 30 inches, the calculation would be (35 x 35 x 30)/300 = 122 lbs. Divide by 2.2 =

55.45 kg. Alternatively, use the Minnesota formula for the result in kilograms directly.

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Head south on Atlas Road/M43. Turn right into Paul Smit Road. Turn Left into Turf Road. Turn Right into Middle Muir Avenue. Maranatha Business Park is at the end of Middle Muir Avenue.

**GPS 26°12.435'S, 028°16.107'E**

Disclaimer: Galvanising contains zinc. Customers use galvanised products for livestock and humans entirely at their own risk.



Chicken tractors: Left~ Igloos made out of plastic pipe and tarpaulins. Centre ~ on wheels with handles. Right ~ A-frame coop made from scrap.

From page 39

length and breadth of the space available to them. They are provided with a nutritious, varied diet and will reward you with golden-yolked eggs. The meat will also have a good flavour. By moving the tractor regularly you are left with a series of spaces for garden beds each the shape of the tractor. Spread a light dressing of lime, mulch each new area heavily and plant away – a great way to start a vegetable patch.

Because the chickens are

moved to a new pasture spot frequently, the requirement for pre-mixed foods is reduced. The natural growth in the garden helps to supplement the diet of your chickens.

As the portable chicken coop has no floor, major cleaning will not be necessary.

The coop occupies only a small area on the yard. If you are not going to plant on the patch that they have cleared, this gives time for the garden to fully re-grow before the chickens feed on that patch again.

The movable coop can be moved to safer locations when bad weather arrives: move them to the shade when sunlight is too harsh or under cover if there is a torrential downpour. They can be moved away from muddy areas of the garden to where fresh grass is available. Another issue with a fixed chicken coop is mice and rats living around the chicken coop, which then attracts snakes. With the movable chicken tractor, there is little opportunity for rodents to establish themselves.

Mobile coops are usually small enough to be moved by one or two people. This is most important, because if it is not easy to move you will keep putting off the job, thereby defeating the

Continued on page 42

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# POULTRY

From page 41

purpose.

There is a huge variety of designs available, of both ready-made coops and DIY projects.

Some smallholders make their coops by recycling items that they have on the plot, from the frame of an old swing seat, to pallets or old trampolines, to the grass catcher box from a mower as the nesting box.

There are many plans available free of charge on the internet, although not all of them are detailed enough. Some tractors are round and domed, some are rectangular with A-frame sides or perpendicular sides. If you intend planting on the patches that the chickens have cleared, the shape of the bed that you want will influence your choice of coop shape. Round beds of course

lend themselves to mandala planting and intercropping. Some are big enough for a few chickens, others can house many more. If you want a coop that one or two people can pick up and carry easily, it should cover an area of no more than ten square meters. Some designs have a set of wheels on one end and a pair of handles on the others, so you can wheel it around like a barrow. Others need to be towed by a bakkie or tractor.

The permaculturists tell us that a flock of twelve is the ideal size. Up to 20, the birds can recognise all the members of the flock and can establish a pecking order. If you want to keep more than 20 chickens it will be more practical to have more than one chicken tractor. In this way you can separate warring cocks as well.



Small A-frame coops from Budgies to Bantams of Erasmia.

If you are making your own coop, choose a design that uses light materials, such as PVC piping, to enable ease of mobility.

Ready-made chicken tractors range from very modest to "Nkandla" to fanciful gypsy-styled caravans, and come at a great range in price. Poultry dealer Budgies to Bantams of Erasmia stocks a wide range of mobile coops, from basic frame-and-wire mesh in various sizes to more fancy and imaginative designs. They can also be used to house a clutch of rabbits.

*It's*  
**Sheep Shearing Season!**  
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**Solank voorraad hou!**

# How to make sauerkraut (it's easy!)

**Y**ou can boil it, you can fry it and you can eat it raw as coleslaw but one of the most delicious ways of preparing the humble cabbage is to turn it into the German delicacy, sauerkraut. And, once you've tasted home-made sauerkraut there is no way you'll want to eat the slimy sour stuff one buys in a tin. Plus, turning you cabbage

into sauerkraut is one way of preserving an otherwise unwieldy quantity of vegetable for use over a period of time, which is a godsend if you grow a big head of cabbage. Even though it might on first tasting appear to be pickled, it should be noted that sauerkraut, correctly made, is fermented cabbage, not pickled.

And to make it is simplicity itself. Cut a large head of cabbage in half after having discarded the dirty outer leaves. Shred it finely into a large mixing bowl. Add half a table spoon of salt. Don't be tempted to add more or the final product will be too salty. Using your fingers and hands, scrunch up the cabbage and salt repeatedly for a good five

minutes. As you work you will observe a surprising amount of cabbage juice in the bottom of the bowl. Keep scrunching till the cabbage appears wilted, and has reduced in volume. Do the same with the other half. Mix both halves together, scrunching a bit more to do so.

Continued on page 45



Left: Scrunch up finely shredded raw cabbage till in turns limp and golden. Right: Cabbage releases a surprising amount of moisture.

## Fire beater

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## IN THE WORKSHOP

# How to sharpen your slasher's blades for winter

The time is fast approaching for grass cutting and baling so now is a good time to ensure your slasher is ready for the task.

In particular this means ensuring that the blades are sharpened ~ and balanced ~ as there is nothing that will wear the machine's bearings

and shake it to pieces than the vibration from a set of unbalanced blades.

Although it is possible to partially sharpen the blades in situ, working under a raised slasher is dangerous and will only enable you to do half a job by dressing the underside of the blade. And you won't be able to balance them.

Rather, therefore, remove the blades and do the job in your workshop.

Start by examining and comparing the blades visually, looking out for cracks and chips, and checking the hole of the fastening bolt for wear. To be in balance the blades need to weigh the same, so place them individually on a

kitchen scale. Start by sharpening the lightest of the blades completely. Once this is done to your satisfaction you will need to grind down the other blade, or blades, until they are equal to the lightest one.

Grind the cutting edge top and bottom into an acutely angled V.

## IN THE KITCHEN

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Pack the cabbage into a large Consol jar and pour over the cabbage juice. You will need to leave a bit of head-space in the jar. Push the cabbage down into the juice as hard as you can and, if you can, place a small sealed water-filled jar or similar weight atop the cabbage to hold it under the fluid.

If you are worried that there isn't enough juice, add a bit

of brine to cover the cabbage.

Close the jar and set aside for ten to 14 days in a cool spot to ferment.

Gradually the cabbage will lose its green colour and turn yellow. At this stage periodically open the jar and taste the cabbage. A classic pong of rotting cabbage may assail your nostrils as you do so. This is normal.

Start to eat when you achieve

a taste that is pleasing to you, storing the jar in the fridge to slow down and stop the fermentation process.

During fermentation you may notice a bit of foam appearing on the surface in the jar. This is normal. Simply skim off and carry on. Likewise, if mould should develop on any cabbage that is not submerged, simply scoop it off and carry on.



Pack the sauerkraut into a jar with the juice

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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@diamondxranch.co.za, www.diamondx.co.za., R500 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.

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.

## 2018

### March

- 1: Agbiz Information Session, Pretoria. Email communication@agbiz.co.za
- 2: Full Moon
- 5-7: Cattle Artificial Insemination Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985
- 5-9: Hydroponics & Marketing Course, ARC Vegetable & Ornamental Plants Institute, Roodeplaat. R4 200 per person. Contact Lerato Sebego 012 808-8000
- 6-9: Introduction to Pig Production Course, ARC Irene. R2 900 per person. Contact Mpho Makhanya 012 672-9153
- 7-8: Undercover Farming Expo, CSIR, Pretoria. Email suzanne@pop.co.za
- 8: Cattle Pregnancy Awareness Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985
- 9: Calf Rearing Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985
- 9: Gauteng Rabbit Breeders Association Championship Show judging day, Walkerville Showgrounds
- 10: 10th Overvaal Dexter Club Annual Auction, 11h00, Willem Prinsloo Agricultural Museum, R101, Rayton district. Male and female cattle as well as weaners on auction. Auctioneer: BKB van Wyk, call Carel Wessels 082 826-8400
- 10-11: 56th Walkerville Agricultural Show,

Walkerville Showgrounds. Traditional agricultural show with crafts, livestock, entertainment, pony rides, a beer garden and food court, a chilli eating competition and a giant pumpkin growers competition. Entrance R50 per car. Call Pauline 072 146-9176

- 12-16: Nursery & Seedling Management Course, ARC Vegetable & Ornamental Plants Institute, Roodeplaat. R3 100 per person. Contact Lerato Sebego 012 808-8000
- 13-15: Cattle Artificial Insemination Course, ARC Irene. R2 500 per person. Contact Mpho Makhanya 012 672-9153
- 17: New Moon
- 17: Onderstepoort Farmers Day. Call Lizemari 072 380-0846
- 21: Human Rights Day
- 26-28: Sheep & Goats Artificial Insemination Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985
- 30: Good Friday
- 31: Full Moon
- 31: Easter Market with Easter Egg Hunt, Bokkie Park, Southvale Road, Parkdene Boksburg. Call Janine or Joan 072 713-3332

### April

- 1: Easter Sunday
- 2: Family Day
- 9-11: Cattle Artificial Insemination Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985
- 12: Cattle Pregnancy Awareness Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985
- 13: Calf Rearing Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985
- 16: New Moon
- 16-20: Open Field Vegetable Production Course, ARC Vegetable & Ornamental Plants Institute, Roodeplaat. R5 200 per person. Contact Lerato Sebego 012 808-8000
- 27: Freedom Day
- 30: Full Moon

### May

- 1: Workers Day
- 7-9: Cattle Artificial Insemination Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985
- 10: Cattle Pregnancy Awareness Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services,



- Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985
- 11: Calf Rearing Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985
- 14-16: Sheep & Goats Artificial Insemination Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985
- 14-18: Soil Fertilization & Irrigation Course, ARC Vegetable & Ornamental Plants Institute, Roodeplaat. R3 200 per person. Contact Lerato Sebego 012 808-8000
- 15: New Moon
- 15-18: Nampo Harvest Day Show, Nampo Park, between Klerksdorp and Bothaville
- 28-29: Cattle Stockman's & Animal Husbandry Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985
- 29: Full Moon
- 30-31: Cattle Nutrition Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

### June

- 11-15: Harvesting & Marketing Vegetables Course, ARC Vegetable & Ornamental Plants Institute, Roodeplaat. R3 200 per person. Contact Lerato Sebego 012 808-8000
- 13: New Moon
- 16: Youth Day
- 25-27: Cattle Artificial Insemination Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985
- 28: Full Moon
- 28: Cattle Pregnancy Awareness Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985
- 29: Calf Rearing Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

### July

- 13: New Moon
- 23-25: Cattle Artificial Insemination Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985
- 26: Cattle Pregnancy Awareness Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

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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 [editor@gautengsmallholder.com](mailto:editor@gautengsmallholder.com)

DAY	WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	WHO TO CONTACT	WHAT TO EXPECT
<b>Thursday</b>					
Every Thursday	Bryanston Organic & Natural Market	09:00 to 15:00	Culross Road (off Main Road), Bryanston.	Konrad or Glenda 011 706-3671 or <a href="mailto:glenda@bryanstonorganicmarket.co.za">glenda@bryanstonorganicmarket.co.za</a>	Quality hand crafted goods, unique art and fresh organic and naturally grown produce
<b>Friday</b>					
1st Friday	The Shed Night Market	18:00 to 22:00	109 Malcolm Road, Randvaal	016 365 8034	Food & craft market.
Last Friday	Walkerville Farmers Market	18:00 to 22:00	R112 Main Road, Walkerville	079 076-7680 <a href="mailto:info@wfmkt.co.za">info@wfmkt.co.za</a>	Fresh produce, arts & crafts, food court and kids play area
<b>Saturday</b>					
Every Saturday	The Red Windmill Village Market	09:00 - 15:00	104 Main Road, Walkerville	082 627 3134 or 072 637 9355 Stalls: 082 641 8982	Fresh produce, Food stalls, Coffee shop, Plants, Arts & Crafts, Books, etc.
Every Saturday	Tuinhekkie Farmers Market	08:00 - 14:00	cor Lazar Ave & Merwe Road Bootha Plots, Randfontein	Amanda Hefer 073 565-8905	Handmade products, numerous food stalls, flowers live entertainment most Saturdays, farmyard for the kids
Every Saturday	Verster Park Tuin Mark	09:00 - 15:00	Plot 21, Lang St, Verster Park Bronkhorstspuit	Maggie van Rheede 061 887-4149	Hand crafted goods, art, naturally-grown produce Community market to promote local business
Every Saturday	Wholefood Country Market	09:00 - 14:00	Sawasdee Exotic Nursery, cor Main & Zinnia Roads, Kyalami	Robyn 083 311-4768 <a href="mailto:wholefoodmarket@gmail.com">wholefoodmarket@gmail.com</a>	Variety of organic & homemade foods
Every Saturday	Waterfall Estate Farmers Market	09:00 - 15:00	Waterfall Estate, Waterfall Corner Kyalami	Robyn 083 311-4768	Fresh produce, pickles, preserves and home industry and craft, food etc. Enquire about stall prices
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 <a href="mailto:blinsga@lantic.net">blinsga@lantic.net</a>	Fresh produce and traditional bazaar treats like jaffles, kaifings 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 <a href="mailto:glenda@bryanstonorganicmarket.co.za">glenda@bryanstonorganicmarket.co.za</a>	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 <a href="http://www.hazelfoodmarket.co.za">www.hazelfoodmarket.co.za</a>	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 <a href="mailto:info@wfmkt.co.za">info@wfmkt.co.za</a>	Fresh produce, arts & crafts, food court and kids play area
Every Saturday	Walkerville Country Market	09:00 to 15:00	Walkerville Showgrounds on the R82	Noorunisha 074 141-8485 <a href="mailto:market@walkervillesa.co.za">market@walkervillesa.co.za</a>	Fresh produce, crafter's market, food court, craft ber.. Kid's play area and pet friendly
Every Saturday	Bosheuvel Fresh Produce	10:00 to 19:00	54 Glory Road, Muldersdrift	Mitich 082 553-2846	Meats and vegetables, delicacies, honey, cheese, brewery, crafter's market and children's entertainment.
Every Saturday	The Fresh Produce Co-op Weekly Farmers Market	07:00 to 11:00	49 Olifantsfontein rd, Glen Austin	Stall inquiries: <a href="mailto:fpcstalls@gmail.com">fpcstalls@gmail.com</a> Co-op: <a href="mailto:info.freshhproducecoop@gmail.com">info.freshhproducecoop@gmail.com</a>	Fresh produce, pickles, preserves and home industry and craft, food etc.
1st Saturday	Jozi Real Food VEGAN Market	09:00 to 15:00	Pirates Sports Club, Braeside Avenue, Greenside	083 532 2992 <a href="mailto:whitespace@mweb.co.za">whitespace@mweb.co.za</a>	Arts & crafts, live music, vegan cuisine, organic vegetables & coffee
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 <a href="mailto:info@victuschristi.org.za">info@victuschristi.org.za</a>	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 <a href="mailto:wardek@iafrica.com">wardek@iafrica.com</a>	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 <a href="mailto:realfood4realpeople@gmail.com">realfood4realpeople@gmail.com</a>	Local fresh produce direct to the public
Last Saturday	Windpomp Market	08:00 to 14:00	Broodblik & Koffiepit on the R51 between Petit & Bapsfontein	<a href="mailto:adelekoffiepit@gmail.com">adelekoffiepit@gmail.com</a> 083 445-1608	Homemade crafts & food stalls bakery & coffee shop and entertainment
<b>Sunday</b>					
Every Sunday	The Red Windmill Village Market	09:00 - 15:00	104 Main Road, Walkerville	082 627 3134 or 072 637 9355 Stalls: 082 641 8982	Fresh produce, Food stalls, Coffee shop, Plants, Arts & Crafts, Books, etc.
Every Sunday	Fourways Farmers Market	10:00 to 15:00	Corner Montecasino Boulevard and William Nicol Drive, Fourways	011 465 0827 <a href="http://www.ffmarket.co.za">www.ffmarket.co.za</a>	Get your groceries...In the garden!
Last Sunday	Aloe Valley Food, Arts & Craft Market	10:00 to 14:00	48, R511 Doornrandjies	012 669-3043 <a href="mailto:info@serendipitycafe.co.za">info@serendipitycafe.co.za</a> <a href="http://www.serendipitycafe.co.za">www.serendipitycafe.co.za</a>	Community market to promote local business

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# Vegetarianism & fox hunting

I am omnivorous. With the rare exception of the odd species, and the more obscure parts of some animals, I will eat just about anything ~ fish, fowl or flesh. Coupled, of course, with healthy portions of fruit, vegetables and grains.

So you might expect that this column would be a rant of the "I don't understand why they do it" type against vegans and vegetarians (not that I'm entirely clear as to the difference between the two).

But it's not. If eating nothing but fruit and veg revs your engine, go for it.

Rather, I came across a factoid in the business press recently that I think warrants some interest.

It is expected that the UK's leading developer and manufacturer of non-meat foods, a company named Quorn from North Yorkshire, will shortly become a billion-pound-a-year corporation. That puts it in the big league of British businesses and makes it a significant player in the international food manufacturing sector.

And the birth and growth of Quorn is a remarkable story. The company started out developing a non-meat protein that can be made into many different edible products.

So as not to bamboozle its market, it was originally put out that Quorn products were made of reconstituted mushroom flesh. Except that's not quite right. Rather, the basis of Quorn products is a fungus found in soil which, being a fungus is related to mushrooms, but which in no way resembles what we put on our braais, fry up for breakfast or make soup from.

The soil fungus is cultivated into a usable mass of what is called mycoprotein in huge vats of a chemical soup growing medium. Once it has grown sufficiently it is separated from the growing medium and processed into a wide range of dishes by the addition of chemical colourants, flavourants and preservatives.

And the range of dishes is impressive, from sausages, to schnitzels, to chicken breasts, to mince, and to ready-made meals such as lasagna and cottage pie. There is even a mock bacon, though in truth the slices of the fake bacon resemble, in look, taste and smell, the inner sole of a child's ballet pump rather than a slice of smoked pig meat.

So you may be forgiven for the misguided belief that vegetarianism is about eating healthy fresh fruit and vegetables. The diet, it seems, includes a careful blend of chemicals and soil fungus and Quorn's products (which are by no means cheap) find a

ready market because they are convenient and easy to cook and serve rather than delicious and nutritious.

But there's something about the name of this remarkable business that is worth exploring. Is Quorn a play on words, for example "queer corn"? Probably not, now that we know that the provenance of its products is not corn but fungus.

Rather, the name is the same as one of England's oldest and most famous fox hunts, the Quorn Hunt, which has been keeping the Leicestershire countryside free of foxes since 1696.

Of course, given that fox hunting is a pretty gruesome affair, especially for the fox, it is fair to say that it would seem that the Quorn Hunt is an unlikely bedfellow for a company manufacturing vegetarian food.

So why on earth would a vegetarian food manufacturer choose such a name? I can only assume that those who named the business know considerably more about developing dishes out of soil fungi than they do about horsemanship.

And it's not as if the Quorn Hunt is unknown. Given its pedigree it is hardly made up of a bunch of yokels trotting about on flea-bitten nags with a rag-tag bunch of hounds chewing up the local wildlife. Rather, a meet of the Quorn is a grand affair and an invitation to a Quorn meet is a prize coveted by any horseman. Plus, the hunt itself has faced its full measure of attack and opprobrium from the anti-hunt brigade, that amorphous mass of pasty-faced proletariats who get in the way of those trying to enjoy their time-honoured country pursuit by swearing, throwing things and trying to make riders fall off.

As a result of their activities and namby-pamby politicians, fox hunting has been outlawed in Britain, as a result of which foxes are making a come-back and it's only a matter of time before a toddler playing in a sandpit has its face chewed off. And that'll give the Quorn munchers something to think about.



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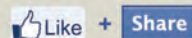


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