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**Circulation**

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**FRONT COVER**

Dagga, aka cannabis, aka marijuana, is enjoying renewed interest. Read about it in this edition.

# COMMENT, by Pete Bower Your life's gonna change



It's one thing when politicians make speeches about climate change, how dire the situation is, and go on to exhort "the people" to do something about it by, for example, stopping littering, using water sparingly, switching off the lights, being kind to animals and all the other guff that politicians habitually spout forth. After all, most sentient adults take what politicians say with a pinch of salt: it's a lot of hot air, gushing forth from the mouths of hotheads who often are pursuing an agenda different from what their platitudes and exhortations would suggest. Nobody, after all, trusts a politician much.

But it's quite another matter when a group of sober-minded scientists apply their not-inconsiderable knowledge and powers of logical deduction to an issue, and then write a serious report, with some detailed scenario planning, the probable outcomes of which are specific, localised, quantified ~ and deeply alarming.

Well, that's just what happened recently when the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) published its rather lengthily-titled "*Global Warming of 1.5 °C ~ an IPCC special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty.*" You can access the report at <http://www.ipcc.ch/report/sr15/>.

And it gets specific. For example, in the style of Clem Sunter's "High Road/Low Road" scenario forecasting of the 1980s, the report, among other things, paints a picture of what will happen in close-by Botswana and Namibia if the average temperature were to increase by 2°C or more, specifically its effect on crop and animal production, rainfall, lifestyle etc.

It's not good reading, not only because these deeply disruptive outcomes are likely in our lifetimes, not on some hypothetical timescale way in the future. You, if you're under 90, will be affected. As will, most certainly, your children and grandchildren. And, yes, it's quite possible that the next major world conflict will be fought over access to nothing more precious than water. Forget about Isis, Muslim fundamentalism, fascism, communism, capitalism, racism and all the other "-isms". When the taps run dry... dan kom daar kak.

And, make no mistake, climate change or not, humankind is facing some major changes. In how we live, work and play, and what we eat and drink. Already, for example, UK brewers are predicting a shortage of beer, because a long, dry summer has adversely affected barley and hop crops.

Or, as temperatures rise to intolerably hot daytime levels, expect working hours to change. The workday will start earlier, and workers will sleep during the hottest midday hours a la the Mediterraneans, and then return at, say 4pm, to work through the evening until 10 or 11pm.

What we eat will change. The heavy "water footprint" (see elsewhere in this edition) of foodstuffs such as red meat will give governments an ideal opportunity to raise a "sin tax" on its consumption, in much the same way as we now pay a carbon tax when we buy a car.

Protein made from insects and algae (already being mooted as a possible foodstuff) will become commonplace in our diets, in much the same way that mushroom "flesh" is being used to manufacture vegetarian alternatives to meat.

To compensate for possible commercial crop failures schools will need to start teaching courses in food production and horticulture alongside the "three Rs", computer science, history, etc, so that individuals can become self-sufficient. Alternative energy studies might become another formalised subject in the school curriculum.

The problem with all of this is that the problem is huge. It's global, and no one individual ~ or politician ~ is going to stop, or even slow climate change. And certainly not if idiots like Donald Trump are able to pull the most profligate nation on the planet out of international climate accords.

But, if we all did our little bit? If we all embraced the notion that we are not the owners of our little patches of Highveld, but merely the current custodians for the next generation? If we all, at home, work and leisure consciously tried to live with the conservation of the planet and its resources in mind? Small starts such as these, collectively, would make a difference.

How, after all, does one eat an elephant? One bite at a time. We all now need to take a little bite. Because if we don't there'll be no elephant left to eat.

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## Land management the key to bankrupt bush

**S**ir ~ I read the article on Bankrupt bush (*Smallholder* September 2018) and must say I was very disappointed to see that we as humanity still insist on continuing with our reductionist methods of trying to tackle problems. The article speaks of the issue and possible methods and meetings, talk shops and chemical research, as avenues of finding a solution. All a

waste of time and money. Let's analyse the problem, namely, the gradual encroachment of a supposedly undesirable plant. That, landowners, is a symptom, a message telling you your land management system is failing you.

The removal of the plant is not a solution to the cause of the problem, because the physical and financial expense will not rectify the cause and the Bankrupt bush will return. You as the landowner are responsible for the plants' explosion, as your land /veld

management is unwittingly providing conditions encouraging the plant by supplying it with ideal growing conditions. You are financially and morally responsible to leave your land in better condition for the next generation, when

Continued on page 7

## Poisonous snakes: Another opinion

**S**ir ~ It was great to see an article about snakes in the October *Smallholder*.

However there are a few inaccuracies in the article that

you should be aware of. You wrote: "Immediately apply a crepe bandage firmly around the wound, as if for a muscle sprain. This will reduce the amount of venom

entering the bloodstream but should not cut off circulation."

It's never advisable to apply a bandage to an unidentified

Continued on page 7

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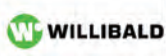
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# BANKRUPT BUSH

From page 5

you depart. You need to look at the whole picture, not just the individual problem or symptom.

I have taken over a property that had a quantity of Bankrupt Bush, I have never viewed it as a problem, as to me bare ground between plants and dead moribund standing grass are a far more serious symptom, that the management of the property, before my arrival, was deficient. I am very happy to have any growing and vibrant root system to work with, compared to the two

symptoms mentioned above. Using holistic management I identified the two best tools available to me to tackle the problem, namely, livestock and electric fencing.

By using the limited funds available (to me) to purchase these two tools and high stocking rates on planned daily moves, I have steadily reduced the bare areas and increased the litter cover, making an improved seedbed and rain infiltration system on the property.

My investment in fencing is still there and my livestock

Continued on page 8

# SNAKES

From page 5

snake bite. Bites from snakes with predominantly Cytotoxic venom cause serious swelling, and you don't want to restrict the venom in one area by applying a bandage. If someone is bitten by a Puff Adder, call for medical help immediately. You wrote "Apply a bandage starting at the bite site and working up the limb." Do not apply a tight bandage or tourniquet. Then you wrote "A lightly applied bandage may help stop the spread of the poison. Keep the limb lower than the victim's heart." Do not remove the bandage until the anti-venom has started to

take effect.

Again, as per above, bandages should never be applied to bites from snakes with a predominantly cytotoxic venom. A lightly applied bandage will give absolutely no benefit, and will not slow the spread of the venom. Also, it's advisable to slightly elevate the limb above the heart, as keeping below the heart is extremely painful. And lastly, and this is mainly from those of us who give snake awareness, first aid for snakebite and venomous snake handling training, and have seen the consequence of using bags to secure snakes - it's really not advisable for the general public.

Snakes easily bite through bags, and even knowing this, many trained snake removers still get bitten while trying to put snakes in bags or transporting snakes in bags.

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<b>Electric push button ignition for hobs</b> <b>Oven lamp</b> <b>Safety system for hob burners</b> <b>Turbo Fan</b> <b>Chicken Turnspit</b> <b>Splash lid</b> <b>Adjustable legs</b> <b>Cast iron hob and grid</b>	<b>Triangular Rain Gauge</b>  <b>Only R30.50</b>	<b>Total Portable stove</b>  <b>Was R499.00</b> <b>Now R250.00</b>
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## MAILBAG



**EQUESTRIAN BURSARY:** Tyla Neppen, a pupil at Alberton High School has been awarded a bursary to further her equestrian skills through the IEA Elite together with ArkStar Kidz Club, a non-profit organisation aimed at "facilitating the empowerment of talented equestrian individuals within a defined continuum of interventions including bursaries." The one year bursary comprises training for the first four modules of the EQASA exams. Pictured at the announcement of the bursary are Taniel Akner of IEA-Elite, and Tyla Neppen. For more information visit [www.iea-elite.co.za](http://www.iea-elite.co.za) or contact Taniel Arkner 082 449-6663 or [director@iea-elite.co.za](mailto:director@iea-elite.co.za)

## BANKRUPT BUSH

From page 7  
have returned an income and covered the expenses of labour etc.  
My grass cover has improved so much I have had to borrow my neighbour's cattle to achieve the level of soil and vegetation agitation I need to achieve. I am not charging him grazing fees, I am only too happy to have his tool to use in my veld management.  
The Bankrupt Bush quantity has reduced, but quite honestly I do not even consider it in my programme planning.  
Government should be

providing the training and possibly assist with the financing or encouraging financing models, within commercial banking sectors, which make the livestock the security for the loan in their own right.  
This would go a long way to providing land owners with the cheapest tools to provide an income and operate a sustainable land management system, that goes a long way to reversing the steady desertification happening in the brittle climate areas of this world.

**Tim Savory**  
Hills & Dales

## Litter gets to him

**S**ir ~ Is it too late to say thank you for the Editor's Comment on recycling of waste (August 2018)? I always think of the empty space between Fort Beaufort and the next town before Somerset East when I see filth collecting anywhere in our country, eg when entering Park Station from Braamfontein, and other filth-infested places in our towns and countryside. I am glad to see and read Pete Bower's comment. He reminds me of Symond Fiske of the Farmer's Weekly. I hope not only Gauteng readers have read his comment. I always take

three *Gauteng Smallholders* for friends outside Gauteng when taking mine at Hi Performance Feeds in Meyerton.

Thank you, Pete, not only for this comment but for others in your (our) monthly *Smallholder* magazine.

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## NEWS

# Schoolkids clean Walkerville farms

St David Marist School from Inanda once again chose Walkerville this year as the area to carry out the pupils' Community Hours projects.

This year they requested that an eco project be included, so a combined project was planned with the Drumblade Conservancy and the Gauteng Conservancy Association.

The use of snares and traps is increasing in the area, placing small wildlife and domesticated animals in peril.

Four farms were approached to host a different group of scholars each day and the plan was to search the borders and fence lines for

snares and traps.

The first day at Panorama Farm was more successful than anticipated, as the youngsters recovered a firearm that had been stolen in a burglary eight months ago.

Meals on Wheels Walkerville provided the pupils with lunch packs, and Ivan Parkes from the Gauteng Conservancy Association gave the participants an informative talk.



Above: A pupil proudly shows a wire snare he has found. Other finds included a firearm. Above right: Ivan Parkes (right) gave a talk which included a display of snares and other items commonly found in the veld.



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# Climate change? Here's proof...

Quite apart from the question of whether the rainfall each season is less or more than the previous year ~ and predictions for this year are that it will probably be drier than average in Gauteng ~ there's a more subtle trend in rainfall figures in the region that will possibly have a profound effect on what gardeners and farmers can grow successfully in coming years. And that's that the rainy

## Gauteng's rainy season is starting later each year ... with implications for farmers and gardeners

season is starting later each year. Or, put another way, total rainfall being measured on the highveld in the first couple of months of the rainy season is diminishing over time.

The trend was first mooted by agri-economist Wandile Sihlobo who pointed out some months ago that there was anecdotal evidence to suggest that this was so. His statement was then analysed by Benoni blogger John Livesey (you can read his blog at <https://livewiresa.wordpress.com/>) who carried out some sophisticated mathematics on his own rainfall data.

And checking on the rainfall

figures collected by the Smallholder since 2000 for the first two months of the rainy season (September and October) reveal a steady downward trend in total

rainfall over the period as measured in Bredell, despite some fairly large cyclical variations measured year on year (see graph overleaf). Old-time Afrikaans farmers, of course, held the view that it always rained on Paul Kruger's birthday, 10 October, which therefore heralded the start of

Continued on page 15

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From page 15

the mealie growing season because the rains on that day would ensure sufficient moisture in the soil to guarantee a good germination.

Whether Paul Kruger's birthday remains a good benchmark date is open to question ~ this year the first good rains came a few days later, for example ~ but "one good rain does not a summer make", (to bastardise the saying about swallows) and a good soaking on Oom Paul's birthday needs to be followed up by regular widespread showers to ensure a good mealie crop, and plentiful harvests of other summer crops. And that appears to be changing.

Thus, the pattern emerging appears to be one of a good soaking, followed by longer periods of dry weather before the next decent rainy period. This "feast and famine" cycle (with the dry spells in between rainy days characterised by hotter than average temperatures) is going to play havoc with crop yields and harvest predictions.

And while it does not mean no rain falls in the early months of the season, the trend is nevertheless towards a drier two or three months on average.

Of course, the fact of a drier start to the rainy season does not necessarily mean that the

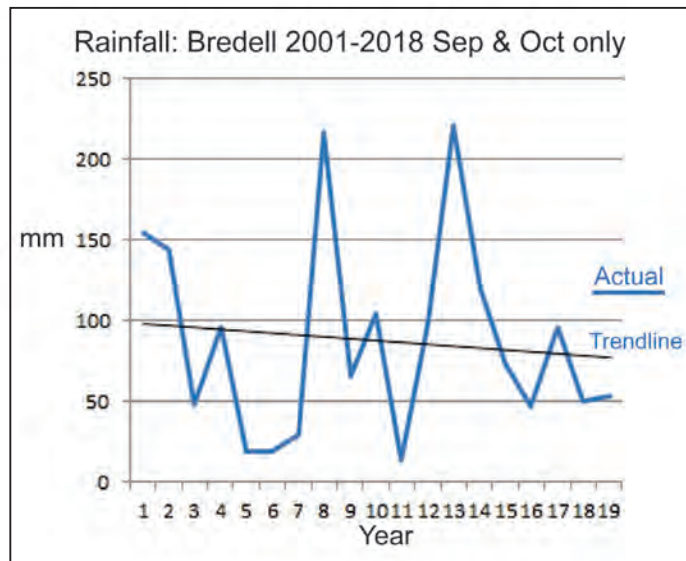
season will extend further at the end and, even if it did the shorter days of autumn and onset of frosty nights effectively curtails the growing season anyway.

This means that, effectively, the summer growing season on the Highveld is becoming shorter, potentially by two months. This will be especially significant for the cultivation of dryland crops such as maize, but also for the cultivation of crops that take a long time to mature, such as onions.

In the case of maize, much has been done in the field of genetic modification to produce strains that grow more vigorously than

traditional strains, and also which require less moisture to reach maturity and South African maize farmers have taken to these new varieties

with enthusiasm: fully 80% of South Africa's commercial maize harvest is from genetically modified plants.



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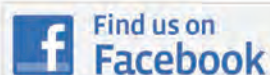
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In South Africa, water is a scarce commodity (and likely to become scarcer). With an average annual rainfall of approximately 464 mm (about 700mm in Gauteng) South Africa compares to a world average of 860mm, according to the Wildlife & Environment Society of SA (Wessa).

Helping South Africans to think about how they can save water in their daily activities is a useful new concept. Most of us are familiar with the concept of a carbon footprint. But have you thought about your water footprint?

Your water footprint is the total amount of water that you use in your daily life. It is the "direct" water use in your home plus the "hidden" water used to produce your goods and services.

According to the Water Footprint Network, "Everything we use, wear, buy, sell and eat takes water to make." Of all the water on the planet, including that in the oceans and frozen into the polar icecaps, less than 1% is available for sustaining people and life on land.

It also doesn't help that we treat our water so carelessly, leading to alarming amounts of pollution (as anybody who has read recent reports on the state of our rivers, particularly the Vaal, will attest).

The water footprint measures

### Carbon footprint ... food miles ... now you can add your water footprint to your feelings of guilt for your environmental wastefulness

the amount of water used to produce each of the goods and services we use. It can be measured for a single process, such as growing rice, for a product, such as a pair of jeans, for the fuel we put in

our car, or for an entire multinational company.

The water footprint is thus a measure of humanity's appropriation of fresh water in volumes of water consumed and/or polluted.

According to the Network, there are three water footprints:

☐ Green water footprint is water from precipitation that is stored in the root zone of the soil and evaporated, transpired or incorporated by plants. It is particularly relevant for

Continued on page 19



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**6HP Recoil** R5 195

**10HP** R7 360

\*Electric/Recoil Start

**12HP** R8 575

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# WATER

From page 17

horticultural and forestry products.

Blue water footprint is water that has been sourced from surface or groundwater resources and is either evaporated, incorporated into a product or taken from one body of water and returned to another, or returned at a different time. Irrigated agriculture, industry and domestic water use can each have a blue water footprint.

Grey water footprint is the amount of fresh water required to assimilate pollutants to meet specific water quality standards. The grey water footprint considers point-source pollution discharged to a freshwater resource directly through a pipe or indirectly through runoff or leaching from the soil, impervious surfaces, or other diffuse sources.

Users can reduce their direct water footprint in their home by installing water saving toilets, applying a water-saving showerhead, closing the tap during teeth brushing, using less water in the garden and by not disposing of medicines, paints or other pollutants down the sink. But there is more to your water footprint than that. For example, how much water is used to make a pair of jeans? According to Stephen Leahy's book *Your Water Footprint* (Firefly Books Ltd), it takes

7 600 litres of water to make your favourite pair of jeans. That includes growing the cotton and manufacturing the garment, but it doesn't include the water that

you'll use to wash your jeans over time. Leahy says that the average American's daily water footprint is 8 000 litres. "Since 1 litre weighs 1 kg, that's the weight of four cars you have to haul if you were to get all that water from a well," he writes.

Food production places just as much pressure on this valuable resource. The food we eat makes up more

than 2/3 of our total water footprint, mostly because of all the "virtual water" needed to produce the food.

Studies done by the Dept of

Continued on page 21

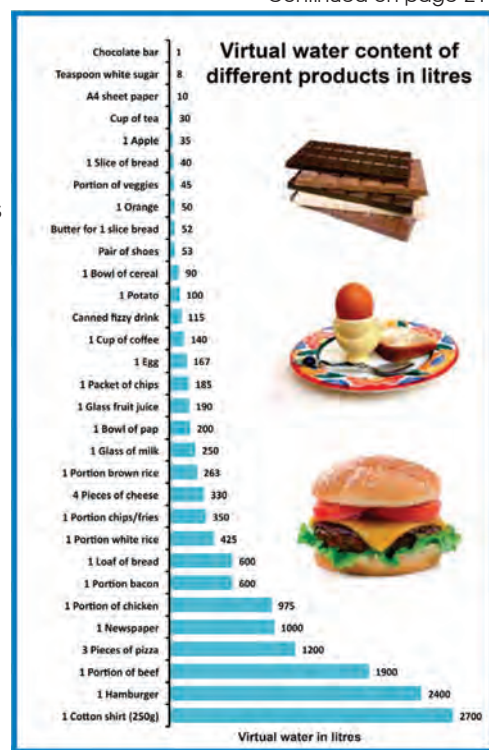
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From page 19

Water Affairs show that the vast majority of water in South Africa is used in agriculture, with over 60% of all available water going into the sector for irrigation.

"Virtual water" refers to the amount of "hidden" water used to produce a product (eg, a chocolate bar) or a service from start to finish. According to Wessa a portion of chicken takes 975 litres of water, while one portion of beef uses 1 900 litres.

Leahy suggests: "If a family of four served chicken instead of beef they'd reduce their water use by an astonishing 900 000 litres a year. That's enough to fill an Olympic size pool to a depth of two feet. If this same family of opted for Meatless Mondays, they'd save another 400 000 litres. Now they could fill that pool halfway."

Smallholders growing vegetables can also be aware of water wise choices. Adding compost to the soil in a vegetable garden provides nutrients to plants and increases the water holding capacity of the soil. Adding water retention granules such as vermiculite or perlite to the soil to increase its water holding capacity still further. Mulching around plants, shrubs fruit trees conserves

soil moisture by keeping the soil cool and preventing evaporation.

Grouping plants with similar water requirements together creates different hydro zones, and allows one to irrigate each hydro zone accordingly. Some gardeners plant vegetables in among their flowers, taking advantage of the watering regime in the flower garden.

When watering:

☐ Avoid applying water faster

than the soil can absorb it;  
☐ Water deeply but less frequently. Deep soakings encourage roots to grow deeper and utilise moisture deep in the ground, which enables plants to thrive between watering;

☐ Water according to soil type;

☐ Water at the right time of the day;

☐ Avoid watering the garden on windy and hot days, as the evaporation rate is higher;

☐ Consider using drip irrigation throughout the garden, so that the water goes precisely where it is needed. (We will examine the question of the hows, whys and wherefores of drip irrigation in greater detail in a future edition ~ Editor)

For more information go to <http://waterfootprint.org/en/>

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Summer crops can also be planted earlier to extend their growing season



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### LAYERS

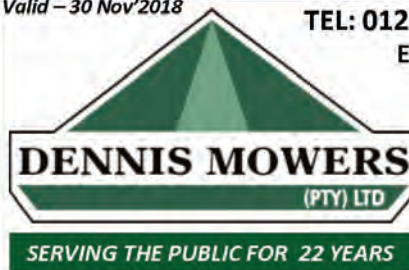
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## Bad water plants: It's not only hyacinth

The problem of invasive water hyacinth in Gauteng's waterways is well-known, but environmental scientists are also concerned about the rise of other

invasive aquatic plants. Aquatic plants are plants that have adapted to living in water. They are also referred to as hydrophytes. These plants require special



Invasive water poppy

adaptations for living submerged in water, or on the water's surface. Aquatic plants can only grow in water or in soil that is permanently saturated with water.

The Yellow water lily (*Nymphaea Mexicana*) is an aquatic plant with bright yellow flowers. Leaf blades and flowers appear above the water level, while the leaves with wavy margins spread on the water surface. The yellow flowers open during the day and close at night. It grows in marshes and readily invades

canals and other shallow waterways, and is now regarded as the most invasive of the introduced water lilies in South Africa.

These lilies can form spreading colonies along riverbanks and other water bodies to a depth of about 3 m. Unlike the indigenous *Nymphaea* species, they are not

adversely affected by the cold Highveld winters. They have invaded the Vaal River, lakes and dams, including Hartbeespoort Dam.

There are also hybrids, which have paler yellow flowers and which are also invasive.

They invade wetlands where they have become a noxious

Continued on page 26

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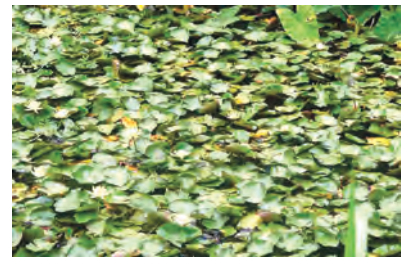
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## WATER

From page 23

weed. They choke out native plants, slow water flow and can also stop all recreational use of the waterway.

Another problem plant is Water poppy (*Hydrocleys nymphoides*). It is a floating aquatic plant with heart-shaped leaves and delicate light-yellow flowers



invader *Nymphaea mexicana*

with three-petals. This tropical American plant can compete with indigenous water lilies

and large infestations can block out sunlight to the detriment of other aquatic organisms.

There are indigenous species of *Nymphaea* which can successfully be used in one's pond. There is *N nouchali*, which is the most widespread species, with flowers opening during the day and usually blue, but also shades of pink, mauve and white. Then there is *Nymphaea lotus*, the white water lily, or white lotus, which has night-blooming white or cream flowers.



Indigenous *Nymphaea nouchali*

## SAFETY

### Mowers & their sharp whirly bits

In the seven years to 2013 an average of 7 307 Americans were injured while mowing their lawns, with nearly 2 000 of them losing a body part in the process.

That's according to a study published in the US journal Public Health Reports, using data gathered from a federal government database of emergency room visits. Most of the damage was to the hands and feet, the study found. Almost half involved lacerations, and about 22% resulted in an amputation. Eye and face injuries accounted for 1% of emergency room visits (these are only lawnmower-related incidents, not those involving chainsaws and brushcutters), and fractures for 22,4%. Nearly 30 people a year suffered burns from lawn mowers serious enough to be

treated in an ER.

About 85% of the injured went home after being treated, while the rest stayed in the hospital or went to another facility ~ a nursing home for rehabilitation, for example, or a short-term hospital.

Children under the age of four were more likely than older people to injure their feet and to suffer an amputation. Based on their own experiences, the authors suggested that these injuries occur when a child approaches a family member who is mowing the lawn, or when the child falls off the lap of a person driving a riding mower.

One of the common injuries occurs when older children (and adults sometimes) stick their hands into a mower, despite the whirring blades, to clear debris.

# IN THE GARDEN

## All hail da holy herb, aka wacky baccy

Public interest in dagga (marijuana) has reached an all-time high following the Constitutional Court ruling that the government must, within 24 months, change the laws surrounding the growing and personal use of marijuana, to the extent that the industrial crops division of the Agricultural Research Council has started a research programme that will focus on optimizing the cultivation of hemp for medicinal purposes. This is due to the presence of

### Hemp, weed, boom, dagga... call it what you like, but here are the basics on marijuana

cannabinoids in the hemp plant. The ARC says the research is conducted in order to determine key factors to optimize the cultivation of local pharmaceutical grade active ingredients. "The research will develop models, standard operating procedures and development of training manuals towards achieving good agricultural practices (GAP) in the cultivation of hemp for medicinal purposes." Hemp and marijuana both belong to the Cannabaceae family which, while not indigenous to southern Africa, all do well here (not for nothing is the plant commonly nicknamed "weed").

Cannabis sativa L is an annual crop mainly grown for industrial use and is one of the oldest plants to be grown for food, oil, textile fibre and medicinal purposes.

Although similar in appearance, the dagga plant may develop more side branches and has a more bushy appearance than hemp. Further, dagga varieties, popularly known as marijuana, contain 5-20% of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the ingredient with

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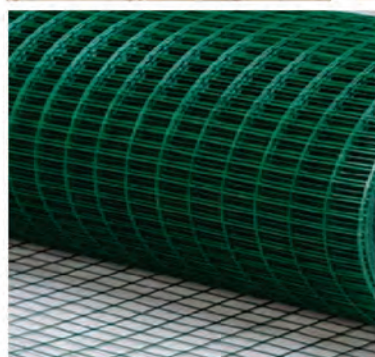
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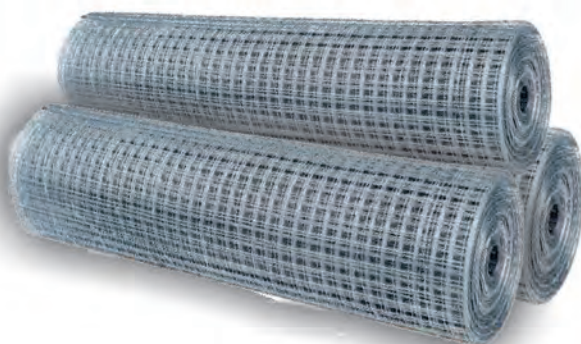
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## IN THE GARDEN



Cannabis plant  
From page 27

psychoactive effects (that gives a user a "high"). In contrast hemp has significantly lower concentrations of THC (less than 1%) and higher concentrations of cannabidiol (CBD). CBD is the ingredient that is prized for medicinal purposes, for pain relief, appetite enhancement and other reasons, and is widely used (albeit often illegally) in the management of chronic pain, to stimulate the appetites of chronically ill patients, as a

skin salve, etc.

Hemp also tends to be more fibrous and contains higher levels of oil.

Because hemp contains very low THC, it is not suitable for use as a recreational drug.

For hemp fibre, it is the stems and branches that are used, while for medicinal and recreational marijuana it is the flower, and specifically the unfertilized female flower, that is used.

As this implies, the plants are gender specific, and the male plant has no prominent flowers, but produces little pollen sacs which, when ripe, burst to release clouds of pollen which will fertilise any female plants in the vicinity. When this happens the female flowers start to grow seed, which ruins the quality of the flower for harvesting purposes.

Thus, a cannabis grower needs to check his plants at an early stage to remove any males as they are worthless unless he is aiming for seed production, and will ruin the quality of his flowers if they mature and their pollen sacs burst.

The flower itself is pretty nondescript looking, but it contains sticky little filaments called trichomes which are covered in a sap, which when young is clear, but which matures to an amber colour with age. The age of the sap affects the kind of "high" the plant will give.

For smoking, when the grower deems the time is right the entire flower and its stem is harvested, "leaves" growing out of the flower are trimmed

Continued on page 31

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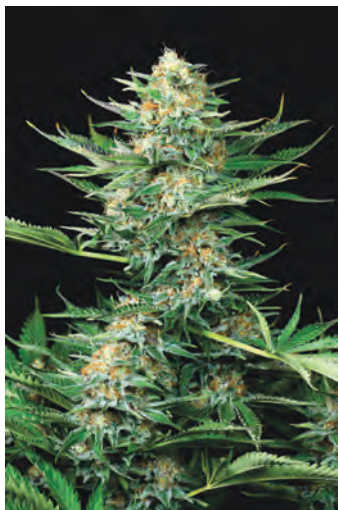
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# IN THE GARDEN

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off and the flower is hung in a cool dry place to dry for a few days. It is ready when the stem breaks cleanly and drily rather than bends. The flower can then be stored in an airtight glass jar for later use. For medicinal purposes the flower is crushed up and steeped in a solvent to dissolve the sap on the trichomes and in the rest of the flower parts. There are various ways of making cannabis oil, (a dark brown or black substance depending on how it is made), which is the most common form of medicinal marijuana, although the oil can also be used to make cookies, edible butter, and skin salves etc. One of the factors which prevent homemade cannabis oil from being legalised is that the strength of the oil can vary from batch to batch, with the result that the user needs to experiment from batch to batch to find the dose that suits best.

Cannabis plants can be grown either indoors or outdoors. Indoors, under grow-lights, their size can be controlled to keep them manageable. Grown in the open they will reach a height of 2m if left uncontrolled.



Cannabis flower

Grown under lights in ideally-controlled conditions (temperatures of 28-32°C) it is possible to harvest three crops annually. In the open the plant behaves like an annual and, on the highveld at least, will only thrive in the warmer summer months.

There are any number of varieties of marijuana for recreational and medicinal use, containing different proportions of THC and CBD, and botanists have also developed strains that are guaranteed to grow as females, thereby avoiding the inefficiency of growing useless male plants in one's crop. Plants grown for hemp fibre are left to get as big as possible.

There is a wide range of uses for hemp. Industrial hemp is used to make over 25 000 consumer products from hemp apparel and accessories to house-wares and hemp seed oil cosmetics.



Trimmed flowers drying

Continued on page 33

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From page 31

Some of the products made from hemp are clothing, shoes, nappies, rope, canvas, cellophane, paints, fuels, chain lubricants, biodegradable plastics, paper, fibre-board, cement blocks, food, cosmetics and soap.

Since around the turn of the 20th Century it has been illegal to handle or cultivate cannabis or hemp in South Africa. Typically there has been a requirement for a permit, obtainable from the Dept of Health under the Medicines Control Council jurisdiction, for cultivation, transportation and use of



Concentrated cannabis oil

hemp. However, the recent Constitutional Court ruling could significantly alter the regulatory requirements for handling hemp.

In order to conduct research and development, the ARC was issued with permits by the Dept of Health as early as 1994 to allow for legal handling, possession, cultivating and harvesting of hemp. Research work on hemp has thus been going on for more than 20 years and this resulted in the successful development of two hemp fibre varieties suited to the South African growing conditions.

These two varieties are in the

## IN THE GARDEN

process of being registered with the Dept of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries.

Hemp production research on agronomics, harvesting and processing has also been done. A production guide was developed and is available from the ARC. From the research conducted, the

results show that hemp fibre production can be cultivated successfully in KwaZulu Natal, the Eastern Cape and Western Cape. The main reason for this confined production is due to long photoperiod ( $\pm 14$  hours daily) requirements of hemp. In South Africa, not enough hemp is produced for the local market due to legislative barriers.

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## — BEEKEEPING

# Beeswax: It's not all about honey

**W**here does beeswax come from? And how is it produced?

Simply, it comes from the bodies of bees.

The bees must consume honey to generate heat as they cluster together and hang in a curtain form to build the wax comb called honeycomb, but used by the bees for a number of tasks apart from storing honey.

The bees join their larger back legs as they hang to form the evenly shaped six-

sided module of exactly equal size of every cell of comb they build.

The wax is secreted in liquid form at a temperature of 38°C from eight cells on the underside of the bees' abdomens. By slightly fanning their wings the liquid wax is cooled and solidifies into minute size flakes about the size of small bread crumbs.

These flakes are then passed around to the builder bees and with their free arm-like legs these bees manipulate the flakes and form the cells.

Continued on page 36

# Protecting pollinators from pesticide

**A**cknowledging the important role of insect pollinators ~ especially bees ~ in the agricultural and horticultural sector, the Dept of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (Daff) has a set of guidelines for the management of the risks of usage of "agricultural remedies" on insect pollinators.

Issued by the registrar of the Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies & Stock Remedies Act Act No 36 of 1947, the guidelines are in line with the provisions of section 3 of the Act. The guidelines look at the role of insect pollinators and threats to their existence, and outlines a risk assess-

ment process to be used when considering all forms of pesticides, including seed treatment dusts, foliar sprays, granules and soil drenches and especially application of pesticides to sites where honey bees are deployed for pollination purposes.

Most importantly, the guidelines consider the importance of integrated pest management. All commercial crops that are routinely treated with pesticides are considered, including maize, fruits and tree nuts, sugar cane, potatoes, wheat, vines, pasture grasses and lucerne, sunflower and canola, ornamentals and vegetables.

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# BEEKEEPING

From page 35

Starting from an anchor point, which in a man-made hive is usually a strip of starter wax affixed to the top of a frame in the hive, they start with the midrib, on to which at opposite sides they build the rows of cells back-to-back to each other. Downwards they proceed to eventually form a comb.

When this first comb is about 80mm long, they start a second comb on the other side of this first one, exactly 32mm apart center-to-center, first with the starter midrib and then the superstructure

and so on and on until they have formed six or eight combs that are exactly 23mm wide.

The six-sided cells fit and interlock in such a way to form an overall strong structure or storage scaffold.

The material weight of a structure of wax comb measuring 100mm x 100mm would be about 25grams and that can support a weight of capped honey comb of 500 to 600 grams.

These cells are also used by the bees to rear their young, as well as to store honey and pollen.

A strong swarm in a good nectar foraging area could build 20 000 cells as a brood rearing area. This could be used five to six times during the spring and summer breeding season of a year. A further 80 000 cells might be made to store 20 kg of honey made from spring to the end of the autumn season. The

bees in such a hive will have produced approximately one kilogram of wax to build all these cells.

It is remarkable to note that all this cell building takes place in the darkness of a beehive. There are no architects, civil engineers, no managers or supervisors, no onlookers, no one getting into another's way, no tea or lunch breaks, no public holidays, no working to the clock (the work stops when the job is complete) and the beauty of the work is that one does not have to stand over them and teach them how the job must be done.

The beekeeper, in harvesting honey from a hive, provides space for the next honey crop to be made. Otherwise, there will be no work for the bees. Should he neglect to create this space, the bees become idle and idle bees are aggressive bees.

So, ideally, in a very gentle



Bees working the perfectly-shaped honeycomb. Picture courtesy of Johannesburg beekeeper Sharon Lage.

way he removes the honey and comb, hardly disturbing the bees, and replaces all the honey loaded frames with empty wax drawn combs. The bees set about repairing the damaged cells from the extracting operation, clean out any debris left in the cells and start storing honey for the next crop.

In the honey house the honey loaded frames are

Continued on page 37

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## Birdbrains? Your chooks aren't as dumb as you think

**Y**our chickens are not as bird-brained as you might believe them to be. A casual observation of

your flock should have shown you that they have distinct personalities and can outmanoeuvre one another.

They know their place in the pecking order, and can reason by deduction, which is an ability that humans only

develop by the age of seven (and some cynics might add not even by age 70).

Continued on page 39

# BEEKEEPING

From page 36

uncapped, the honey extracted by centrifugal force in an extractor, and the wax cappings are released of the adhering honey, washed and rendered into wax blocks,

## Wanna be a beekeeper?

**S**mallholders who are interested in keeping bees have access to assistance, advice and support from one of three beekeepers associations in the province. All three associations welcome new beekeepers to their regular meetings and have active Facebook pages to keep members abreast of developments.

The Northern Beekeepers Association (known as "Northerns") meets as a rule around Pretoria and caters for beekeepers around Pretoria. For details call Riekie on 082 972-1889.

The Southern Beekeepers Association ("Southerns") covers beekeepers in the Johannesburg, West Rand and southern Gauteng. Email Lantz at [info@beekeepers.co.za](mailto:info@beekeepers.co.za) for details.

The Eastern Highveld Beekeepers Association ("Easterns") caters for beekeepers on the East Rand, as well as members in Mpumalanga. Call Mike on 083 430-8707 for details.

taking care not to mix prized light wax with dark wax. The light wax is sought-after by the cosmetic trade and fetches good prices per kilogram.

The darker wax is exchanged

by the beekeeper for rolled foundation wax which he reuses in his brood frames as new frames in his beehives.

Every morsel of wax is collected and traded either for sale at good prices or

retained in the beekeeping fraternity for reuse.

As there is always a shortage of wax ~ especially in times of drought ~ it is best for beekeepers to trade their wax for new foundation sheets.

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# POULTRY

From page 37

Chicken intelligence is therefore unnecessarily underestimated and overshadowed by other bird groups. The Smallholder has already examined the fact that



Chickens chasing each other

chickens have a complex system of communication, with more than 24 vocalizations, each with a different meaning. They even communicate with their mothers while they are still in the egg. Hens actively teach their

young skills such as foraging and avoiding predators. Chicks learn alarm calls from the mother hen, an important lesson as they stray farther from her side.

They also learn through observation, not only of

their mother but of other chicks and other adult chickens.

Chickens have a knack for remembering people, places, and things, even after months apart. Within the flock, the ability to discriminate among individuals forms the basis for

social relationships, hierarchies, and reactions to familiar versus unfamiliar individuals. Not only do chickens recognize who is and is not a member of their social group, but they differentiate individuals within their own group.



They might not "read", but they can recognise shapes

Chickens perceive time intervals. They interpret the

Continued on page 40

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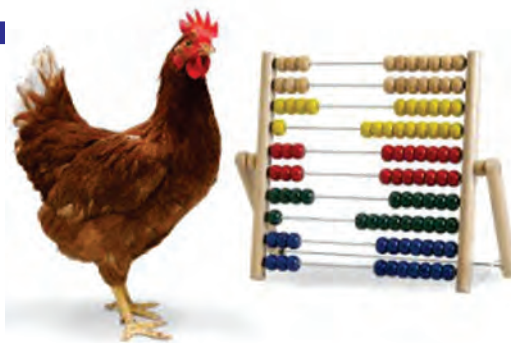
# POULTRY

From page 39

movement of the sun and changes in light. Tests have shown that they have the ability to travel backwards in time and

recollect specific past events, which is called episodic memory, and that they can anticipate future events. Chickens plan ahead and take into account prior experience

and knowledge of a situation. They can also anticipate the future and exhibit self-control. In one study, chickens discovered that if they did not eat immediately, but waited before they pecked, they would be rewarded by a much larger amount of food. Research has shown that chickens have some sense of numbers. We know that mother hens know how many chicks they have. Further to that though, experiments with newly hatched domestic



chicks showed they can discriminate between quantities. They also have an idea about ordinality, which refers to the ability to place quantities in a series. Five-day-old domestic chicks presented with two sets of objects of different quantities disappearing behind two screens were able to successfully track which one hid the larger number by apparently performing simple arithmetic in the form of addition and subtraction. In another test, 5-day-old chicks showed off their ability to identify a target based on its numerical place in a series of 10. The young birds were presented with a row of identical holes, one of which contained food. When the apparatus was rotated, they were still able to return to the designated hole. In one clicker-training programme, chickens were taught to consistently peck at one of four unique geometric shapes, even if the order of shapes changed. When the target shape was removed, they waited to peck, demon-

Continued on page 41

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## Agritourism: Show townies your rural skills

The concept of agritourism (sometimes spelled agrotourism)

involves bringing visitors to a property where agriculture of some kind takes place. So a

smallholder might want to seriously consider using the desire of townies to get into

the country as a way of making additional income. One might automatically think that this involves providing accommodation, but there is much more to the concept. One might also entice people to come to one's plot for courses on subjects such as jam or cheese making, activities

Continued on page 42

From page 40 strating that they had recognised the shapes. Other research has shown that hens put geometry into action as they seemingly predict where grasshoppers are going to land when hunting them. They don't run

to catch the grasshopper in flight but rather run to where it's going to land, which is a pretty complex calculation. Cockerels use vocalisation and actions to indicate to hens that they have found food. The subordinate cocks do not want to draw the unwelcome attention of the dominant cock in the flock, so they will only go through the actions, which involves picking up and dropping the food morsel repeatedly, without making the sound. Sometimes a cheeky cockerel will call or go through the motions even when there is no food, in the hope that the girls will come running. However, the females develop counter-strategies

## POULTRY

and eventually stop responding to males who call too often in the absence of food. And there we are thinking that they are just a bunch of birdbrains!

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# BUSINESS

From page 41

such as birding, camping, hiking, cycling, fishing, horse trails or off-road driving (if the plot is big enough) or art activities such as pottery,



Right: Offering spaces in a pretty rural setting for campers, either in semi-permanent camps, or in the bush.

jewellery making, photography or painting.

Perhaps your smallholding is of historical or cultural interest?

However it is the focus on the agricultural activity that should be uppermost, as opposed to ecotourism or rural tourism.

The Association of Agritourism South Africa



(AASA) is a non-profit organisation that promotes sustainable agritourism

development in South Africa by creating an environment in which farmers and smallholders can implement agritourism initiatives with the assistance of the association.

"Start by writing down a list of the possible types of agritourism enterprises that could be developed, then narrow down the list bearing in mind costs, your time and the volume of work involved," advises Jacqui Taylor, CEO of Agritourism SA. "Get advice from others to ensure an objective opinion. Do you have socially oriented, enthusiastic family members who would enjoy tourists? Maybe this is an opportunity to involve some of your plot workers?" She also recommends collaborating with others in your area.

Do a feasibility study first before you embark on this journey.

You need to consider the target market that you want to attract. Think about the kind of people who would be attracted to this kind of experience: normally, agritourism appeals to individuals who enjoy authentic personal experiences that they can discuss with their friends and colleagues on their return. These visitors enjoy exploring the countryside and involve themselves actively in activities that are provided by their hosts. They are adventurous, 'self-challengers' and self-drive tourists.

You need to approach it the way you would any business,

Continued on page 43

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From page 42

which means drawing up a business plan. Security is always going to be an issue that your visitors will need to be reassured about. Yes, there is as much crime in town as there is in rural areas, but the perception is that people who live outside of urban areas are more vulnerable. Take all the measures that you can afford and tell your visitors about them. If your guests are going to take part in agricultural activities such as milking cows or grooming horses, you will

also need to ensure their safety. Make sure that you understand your legal responsibilities and provide indemnity forms for visitors to sign if necessary. Make it easy for your visitors to find your smallholding. Signs will have to be put up on all the possible routes to your property. Provide your GPS co-ordinates or be able to drop a pin on WhatsApp. Warn visitors if your plot is on a gravel road. If you are offering accommodation, Taylor says many visitors would prefer self-catering.

You also need to consider the environmental impact of having frequent visitors on your land. This can be regarded as an opportunity for people in your community to be trained and given employment. You can also provide practical experience for agricultural

students. Agritourism, like other tourism, requires a number of small touches, such as providing information on where to go, safe parking, cleanliness, local food, and local produce such as soaps and delicacies. The staff at Agritourism Association of South Africa (AASA) are eager to see people in the agricultural

sector and in rural areas develop their potential as agritourist destinations. Contact Jacqui Taylor at jacqui@agritourismsouthafrica.com and check the website for more information - www.agritourismsouthafrica.com.





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# IN THE KITCHEN

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- ☐ 1 litre sized Consol jar with lid
- ☐ 250 ml cream,

- ☐ cold water,
- ☐ Salt (or other flavourings) to taste

~ Let the cream reach room temperature for at least twelve hours. Pour the cream into the jar. Screw the lid on.

~ Shake the jar for approximately 30 minutes. After a while you'll have whipped

cream. Keep shaking until you hear that a lump has formed inside (you will also see that the cream no longer sticks to the side of the jar, but has been replaced by a watery pale fluid – buttermilk), and shake an additional 30-60 seconds after that.

The shaking time is directly dependent on the thickness of the cream you use, which also determines the amount of butter and buttermilk that will result. You can add a glass marble to the jar to act as an agitator in the shaking process.

~ Remove the solids from the jar and save the buttermilk for use in Indian recipes, bread and shortbread, and scones.

~ Place the solids into a small bowl. Pour cold water over

the butter and use your hands to squish it into a ball. Discard water and repeat, Continued on page 45

Step 1: Consol jar and cream





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Step 2: after vigorous shaking the solids will form, leaving opaque buttermilk behind  
From page 44

rinsing two times more. This is done so that you squeeze

## Gauteng school to specialise in agri courses

The second of what is planned to be 27 Secondary Schools of Specialisation in Gauteng, the Magaliesburg Secondary School of Specialisation which opened earlier this year, will focus its curriculum on, among other subjects, agro-processing, mining, tourism and veterinary sciences. Gauteng Dept of Education spokesman Oupa Bodibe said "The intention is to launch Schools of Specialisation in all five corridors in Gauteng to respond to the skills needs in the region, the province and the country. "Schools of Specialisation offer a highly specialised curriculum and seek to nurture the development of top talent in South Africa across key disciplines, breeding the country's future generation of leaders," said Bodibe. Bodibe added that a learner graduating from the SoS can look forward to multiple opportunities which include joining the labour market, or opening a business as well as furthering their studies. He further said that these SoS would assist in addressing skills shortages in Gauteng by creating skilled labour.

out the remaining buttermilk.  
~ At this point you have unsalted butter. Add salt to taste and mix it in by mashing the butter with a fork. Or you can add things such as honey or herbs to create flavoured butters. As a guideline, 250 ml of shop-bought cream should make about 100 gm of butter and 180

ml buttermilk.  
Is it cheaper than store

bought butter? No. It works out to about double the price of a locally manufactured brick of butter, but would be cost effective for a smallholder with access to his

## IN THE KITCHEN



Step 3: After rinsing and adding salt, with buttermilk (right) as a bonus.

or her own cream or unskimmed milk.

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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 Rayton. Call Rudan on 082 410-3180 horses@diamondx.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

### November

1: Bonaero Market, Evangelical Lutheran Church, 26 Geldenhuys Rd, Bonaero Park, 08h00-14h00. Craft, food stalls, coffee shop, white elephant, veg, books, kids' play area, safe parking. Call Magda 083 845-7660

3: Charity Country Market with Food & Entertainment, Uitzicht, Van der Hoff Rd extension, Pretoria West, in aid of the Manger Care Centre. 09h00 – 15h00. Family & pet friendly. Call 012 376-0042 or 087 944-2110

3: Bokkie Park Food & Craft Market at the Bokkie Park, Southvale Rd, Parkdene, Boksburg. 09h00 – 14h30. Huge variety of crafts and food stalls, live entertainment, tea garden, park activities, pony and camel rides. A great outing for the whole family. Contact Janine 072 713-3332

6-7: Groom Training Course at Groenvoer, 410 Olifantsfontein Rd, Midrand. 08h30 - 15h30 both days. R1 500 per delegate (Groenvoer customers pay only R1 000). Covering basic feeding, grooming, tack and vet care. Call 011 314-1211

6-8 Cattle Artificial Insemination course, ARC Irene. Contact: Ms Mpho Makhanya at makhanyam@arc.agric.za / 012 672-9153.

10: Brakpan Boeremark, cor van der Walt &

Dirk van der Hoff Rds, Brakpan 09h00-14h00. Over 50 stalls, food, art, crafts, etc. Call Marius 082 904-8852 or 011 744-2322

11: Advanced Organic Vegetable Gardening Course offered by Sought After Seedlings, Inner City Garden, Johannesburg. Time: 8:30 – 4:30pm, light refreshments are provided, as well as notes and the price is R1950 per person. Contact 082 365 0050 or email sales@soughtafterseedlings.co.za.

17: Northern's Beekeeping Association members' meeting. Visitors invited from Pretoria & surrounds. For times, venue and details call Riekie van den Berg 082 972-1889

19-23 Introductory Course in Poultry Production, ARC Irene. Contact: Ms Mpho Makhanya at makhanyam@arc.agric.za / 012 672-9153.

24: Fresh2U Farmers Market, Cor Main & High Sts, Modderfontein (behind 33 High St), 08h00-14h00. Over 50 stalls, fresh produce, homemade goods, plants, food etc. Call Jane 083 376-5567 or Chantelle 082 338-7818

24: Windpomp Market, Broodblik & Koffiepit on the R51 between Petit & Bapsfontein, 08h00-14h00. Homemade crafts, food stalls, bakery & coffee shop and entertainment. Call 083 445-1608

24: Christmas Night Market, Bokkie Park, Southvale Road, Parkdene Boksburg. Call Janine or Joan 072 713-3332

26-28: Cattle Artificial Insemination Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

27-29: Foundations for Farming 3-Day Basic Conservation Agriculture Course, Rustfontein Farm

Bronkhorstspuit. The course comprises theory and practical training, including conservation agriculture principles, feed your family, vegetable gardens, herb cultivation, uses of herbs, compost making, practical home remedies, poultry production, introduction to beekeeping, agroforestry, cover crops, etc. Contact Neill Jackson on neill@foundationsforfarming.org or 082 407 6774

29: Cattle Pregnancy Awareness Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985

30: The Market in the Garden, Garden Shop, Bram Fischer Dr, Bryanston. 09h00-15h00. Fresh produce, home industry & craft, food etc. Robyn 083 311-4768

30: Calf Rearing Course, Rothman Livestock Training Services, Muldersdrift. Call Lily 078 546-7985



### December

1: Bonaero Market, Evangelical Lutheran Church, 26 Geldenhuys Rd, Bonaero Park, 08h00-14h00. Craft, food stalls, coffee shop, white elephant, veg, books, kids' play area, safe parking. Call Magda 083 845-7660

1: Charity Country Market with Food & Entertainment, Uitzicht, Van der Hoff Rd extension, Pretoria West, in aid of the Manger Care Centre. 09h00 – 15h00. Family & pet friendly. Call 012 376-0042 or 087 944-2110

1: Bokkie Park Food & Craft Market at the Bokkie Park, Southvale Rd, Parkdene, Boksburg. 09h00 – 14h30. Huge variety of crafts and food stalls, live entertainment, tea garden, park activities, pony and camel rides. A great outing for the whole family. Contact Janine 072 713-3332

9: Easter Highveld Beekeepers Association fundraiser for Beecon at the Barnyard Theatre, Emperor's Palace. Big Top Rock. 14h00. Cash bar available and you can bring your own food. Tickets R185 each. Ticket sales close 9 Nov. Contact Taryn Flee 082 647 7322

15: Brakpan Boeremark, cor van der Walt & Dirk van der Hoff Rds, Brakpan 09h00-14h00. Over 50 stalls, food, art, crafts, etc. Call Marius 082 904-8852 or 011 744-2322

15: Northern's Beekeeping Association members' meeting. Visitors invited from Pretoria & surrounds. For times, venue and details call Riekie van den Berg 082 972-1889

28: The Market in the Garden, Garden Shop, Bram Fischer Dr, Bryanston. 09h00-15h00. Fresh produce, home industry & craft, food etc. Robyn 083 311-4768

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# Regular Gauteng Farmers' Food Markets

NOTE: This is a listing ONLY of markets held weekly. Markets held less frequently (eg 1st Saturday of each month) 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	CONTACT	WHAT TO EXPECT
<b>Thursday</b>					
Every Thursday	Bryanston Organic & Natural Market	09:00 - 15:00	40 Culross Road, Bryanston (off Main Road)	Konrad or Glenda 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.
<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, book etc.
Every Saturday	Waterfall Estate Farmers Market	09:00 - 15:00	Waterfall Estate, Waterfall Cor Midrand	Robyn 083 311 4768	Fresh produce, pickles, preserves and home industry & craft, food etc. Enquire about stall prices.
Every Saturday	Pretoria Boeremark	05:30 - 09:30	Moreleta Street entrance, Krige Street ext, Silverton	012 804 8031 or 079 987 1025	Fresh produce & traditional bazaar treats like jaffles, kailings with pap & boerewors rolls.
Every Saturday	Bryanston Organic & Natural Market	09:00 - 15:00	40 Culross Road, Bryanston (off Main Road)	Konrad or Glenda 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 - 14:00	Greenlyn Village Centre, Cor Thomas Edison & Mackenzie St, Menlo Park, Pretoria	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 - 15:00	112 R82 Main Road, Walkerville	079 076 7680 <a href="mailto:info@wfmmarket.co.za">info@wfmmarket.co.za</a>	Fresh produce, arts & crafts, food court and kids play area.
Every Saturday	Walkerville Country Market	09:00 - 15:00	Walkerville Country Market @ the Showgrounds	Ivan 084 590 2312 <a href="mailto:market@walkervillesa.co.za">market@walkervillesa.co.za</a>	Fresh produce, crafter's market, food court, craft beer, kids play area and pet friendly.
Every Saturday	Bosheuvel Fresh Produce	10:00 - 19:00	54 Glory Road, Muldersdrift	Mitch 082 553 2846	Outdoor country experience working farm cattle, sheep pigs. Free range meat, cheese, eggs and poultry. Craft beer
Every Saturday	The Fresh Co-op Weekly Farmers Market	07:00 - 10:30	204 Allan Road, Glen Austin Halfway House, Gauteng	<a href="mailto:info.freshproducecoop@gmail.com">info.freshproducecoop@gmail.com</a> 082 369 7755	Fresh produce, pickles, preserves, home industry, arts and crafts, food etc.
Every Saturday	Joji Real Food Market	08:30 - 13:30	Pirates Sports Club, 25 Braeside Road, Greenside	Ingrid 083 532 2992 <a href="mailto:jozirealfoodmarket@gmail.com">jozirealfoodmarket@gmail.com</a>	Outdoor pet & child friendly, organic vegetables, food, arts & crafts
Every Saturday	Waenhuiskrans Plaas / Farmers Market	08:00 - 14:00	Cor of Veda & Enkeldoorn Ave opposite Montana Traders and next to Kollonade Centre	Phil Jansen - 083 5050 329 or office 012 567 6076 to book a stall	Stalls: Food, arts and crafts Fresh produce, eggs, chicken, meat, fruit and veg, Kiosk, Maders Pies, coffee
Every Saturday	Glenfresh Farmers Market	08:00 - 12:30	118 Allan rd, Glen Austin	Stefan: 082 829 0185 <a href="mailto:market@glenfresh.co.za">market@glenfresh.co.za</a>	Local naturally grown produce, hand crafted goods, home baked treats, raw honey, biltong
<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, book
Every Sunday	Fourways Farmers Market	10:00 - 15:00	Cor Montecasino Boulevard & 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!
Every Sunday	Carlington Food & Craft Market	09:00 - 15:00	The Bru House on the R563 Hekpoort-Krugerdsorp Road	For stalls 0827824142 <a href="mailto:Debbie.Prinsloo@outlook.com">Debbie.Prinsloo@outlook.com</a>	Restaurant, live music, safe kids play area, safe parking

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# I'm black, said the white man

Circumstances recently brought me into contact, after 20-odd years, with an old business associate, now chairman of his family's group of companies, and we enjoyed a good lunch together.

After the usual pleasantries and enquiries about the states of our respective businesses and the health and welfare of our families, he suddenly said "I'm classified as black, you know."

Now I should explain that this is a man who is not just pigmentally challenged: he is melanin-deficient. So I had to stifle my immediate response of, "sure, and I'm an Eskimo", opting, rather, for a less-sarcastic raising of one quizzical eyebrow and a bland "Oh, how so?"

Apparently, on a nostalgic visit to his mother's birthplace, a long-established Cape provincial town, he had a chance discussion with a local history-buff which piqued his interest in his family's origins.

So he set to searching genealogy sites on the internet. And soon discovered that his mother was descended from a Batavian slave-woman imported to the Cape not many years after Jan van Riebeeck had set up shop.

Soon after her arrival, she had the good fortune to be sold for 60 Rixdollars to a German baker who had arrived in the fledgling settlement looking for new challenges. But, of course, slaves in those days were no more than commodities, with no greater status than livestock. They could thus be bought and sold at will, and treated not much better than livestock, too.

Moreover, as my friend explained, female slaves were much in demand at the Cape in those early years, not so much for their cooking and housekeeping skills but more for their horizontal abilities after hours. In short, they were sex slaves. Soon, our Batavian slave girl was in the family way to the baker, bearing him a son. And as was the custom the son, born of a slave, was also deemed to be a slave.

However, shortly after the turn of the 17th century the baker must have had a crisis of conscience and he bought the freedom of his slave concubine, and, crucially, his/their son.

This was important, because it meant that the former slave girl and her son had to be registered as humans, and thus an official record began of their existence, marriages, births of their offspring, deaths etc.

And in another twist of good fortune, in the 1920s the German government decided to trace the lineage of all German citizens living in South Africa, and so it paid the South African govern-

ment to draw up a record, which it did, and which is available for perusal to this day. And there, of course, was evidence of our Batavian slave-girl who, with a German citizen, produced a child, who was initially also a slave, but whose subsequent lineage through the centuries can be traced to include the mother of my friend, herself a member of a well-respected old Cape family.

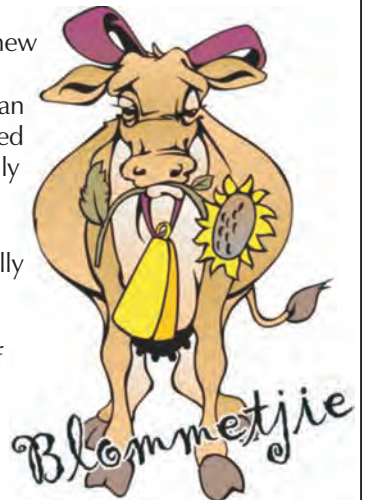
My friend, of course, as chairman of a successful group of companies, has had to deal with the intricacies of our Black Economic Empowerment laws, and racial classifications in the new South Africa. And he thus

discovered that anybody who can prove that he or she is descended from a slave can be automatically classified as black for the purposes of BEE.

And so it was that my pigmentally challenged friend armed himself with the requisite documentary evidence and presented himself at his local Home Affairs office with a request that he be reclassified from white to black.

One can but wonder at the bemusement that must have overcome the Home Affairs clerk when confronted by a St Stithians-educated, English-speaking grey-haired white man asking to be reclassified as black... And then, with his racial classification assured, he filled in all the documents necessary to prove that his group of companies were, indeed, legitimately black owned, thus automatically giving themselves Category 2 BEE status. He explained that he could have got Category 1 – the purest of pure black ownership status – had it not been for the fact that a small shareholding in the business is held for nostalgic reasons by an old (white) business associate of his late father, who founded the group.

And here's the thing: My friend points out that just about anybody who can trace their lineage back to the earliest days in the Cape is likely to have slave blood in them, given the purposes for which slave girls were imported at the time. And that includes all the descendants of old Cape Dutch families. Only problem is that, unless there was German involvement at an early stage, they'll have a devil of a job to prove it.



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