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#### **FRONT COVER**

A lone windmill pokes towards a lowering sky, while its feet are planted in a field of cosmos. Typical Gauteng autumn scene.

# Farm - and plot - murders

few weeks ago an elderly neighbour of mine was found dead ~ murdered ~ on his porch one evening. Being elderly, he was in the habit of taking his rest in the sun upon his porch, sitting, and often sleeping, in a comfortable chair he had there.

The lady members of his family had gone out for the day, leaving him at peace and ostensibly alone. When they returned in the evening they saw him in his chair and entered the house, believing him to be asleep. However, when they attempted to rouse him to come in for dinner they found him non-responsive.

And, on looking around the house they found a safe had been forced, and valuables stolen.

In his 80s, my neighbour thus joins the more than 1 500 victims of unnatural death that occur in South Africa monthly.

Conflating his murder on a 2ha East Rand smallholding with the number of violent killings that take place on South Africa's farms, remote as they are, is probably stretching a point. Is the modus operandi of the criminals the same on farms and smallholdings? Are the causes and motives similar? And do the authorities react in the same way? But it is certainly worth making the point that the death of a defenceless old man, resting harmlessly on his porch, for the theft of a few trinkets and a bit of cash, is barbaric and dreadful.

And he is by no means the first to die violently at the hands of criminals in our area, nor is he the first person of my acquaintance to be murdered on a plot. A couple of years ago a good lady friend of mine was murdered in her home in the country north of Krugersdorp by thugs who violently assaulted her and her husband, before making off with some portable loot. She died slowly, her life-blood literally seeping from her, tied crudely to her husband, as he made desperate attempts to free himself to save her. We all know that Muldersdrift and surrounds have suffered inordinately at the hands of criminals in recent years, and the murder rate there is significantly higher than in most other areas of rural Gauteng yet it makes it no easier on the bereaved, and friends of the victims, and no amount of security, it seems, will prevent a determined criminal from perpetrating his evil actions.

Notice also how, when talking about such incidents we South Africans very rarely bring up the subject of the capture, trial and conviction of the perpetrators. For, it seems, if the perpetrators are ever caught, there is a very good chance that the Police who caught them will commit some blunder with the evidence which will render it inadmissible in court and the case will simply be chucked out. That, of course, is if the perpetrators are ever caught in the first place, which is not very likely given the ridiculous case loads of the average South African detective.

We commiserate with the families of the victims and offer sympathy and warm hugs, but we invite ridicule, it seems, if we suggest that a bit of retributive justice might be meted out.

Organised agriculture periodically  $\sim$  and quite rightly  $\sim$  raises its concerns about the number of farmers and their families who fall victim to violent crime, and holds periodic meetings with grandees in the security and policing services. I suppose smallholders should do something similar, though we lack the formal structures through which to speak with one voice. Perhaps now is the time for smallholders to band together as one group, so that we can speak with one voice, either to strengthen the case put by agricultural organisations, or on our own behalf,

But anyway, if you think crime is bad on the plots, and on the farms, try the townships, or the ganglands of the Cape Flats. Short of Colombia, northern Syria or Afghanistan they have to be the most violent places on earth.

So what's to be done, if we are to prevent ourselves from joining the horrendous murder statistics? The assurance of punishment, of course, is a good deterrent, if for no other reason that, for as long as the criminal is incarcerated he is unable to commit further crimes. But punishment and incarceration implies that he is caught and convicted, and that brings us back to the problem of an inadequately-sized, and inadequately-trained and inadequately-equipped police force (it is an indictment on our government that the amount South Africans currently spend on private security services exceeds the budget of the SA Police Service).

But the real solution lies in improving education, creating meaningful jobs, reducing inequality, and giving young people and the marginalised hope. Hope in their future, and a sense of purpose and reason to live. For without that, all our lives are at stake.

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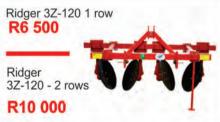
















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## Comment: 'You've overplayed your hand'

ir  $\sim$  In all the time that I've read your magazine ~ especially your personal editorials ~ I've appreciated your insight into Agronomism (sic), but what a pity that you've overplayed your hand in the latest edition (Comment ~ The elephant in the room) and thereby probably ~ unwittingly ~

pinned your (political) flag to the mast!

Why you didn't stick to your trade makes it all the more deflating, but surprisingly the skeletons in the cupboard have eventually now come tumbling out ...

Consequently, you'll no longer have my support and, hopefully, I'll be able to

influence a few advertisers in this respect too.

Your roots in all probability extend to the defunct PFP and now DA ~ sickly, old white men who with their links to the Queen's horrific past in South Africa ~ and don't forget the other socalled British Colonies, where your fore-seeds (sic) committed commercial terrorism with applause from your political cronies.

What has Apartheid (after 23 years of ANC government ~ almost halfway to the 48 years of Nationalist government) got to do with the present time?

Who are you to express an opinion on the past ~ where were you, then? What have you done to improve the lot of the five million plus children in South Africa below

Continued on page 8

## Comment prompted interesting lunch talk

ir ∼ I want to make comment on your editorial The elephant in the room (Gauteng Smallholder February 2017 issue).

It dealt with things which, I imagine, either rest uncomfortably with the 'mink and manure' set who, like me, collected their free copy at the tack shop in Crowthorne or are (issues that are) far from their minds.

It certainly had that effect at my family's Sunday lunch

gathering, and issues of development, land reform, apartheid history and difficult

Continued on page 8

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. Post mail to: Letters, PO Box 14648. Bredell 1623 or fax 086 602-3882

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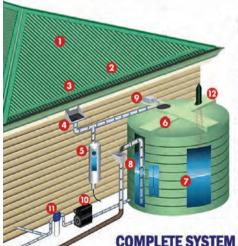












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## **MAILBAG**

## Bumper crop from only five seeds

send you a picture of our very successful crop of pumpkins this season.



We planted five seeds on a bank along a side wall  $\sim$  and got 45 pumpkins from them! The weights were between 13 and 18kg.

This week we will lift ones growing along our front fence, and I suspect there are another 25 odd!!

We have donated the money (raised from their sale) to the Animal Rescue Association,

On their way to market ... reader Jill Bell's bumper pumpkin harvest. which our daughter is passionate about.

Considering the bad start to the season we have had a very successful crop of gem squash, cucumbers, onions, beetroot, cabbage, potatoes, tomatoes, spinach, beans, green peppers etc ~ not bad for a small vegetable garden. There is nothing more satisfying than picking veggies out of the garden and straight into the pot!

I so enjoy your articles and must say I could not agree more on your subject of accommodation and schooling (Comment: The elephant in the room, February 2017). We took so much for granted and I'm afraid never really considered how far people had to walk every day. How selfish we were!

Jill Bell Fast Rand

## COMMENT

From page 7

the age of six years, in order to allow your past sniggles (sic) to become hard facts of genuine upliftment and not only Helen Suzman et al comments, painted broadly in print?

Please do take time to read the research done by Prof Servaas van den Bergh in conjunction with Dr Nicolaas Spaul (Social Policy Research Unit, University of Stellenbosch), regarding the state of education in SA (with the financial support

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## LUNCH

From page 7

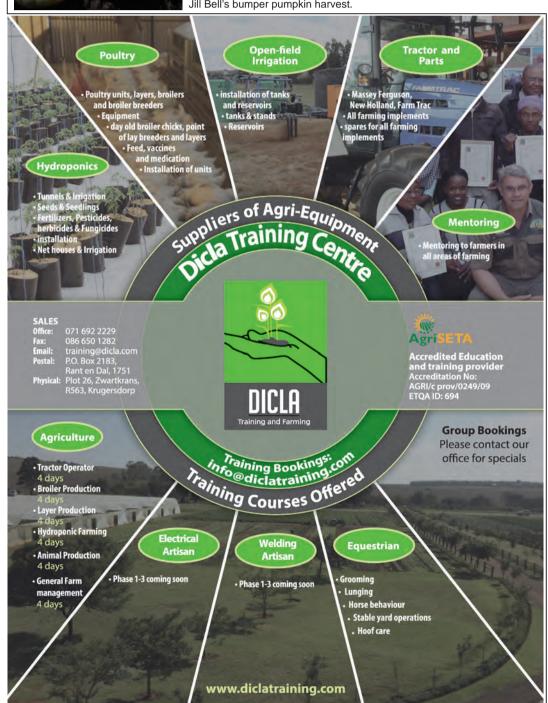
solutions raged across the table and made for a very interesting meal.

Thank you for the stimulation ~ not the sort of insights one expects in a free agriculturally-focused magazine.

I am sure the editorial has had both its fans and its detractors and I was reminded again of the adage that a good editorial, like a good sermon, should "afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted"! Your editorial certainly did that and I have asked local family members to keep me a copy of your future issues.

#### **Jo Stielau**

Claremont, Cape Town



## Report armyworm outbreaks to dept, please

f you discover an outbreak of Fall Armyworm (Spodoptera frugiperda) in your mielies ~ or other crops  $\sim$  the Gauteng Dept of Agriculture & Rural Development (Gdard) appeals to you to report the details to your nearest regional departmental office.

The invasive pest has been identified in Bronkhorstspruit, Pretoria, as well as in east and

From page 8

of: 'The Programme to support Pro-Poor Policy Development, a partnership between The Presidency and the European Union.) I'll draw on a single excerpt from the research document under the subtitle "SA in International Context". 'It is tempting to blame poverty for our weak educational performance! But

west Gauteng. Smallholders are urged to be vigilant to ensure early

detection and enable timeous assistance. Apparently an

infestation can be contained with timely intervention.

The migratory worms are native to the United States, South and Central America and are new to South Africa, having moved south from other maize-growing counties such as Zambia and

Continued on page 10

## Mailbag: Importance of eradicating aliens

ir ~ I wish to congratulate you on your constant reference to the importance of eradicating alien vegetation.

I read recently that Dr Guy LRA

the evidence seems to suggest otherwise ... In tests conducted in 15 Sub-Sahara African countries by SACMEQ, SA ranks 10 out of 15 for Grade 6 reading and arithmetic.

Please kindly (sic) read on once you've googled the reference "SA Education - the poorest choice"!

Maybe, just maybe, you will

Preston, who among other things is responsible for the Working on Fire programme, stated that the fires in Somerset West were made much worse because

come to other insights! With tears in my eyes for all you sickly old men, who still live under the Queen's throne of privilege!

#### Michael Waldeck

By email

Good heavens! What vitriol! How badly can one misunderstand a piece of writing! Words fail me.

~ Editor

homeowners had not managed invasive alien plants on their properties. He reminded everyone that alien plants, such as pines, wattles and gums can burn with an intensity of ten times more than the indigenous plants they displace.

I remember years ago the Smallholder ran a series of articles about which trees you should plant in place of the alien that you have taken out.

Thanks for the responsible writing that you do.

Margaret D Muldersdrift

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## **NEWS**

From page 9

Zimbabwe. They are believed to have arrived in Africa in drought and famine relief maize imported from the Americas.

A number of pesticides have been registered to combat them.

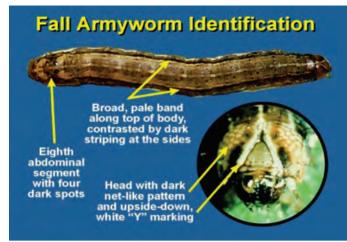
The Fall Armyworm gets its name from the way the worms march from grasslands to crops. They are also known as Amerikaanse Kommandowurm.

A pest action group has been established to monitor the

impact.

The pest flies on prevailing winds, has a short life-cycle, and attacks a wide range of crops, rendering it a serious risk to national food security. There have been records of damage on spinach, sugarcane, rice, lucerne, sunflower, wheat, cabbages, pepper, soya, potatoes, pastures and grasses. However, it is particularly fond of maize and can devour almost the whole plant.

So what are you looking for? Eggs are laid in batches of 20-



250 on both sides of leaves. The insect goes through six developmental stages from egg to moth stage, and is difficult to differentiate from some other worms. Even the moths are similar to other species.

What you will be able to identify is the damage that the pest is doing to your mielies. It attacks the leaves and damages the silk. It then proceeds to eat into the ear of corn from the outside and inside. It feeds at Continued on page 12







Worm damage to a mielie stem







# 



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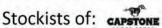
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## **NEWS**

## W Rand agri-park opens hydroponic chamber

auteng's farmers can now look forward to new and innovative ways of aggregating and storing their produce with the launch of Westonaria's new Agri-park chamber. Late last year the Gauteng provincial government launched the first Agri-park facility on the West Rand. At the same time Lebogang Maile, Gauteng MEC for

Economic, Agriculture, **Environment and Rural** Development introduced the first government-owned vertical hydroponic Agri-park chamber. The park will be able to

accommodate local smallholder farmers who will now have access to a modern storage facility for their produce. The facility will also assist farmers to grade their produce for markets.

A total of four further Agriparks have been established, in Sebokeng, Pretoria, Eikenhof and Carletonville. This facility's infrastructure is designed to grow various fruits and vegetables.

# Rand donkey skin stash uncovered pllowing the discovery skins discovered on a foreign national who was not believe to the discovery skins discovered on a stash uncovered to the discovery skin stash uncovered to the discovered to the disco

ollowing the discovery in lanuary of a container-full of dried donkey skins on a plot in Putfontein on the East Rand, Gauteng police have uncovered another stash of hundreds of donkey skins on the West Rand.

The police said the donkey

smallholding in the Brandvlei area near Randfontein were valued at around R2,25 million.

The police received a tip off about a smelly warehouse at portion 26 Brandvlei. Investigation revealed that the warehouse was leased to a

foreign national who was not found at the premises. It is alleged that the donkeys could have been illegally slaughtered, and the police are said to be investigating two cases under different stock theft laws.

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		-				
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Germiston	Seabata Maoba	011 240 3077	076 421 9597			
Pretoria	Anton Maswikaneng	012 316 1687	076 422 1998			
Head Office	Shandukani Netshifhefhe	011 240 2500	082 728 8896			

From page 710 the base of the cob as well.

Even the stem and the tassels receive its unwelcome attention.

Larvae tend to hide from sunlight or move into shade or under cover.





## BEEKEEPING

## Factors & practices that weaken your hives

Id-time beekeepers, now in their sixties and seventies, who practiced

beekeeping in the late 70s and early 80s, sit around the table in amazement and despair and ask the question, "What has happened to our bees? Once we used to obtain an average of 30 kg of honey annually per hive, and now only receive 10 to 14 kg per hive. Those swarms were strong and very aggressive, but not our swarms of today." Throughout the country where beekeepers operate there are reports of the decline of bee populations. Gardeners report the lack of bees about their gardens when in previous years bees were always seen about the flowers, but not these days. Farmers lack bees just to pollinate their veg gardens and beekeepers have to replace 20% of their swarms annually to maintain their numbers to perform their annual pollination contracts. Fruit, nut and seed producing farmers in America, Japan and other countries are having to hand-pollinate their trees to obtain crops and will we in this country also one day be faced with these problems? However despite the decline we are experiencing, we still have bees, therefore let's take care of them.

The first question we ask is, "How come we do not see those swarms of moths at night about the lights and those many butterflies during the day? Is there something in the polluted air that is killing these moths at night and our butterflies and bees during the day?"

The second question, "Do all insecticide sprays contain an ingredient that penetrates the systemic structure of plants?" Moths and butterflies lay eggs on plants, worms hatch, the larva feed on the plants, bees

Another in our series of articles on apiculture by veteran beekeeper Peter Clark, chairman of the Eastern Highveld Beekeepers Association

gather the poisoned pollen which they feed to their young, both results being, no more bees, moths and butterflies.

Secondly while on the insecticide subject, is there an ingredient in the insecticide composition that the farmers

spray that causes the bees to become disorientated and are not able to return to their hives? This is called Colony Collapse Disorder, or CCD. Of course the insecticide manufacturers deny this possibility and say CCD is due

Continued on page 15

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From page 13

to mishandling of the bees by the beekeepers.

The third question, "Does the fault lie with the beekeeper?" beggars the answer that there are some instances that the beekeeper can be at fault. He catches a feral swarm in a tree that has found a desirable place to set up home, places the swarm in a beehive brood chamber, confines the queen so that she is not able to fly out and places the unit in a nice warm sunny position. These bees are stressed, the box is too small and too hot and the ventilation very poor. The queen starts egg laying and once there is brood the beekeeper removes the restriction of the queen. This swarm will not develop to any sizable producing swarm and will recede in numbers.

The next beekeeper has a beautiful strong swarm loaded with 20 kg of honey. To his



Colony Collapse Disorder ... deserted hive with unfinished comb

absolute delight, he crops off all the honey and the swarm dies of starvation because he has not left enough honey for the bees to continue.

Then there is the ignorant fellow who overstocks his apiary with 20 swarms when the carrying capacity of the areas is only sufficient for eight swarms. The swarms die of starvation or swarm off to find better hunting grounds. There is that greedy beekeeper who continually moves his swarms and follows the next flowering crop. He does not rest his queens, who eventually stop laying and the swarms recede and die out.

The wax moth takes over and

he blames the wax moth invasion and not his total ignorance that queens need at least 14 weeks rest per year. Then there is the beekeeper who moves his hives at night without closing down the entrances. During the travel to the new site, the confused swarms, shaken up on the thumping truck, move out of the hive brood chamber. He off loads, thumps the hives down in the new and strange locations. When daylight sets in the gueens are lost to absolute confusion and they move away leaving most of the swarm behind to die. The newcomer to beekeeping, a keen and enthusiastic nature lover, too often opens his hives to see how things are getting on. He breaks the seals the bees

have made to control the

inner temperatures of the

hive, perhaps exposing the

Continued on page 17







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## **BEEKEEPING**

From page 15

bees to a sudden cold snap before they can reseal the draughty gaps.

There is the fellow who loves and has a passion for his bees. He places them in a well sheltered corner of his plot, provides shade from the hot sun, and covers them with a blanket for the cold winter nights. One day the bees, unaware of the cold south wind, fly out and are struck down in the cold, never to return to their hive.

The killing of swarms is causing the largest loss of swarms. As urban areas develop, more households experience the presence of swarming bees entering their premises and report their problems to their local councils. Unconcerned and unaware of the bee crisis, the councils just destroy the swarms.

One council reported that they kill up to 80 swarms a month during the three months of the swarming seasons.

It is a costly undertaking for beekeepers to remove and save these swarms so the councils resort to the quick fix method and just kill. There is the call out, "Get the bee man, he will sort them out, chop, chop." He arrives and in 20 minutes he poisons the entire swarm at a handsome fee,... after all it's his living.

Not to lose out, where the

possible loss of our bees is at crisis level, the Dept of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries, abiding by the laws, enforces the removal of the blue gum trees so vital for the importance for the survival of our bee colonies throughout our land, on which the bee industry and the fruit, nut and seed producers so anxiously depend upon.

However all is not doom and gloom, thanks to those many folk who love and cherish the presence of bees on their premises and who welcome and often request the beekeeper to place hives on their farms and plots.

Article by Peter Clark,
Chairman Eastern Highveld beekeepers' Association at 011 362-2904 and information systems, Mike Alter at 011 965-6040



Eucalyptus trees, aka bluegums ... great bee forage

# Beekeeping course for beginners

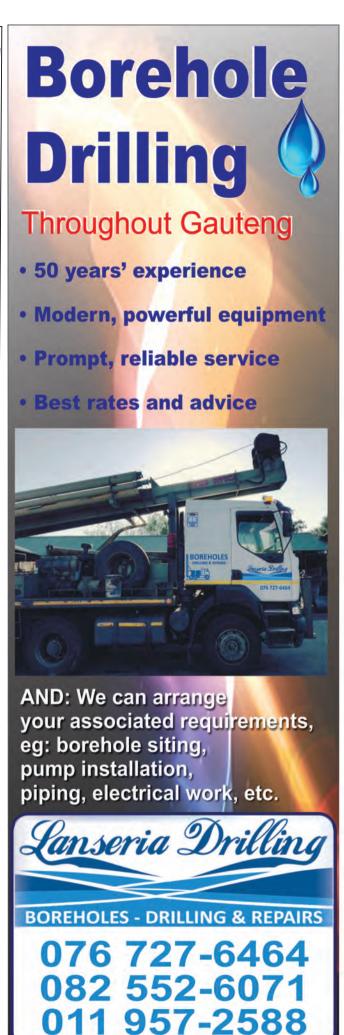
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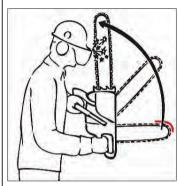




## MACHINERY

## Chainsaw kickback can be a killer

he death last month of a tree surgeon in Bermondsey, London highlights just how dangerous chainsaws can be, even in experienced hands. Indeed, short of a loaded gun with the safety catch off a chainsaw is probably the most lethal item you as a small-holder will own. The victim had, by all



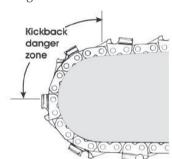
Chainsaw kickback: the aftermath

accounts, followed all the relevant health and safety regulations in that he was firmly harnessed to the tree thus preventing him from falling to the ground in case his ladder should slip or break, and in addition his saw was tethered to the tree by a rope.

However, while using the saw to cut a limb, he is believed to have suffered a "kickback" with the saw jumping into his neck and slicing into his carotid artery, resulting in him quickly losing consciousness and bleeding rapidly to death. Co-workers on the ground only realised that something was amiss when they heard the tethered saw droning monotonously on rather than revving and slowing down again as is usual with an

operating saw. Looking up into the tree they found their colleague slumped in his harness, dead, with the saw dangling from its rope beside him, still idling.

Kickback occurs as a result of the movement of the chainsaw chain around the guide bar. Typically, the chain is driven out of the bar on the top side of the bar, around the nose of the bar and is drawn back into the machine along the bottom.



This motion therefore results in two distinct actions. Using the saw to cut from underneath the branch, ie cutting with the top edge of the saw, results in the saw being pushed back towards the operator and it is the task of the operator to hang on to the saw to prevent this backward motion. Using the saw to cut from the top down, ie with the cutting

Continued on page 21











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This makes it ideally suited as part of your grass fire-fighting arsenal as it is powerful enough to blow out even strong fires.

The BL9000 is powered by a 79,2cc two stroke engine. The entire unit weighs less than 11 kg, and is mounted on a padded frame with extra wide shoulder straps for operator comfort. The unit is spring-mounted to the frame to reduce vibration.

The fuel tank holds 2,1 litres, and the unit incorporates a

flat base on which the operator can rest his foot to secure the unit while pulling the starter cord.

Two controls are planned for the BL9000. Currently, it is available with a pistol grip control throttle on the blower pipe. Later this year Maruyama plans to release a hip-control throttle.

Because it is designed for use in harsh environments the BL9000 is fitted with a two-

stage air filter system.
Carburetion is through a quality Walbro unit and engine noise is kept to 73 decibels through a two-piece aluminium muffler.
Maruyama is Japanese manufactured of power equipment. More than 125 years old, the company's products, which include brushcutters, trimmers, chainsaws and other items for

the landscaping and garden

industry are sold and serviced in South Africa through Turfmaster dealers. For more information: Turfmaster, tel 011 730-3400



## KICKBACK

motion is violent enough, ie if the chain is spinning fast enough, or if the chain should encounter a hard obstruction such as a buried nail, the kickback can be severe, as the tree surgeon in Bermondsey found out to his misfortune.

Continued on page 22

From page 19

action taking place with the bottom of the guide bar, results in the saw being pulled towards the branch and the operator now needs to hang on to the saw to prevent it from being pulled in this direction.

However, when the chain moving over the rounded nose of the guide bar encounters the wood as it passes over the top half of the nose the motion is to push ~ rapidly ~ the bar upwards and away from the branch being cut. This is called kickback. If the





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## LAND RIGHTS

## Land ownership (and occupation) in SA

n 2017 land issues remain as contentious in South Africa as they ever have, with Pres Zuma urging South Africans in his sonorous State of the Nation Address to "stay on the land". Meanwhile, activists argue that the pace of land reform is slow and biased, while legal experts are scratching their heads about how some proposed reforms would be implemented. In 2014, the Dept of Rural

You can't, as a landowner, kick difficult or non-paying tenants or fired workers off your land willy-nilly. Know your rights

Development & Land Reform announced plans to redistribute 50% of commercial farmland to farmworkers as a way of redressing past injustices. The announcement ~ seen by some as a political game to fend off the Economic Freedom Fighters and its call for expropriation

of land without compensation ~ proved to be illogical and impracticable.

Meanwhile, the government is said to be pumping millions of rand into failing farms for the transfer of business shares to a relatively small number of farmworkers and farm dwellers, with the biggest

benefit seeming to remain with the white landowners. In the meantime smallholders, be they landowners or tenants should be sure of their rights. Many smallholders have tenants living on their property and it is wise to be aware of the status of each of the parties in such a situation. ☐ A lawful occupier is a person who resides on land with the permission of the owner of the land. This consent does not have to be expressed (in writing or

☐ If you give your worker accommodation he/she is a lawful occupier.

orally) but may also be given

☐ If you rent out rooms or cottages, the tenants are lawful occupiers as long as they pay rent.

☐ If you as the owner are aware that someone has moved on to your land and you make no effort to evict them, you have given tacit consent through your

Continued on page 23

## KICKBACK

From page 21

Of course, one can mitigate against the effect of kickback in a number of ways. Firstly, never allow the nose of the cutting bar to do the cutting, rather ensure that only the top or bottom edges of the cutting bar engage the wood.

Secondly never work with the saw higher than waist height. That way a severe kickback will only result in a severe arm injury, severe leg injury or contact with your torso. In the case of the latter two contacts at any rate damage should be prevented if you are wearing approved safety clothing. Thirdly, never use a chainsaw with only one hand. Always ~ consciously ~ have a firm grip on the saw with both hands.



#### From page 22

conduct. So if a spouse, family member or friend comes to live with your worker or tenant in your accommodation and you do not object, you have thus given tacit consent.

An unlawful occupier is someone who resides on land without the express or tacit permission of the owner.

If you have dismissed your worker from your employment, in accordance with the provisions of the Labour Relations Act, and ordered him/her to leave your property but he/she continues to stay in your accommodation, that person then becomes an unlawful occupier, because you have withdrawn your permission for him/her to live there.

☐ A trespasser is someone who enters property without the permission of the owner and can be arrested by the police.

While the relationship between the owner and the worker or the tenant remains cordial, all is well. The difficulty arises when the relationship is no longer good and you want to get rid of the person.

The eviction of persons from land or accommodation is regulated by various laws. The following laws regulate different legal situations:

The Extension of Security Tenure Act, 1997 (Act No 62 of 1997) (ESTA Act) governs eviction from farm land.

The Prevention of Illegal Eviction from and Unlawful Occupation of Land Act, 1998 (Act No 19 of 1998) (PIE Act) - anyone who is an unlawful occupier, which includes tenants who fail to pay their rentals and bonds, is covered by PIE.

These laws are quite often difficult to interpret and apply.

Eviction from land is always done in terms of a court order, whether the person is a labour tenant, an occupier (whether unlawful or not), a farm worker or even a trespasser.

The eviction of an occupier or trespasser must be done in accordance with the applicable laws, otherwise such eviction will be illegal. Under most circumstances a police member will be requested to deal with the "problem" of an occupier when the owner of land lodges a complaint at the Community Service Centre of the Police Station in the area. Whenever the occupier enjoys the protection of PIE, the police member should advise the complainant to consult with a lawyer in order to invoke the legal eviction procedures.

For an eviction to happen lawfully, these procedures

LAND RIGHTS
always must be followed:

☐ The owner must give the occupier notice of his/her intention of going to court to get an eviction order. This notice must contain a large number of details, so it is best drawn up by someone who knows what is required by the Act.

The owner must apply to the court to have a written notice served on the occupier stating the owner's intention to evict the occupier.

Continued on page 25







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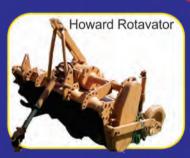
















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#### From page 23

☐ The court must serve the notice at least 14 days before the court hearing. The notice must also be served on the municipality that has jurisdiction in the area.

If any one procedure is left out, the eviction is unlawful. It is also a criminal offence to directly or indirectly receive or solicit payment of any money or other consideration as a fee or charge for arranging or organising or permitting a person to occupy land without the consent of the owner or person in charge of that land. The court will only give an eviction order if it is proved that:

☐ The person who is applying to evict an occupier, is in fact the owner of the land;

An occupier is an unlawful occupier;

The owner has reasonable grounds to ask for the eviction;

☐ The local authority or any other owner of land in the

area can make alternative land available for the occupier. If the court grants an eviction order, the order will state a date by when the occupier has to leave the land, and also the date on which the eviction will take place if the occupier does not vacate the land. The court has to balance out

and reconcile the opposed claims in as just a manner as possible, taking account of all the interests involved and the specific factors relevant in each particular case, including the interest of the owner.

The sheriff of the court will implement eviction orders. In some cases, where there is sufficient information to indicate that the sheriff and his/her employees may be exposed to injury, death or damage to property, the police will be on hand to ensure law and order and protection.

Where land invasion takes place, it is most important that

the owner immediately reports the matter to the police. Land invasions are often associated with the occupation of land by force. The act also allows for urgent eviction proceedings. This will be granted if the owner can show that:

There is real danger of substantial injury or damage to any person or property;

There is no other way to solve this situation;

The owner is going to suffer more if the occupier stays on the land, than the occupier will suffer if he or she gets evicted In such a case, the owner can go to court and get a final order for the eviction.

If the court grants an order:

The eviction order will state a date by when the unlawful occupier has to leave the land, and also the date on which the eviction will take place if the unlawful occupier does not vacate the land.

Q The court order may also make an order for the unlawful occupier's buildings to be demolished.

LAND RIGHT

Only the sheriff of the court can carry out an eviction. The police must investigate to determine whether a common law offence has been committed.



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## **POULTRY** Christmas turkey? Now grow your own

f you were dismayed at the price you had to pay for the turkey that you devoured at your

Christmas dinner, now is the time to start growing your own for this year's festive season, and maybe even considering growing turkeys as a business prospect. Almost all the turkey sold in South Africa is imported. If you start planning now you will have adult turkeys available for sale by December.

If you raise them to eat, you'll have a much more wholesome and flavourful turkey than anything you could buy at the supermarket and even if you just want to have them wandering around on your plot to help in pest control, they are relatively easy to

If you are new to the turkey world, here is some basic information. The male is called a tom, the female a hen and a baby is a poult. The female is smaller than the male and generally less colourful. Turkeys have

wingspans of 1,5 – 1,8m. Noticeable features of turkeys are the red, fleshy stretches of skin and bulbous growths located around the

head and neck region. These structures are

☐ Caruncle, which are fleshy bumps on the head and neck ☐ Snood – the long flap of

☐ Wattle, which is the red skin that hangs from the neck Another prominent and noticeable feature of the turkey is its plumage. Voluminous feathers cover the breast, wings, back, body and tail of the bird. Male turkeys

> have what is called a beard located in the chest area. Male turkeys also have sharp, spike-like projections on their legs called spurs. The usual lifespan for a turkey is ten

years, and pure breed turkeys take approximately four to five months to grow to full

and average 3,6 kg to 7,2 kg in weight. The tom turkey takes approximately 19 weeks to mature and weighs between 7,2 kg and 10,8 kg. Larger tom turkeys may weigh up to 18kg, but take a few more weeks to mature. For breeding purpose keep one tom for each ten hens. Turkeys are highly social and become very distressed when isolated.

As with all poultry, it is preferable to keep pure-bred birds, bought from a reputable breeder.

Like most agricultural businesses, turkey farming requires adequate knowledge and careful planning of how to raise turkeys, even if you do allow them to roam around free in a range. If considering turkey rearing as a small business, do some

Continued on page 31



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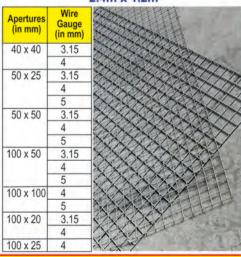
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From page 29

research in your area. Approach catering companies, event organisers, butchers and supermarkets to find out if they will buy from you. Or contact produce agents who would be able to sell your birds on your behalf. All the other considerations regarding starting a smallholding-based business apply. Are you close enough to your

markets to make it a viable business venture?

Next, draw up a budget taking into account expenses such as buying breeding birds, labour, fencing, construction of housing if necessary, feed, transport costs, storage and medical expenses.

Do your research on how much people will be prepared to pay per kilo, so you can get some idea of the possible profit.

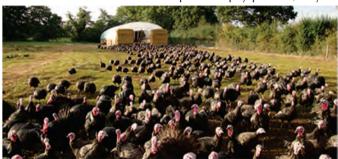
Also find out how prospective buyers expect the birds to be presented ~ does that mean you will need to slaughter and dress them on your plot? Is there a poultry abattoir in your area, will they slaughter turkeys and what do they charge?

Determine what breed of turkey best suits your smallholding. There are

different breeds of turkey and each of them has their own particular advantages. There are some turkeys that are more heat tolerant than others, whereas there are turkeys that produce more eggs, are more fertile and hatch easier.

SA poultry clubs list the following breeds as being available locally: American Mammoth Bronze, Beltsville

Continued on page 33



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#### From page 31

White, Blue Turkey, Bourbon Red Turkey, British White, Buff Turkey, Royal Palm, Narragansett, Norfolk Black, Slate and White Holland. Turkey breed names often refer to their plumage. Examine your smallholding as a turkey producing facility. Is the temperature right for your breed of turkey? Do you have the right facilities or do you need to construct? Is there a source of potable water nearby? Can you run a freerange operation? Is there sufficient plant material or do you have to plant more? Were there previous turkeys or animal epidemics near the area?

It is suggested that an acre of fenced land is sufficient for around 200 to 250 adult free-range turkeys. However, turkeys do require housing at night to protect them from predators. Despite their size, turkeys are not as hardy as some other poultry species and will appreciate shelter, away from extreme weather. In terms of municipal bylaws, turkeys fall under poultry legislation. Most municipalities state that one must have 0,5 m<sup>2</sup> for each mature turkey accommodated in the poultry house. Plan your turkey house so that you can keep it dry and clean and ensure sufficient flow of fresh air inside the house, as ventilation is very important.

Turkeys have the instinct to perch at night, so some stout poles placed in the housing, about 1m off the ground would be useful for the adult birds. However, little poults will try to perch on whatever is higher than them but perching too early, especially on a narrow pole, can dent the breast bone, so try to put this off for as long as possible. A bale of straw in the house will keep little poults very happy for a long time, jumping up and perching on

it at night. When almost adult (five - six months old), they can be introduced to a purpose built perch, which they will welcome.

You will need to provide feeding troughs and water dispensers. Turkeys are susceptible to the deadly blackhead disease. Visiting wild birds might be carriers, so it is best to keep the feed and water containers indoors if possible.

If you intend to keep them free-range you will need to

be able to rotate them through different camps. Perhaps you will allow them some time in a lucerne field, to provide a variety of forage. Don't leave them there for too long though, as lucerne sometimes makes the meat bitter. The best forages are full of legumes and have a good mix of species.

By allowing your turkeys to forage they will eat as much as 25% less commercial feed than if you didn't allow them to forage. Just make sure that **POULTRY** 

if they are out in pasture they also have some shade to get out of the mid-day sun. If you pasture your turkeys these fields will need to rest over the winter, as well as using additional fields for rotation to minimise disease and damage to the pasture. During the season you may also need to reseed to keep your pastures in top condition.

Even if you do pasture them they will still need additional

Continued on page 35





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Block Size	Wire dia.	915mm	1220mm	1830mm	
6.4mm x 6.4mm	0.7mm	1	1		
9.6mm x 9.6mm	0.9mm	1	1	1	
13mm x 13mm	1.0mm	1	1	1	
13mm x 13mm	1.6mm	4	4	¥	
13mm x 25mm	1.0mm	1	V	1	
13mm x 25mm	1.25mm	1	1	1	
13mm x 25mm	1.5mm	1	1	1	
13mm x 25mm	1.6mm	1	1	1	
13mm x 25mm	2.0mm	1	1	1	
25mm x 25mm	1.0mm	1	1	1	
25mm x 25mm	1.5mm	1	1	1	
25mm x 25mm	1.6mm	1	1	1	
25mm x 25mm	2.0mm	1	1	1	
25mm x 25mm	2.5mm	1	1	1	
25mm x 25mm	3.0mm	1	1	1	
25mm x 50mm	1.5mm	1	1	1	
25mm x 50mm	1.6mm	1	1	1	
25mm x 50mm	2.0mm	1	1	1	



Block Size	Wire dia.	915mm	1220mm	1830mm
25mm x 25mm	2.5mm	1	1	1
25mm x 50mm	2.5mm	1	1	1
25mm x 50mm	3.0mm	(manufacture)	1	1
50mm x 50mm	1.6mm	1	1	1
50mm x 50mm	2.0mm	1	1	1
50mm x 50mm	2.5mm	1	1	1
50mm x 50mm	3.0mm		1	1
50m x 100mm	2.0mm	1	1	1
50mm x 100mm	2.5mm	1	1	V
100mm x 100mm	2.0mm		1	1
100mm x 100mm	2.5m	1	1	1
Hexagonal N	1esh (Oogi	ies draac	l) 50m ro	lls/pm
Hole Size	Wire dia.	915mm	1220mm	1830mm
13mm hole	0.7mm	1	1	1
25mm hole	0.9mm	1	-	1
75mm hole	1.8mm	1	1	1

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From page 371

concentrates. Turkeys require more protein in their regular feed than chickens. For proper growth and better production, poults need about 28% protein in their feed and adult birds need about 20% protein in their regular feed.

Locally, you are not likely to find special turkey feed, so you will have to feed general poultry grower pellets, which have the highest protein content of available poultry feeds, and then move on to layer pellets. You can also feed anything you have that is spare from the vegetable garden. It is not recommended to feed broiler mash, as the feed is often medicated.

Turkeys are very efficient at converting feed to mass. When keeping turkeys be mindful that they also need a constant supply of grit. Like chickens, they need the grit to help break down the food in their gizzard. Poults, even from two days old, should be given grit as part of their diet. When raising turkeys the first three weeks are the most critical. Poults are very fragile for the first three weeks and they must be kept in a brooder. The purpose of the brooder is to imitate the warm, safe conditions

beneath a mother hen. It must be hot and humid. They need regular checks, as poults are especially prone to flip on to their backs and suffocate themselves.

To get them started correctly, don't cut corners on feed. Turkeys need at least 26% protein for at least the first month, before levelling down to 21%, and then to 20% as adults.

Along with quality

### **POULTRY**

feeding, ensure availability of sufficient amounts of clean and fresh water.

A hundred adult turkeys will need about 65 litres of water daily. Automatic poultry waterers and feeders are good choices for feeding and watering turkeys. Clean the feeder and waterer on a regular basis.

Disease and other health problems are also common in turkeys like other poultry. Don't raise turkeys and chickens together, as chickens are carriers of diseases that might be fatal for turkeys.



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#### LIVESTOCK

## How to manage small stock parasites

wners of sheep and goats on plots need to monitor their livestock for internal parasites. In years past the advice from fellow smallholders was to dose all the sheep or goats regularly. However, South Africa has the dubious reputation for having the greatest occurrence of multiple anthelmintic resistance and our animal scientists have had to develop and implement more sustainable and holistic methods of managing parasites in sheep. But first let's have some clarity on the terms. A parasite is a plant or animal that lives on or in another, usually larger,

In the case of sheep and goats internal parasites include bots and worms, in the form of flukes, nematodes and bilharzia or flatworms, as well as wireworm, brown stomachworm,

host organism in a way that

harms or is of no advantage

to the host.

bankruptworm, long-necked bankruptworm, hookworm, nodular worm, milk tapeworm, whipworm and largemouthed bowelworm. Another word used for them is helminth.

Anthelmintics are antiparasitic drugs used to rid the animal of the worms etc.

Anthelmintic resistance happens when the parasites develop immunity to the drugs and are no longer affected by them.

In an attempt to slow down this resistance veterinarians suggest that we adopt the principle of targeted selective treatment (TST). So instead of a blanket treatment of the whole flock, we should only treat those that show symptoms of a parasite infestation.

Drs Bath and van Wyk, from the Small Stock Health &

Production Dept of the University of Pretoria have developed a quick way of assessing the condition of a sheep or goat, which they have called the Five Point Parasite Check.

Catch your sheep and restrain it. Then examine:

1 ~ The nose, for nasal discharge caused by nasal bots,

2 ~ The eyelids, for paling caused by anaemia, as a result of haematophagous (blood-sucking) worms,

3 ~ Under the head, for swelling below the jaw, commonly called bottle jaw, which is brought about by haematophagous worms and conical fluke,

4 ~ The back, in order to assess body condition score,

which is affected by worms, 5 ~ Under the tail, for faecal fouling or dag score due to worms which cause diarrhoea

This check is practical, cheap and quick.

(scouring).

Not all animals are equal ~ the way they handle parasitic infestations differs. Careful observation of your animals will reveal which have a Continued on page 38





#### LIVESTOCK

From page 37

greater resistance to parasites. Those who demonstrate greater vulnerability to infestations should not be part of your breeding programmes. As Bath states, "The motto must be 'Stop Selecting Sissy Sheep!'"

Good nutrition, especially protein and trace elements, are needed to support the sheep's resistance, resilience and immunity. But one also needs to ensure enough exposure to worms for immunity to develop. Quarantine procedures must be in place when animals are brought in from elsewhere so that worms are not introduced to the farm at the same time. As part of a "sustainable and holistic integrated parasite management (shIPM)", you will need to lay in supplies of medications for each of the parasites that you are able to identify. Ask your vet for

advice on what is particularly common in your area.

They most often come in the form of a drench, which is a liquid form of medicine that you administer through the mouth of the animal. Often one medicine will target more than one parasite, particularly the worms. Read the label, follow instructions and check the spectrum covered. Common parasite remedies available in Gauteng have one or more of four active ingredients. The names are long and to make choosing easier they have each been assigned a number, which is displayed in the top right hand corner of the bottle label: 1 =Ivermectin, a macrocyclic lactone; 2 = Albandazole; 3 =Imidothiazole; 4 = Salicylimide. Some drenches have more than one active ingredient,

Continued on page 39

denoted by two numbers in





#### From page 38

the top right corner, eg 3+4. Good practice is to dose alternately with the different active ingredients. You can keep track of what you should use by working according to the month. Thus, if you have to dose a sheep in January, use a dose which contains 1, in February one which contains 2 and so on. In May use a combination, say 3 and 4, and in June go back to 1.

Target the most vulnerable (lambs and lactating or heavily pregnant ewes) for special attention. It is largely these groups that will need more treatments and greater vigilance.

It is also practical to make some form of temporary marking on the sheep to indicate that it has been dosed. Animal marking sticks are available in different colours and an animalfriendly spray marking paint can also be ordered.

Holistic parasite management must also include how you manage your land. In order to decrease the parasite load in the pasture, which will be in the form of eggs in the faeces of the animals, reduce the length of stay of the animals in any one pasture. Short-cropped pastures may indicate high and efficient utilisation, but they also carry the increasing risk of high levels of infection by helminth larvae. Also allow enough time for regrowth to take place.

If this is not possible, try to reduce the grazing pressure by placing fewer sheep there. Increase the time of absence from a pasture, especially at danger times. The period of paddock rest is crucial in reducing a build-up of infective larvae and thus the challenge to grazing sheep or goats.

VESTOC

If possible alternate with nonsusceptible grazing species, eg, horses, cattle and ostriches.

Avoid worm "hot spots" such as small grassed pens and leaking water troughs. Mend leaking water troughs, fence off marshy areas, and remove grass from all holding and security pens.



Checking for anaemia by examining the eye tissue against a colour chart

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# Plant indigenous to fireproof your smallholding

auteng's fire season is still a couple of months distant, but now is nonetheless a good time to examine your property, particularly your trees, to see whether you can do anything more to protect your home from fires.

The aim of most smallholders is to encourage trees to grow on their land for shade, wood and landscaping. However, there are some which will do the opposite from protecting your property when they catch fire.

It is well know that conifers such as pine and other fir trees, cedars, cypresses, spruces and yews are highly flammable because of their resin. Even conifers that are indigenous, such as the Mountain Cypress, are highly combustible.

Blugums and other eucalypts are also most susceptible to fire. The windblown embers from pines and gum trees can travel a considerable distance and start spot fires.

Another incendiary alien invasive tree is *Solanum* 

mauritianum or bugweed. This is a Category 1 declared weed, which requires that it should be controlled immediately. Large plants need to be cut at ground level and any regrowth treated with a suitable herbicide.

Although not a tree, pampas grass is also likely to burn quickly and increase the intensity of a blaze. It too is a Category 1 weed. There are other ornamental grasses that will be equally problematic. Not all invasive alien trees burn quickly - Acacia mearnsii (Black Wattle), A dealbata (Silver Wattle) and Salix babylonica (Weeping Willow) are some of the more threatening of the invasive trees but they are well adapted to fire.

With the wattles there is the further complication in that they produce an abundance of seeds that accumulate in the soil. These seeds are stimulated to germinate en masse by fires, which means that burning can dramatically increase the number of plants.

Continued on page 42







While stock lasts. Models available may differ from illustrations. E&EO.

#### **FIRE WATCH**



Fire retardant ... Ice plant From page 41

According to Brian van Wilgen, professor in the Centre for Invasion Biology at Stellenbosch University, there is some good news concerning wattles. The introduction of biological control to reduce the seed output of Australian wattles is having some effect. The introduction of a suite of seed-feeding weevils and gallforming flies and wasps (which prevent seed production by inducing the formation of galls instead of seed pods), has significantly reduced the seed output of many Australian wattle species. In the meantime though if you have any species of wattle mentioned above now is the time to cut them down.

If you decide to cut down trees, be sure to remove whatever you have cut from the site so that there are no piles of dead material lying around.

Then you are faced with the question of what to plant as replacement.

Fire-retardant trees can offer protection from fire in three ways. Firstly, by acting as a shield against the immense radiant heat generated by an approaching fire, so that the house is protected from the intense temperatures that can shatter windows and

melt materials.
Secondly a large
canopied tree or a
strategically placed hedge
act to trap the burning
material carried in the
intense fire winds. This
reduces the amount of
flaming matter that can
reach and ignite the

building itself. Finally the stored moisture in the leaves acts as all water does  $\sim$  it suppresses the fire's energy. Many times even a single tree has saved a house or shed.

Plants with broad fleshy leaves and/or a high salt content burn much less readily than those with fine

hard leaves.

Bear these points in mind when looking at the trees around your boundary and the trees that surround your garden. The number of tall trees grown should be in scale to the property. Always plant with their mature height and width in mind. Wellmaintained evergreen shrubs and trees planted on boundaries can reduce fire intensity and wind speed, and deflect and filter embers.

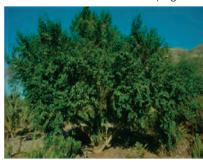
If trees are spaced so that their canopies aren't touching, this will help reduce fire spreading from tree to tree. Trees with smooth trunks are less flammable.

Remove branches that could cause power line short circuits and check electrical installations regularly.

Pay special attention to fuel load management in downslope areas and construct firebreaks adjacent to the property. Slash long grass and undergrowth and remove dead and dry branches from trees

Cut back or remove trees that are overhanging or touching a building.

Continued on page 43



Fire retardant ... tree fuscia

#### From page 42

Keep ground clear of leaf and bark litter. Studies have shown that leaf and twig litter, especially twigs of pencil thickness, play an important role in initiating the combustion of buildings, often after the main fire front has passed through.

Although no plant is fireproof, many plants have features that minimise the extent to which they contribute to the spread of veld fires.

Well-watered plants will not burn as readily as those that are not well maintained. Landscaping with fire retardant plants or plants that re-sprout after a fire is part of an overall fire defence plan. Choose from a range of

firewise plants, many of which are indigenous. Plants with fleshy, moisture-

retaining leaves and plants with underground roots and tubers can survive fires. Citrus, coprosma, ice plants, sedum, echeveria and kalanchoe, with their high moisture content, burn more slowly. The leaves, stems or roots of succulents have been adapted to store nutrients and water. Aloes have a low flammability because of their fleshy leaves. Old aloe leaves should be removed to lessen the risk of fire.

Three trailing plants that are useful for covering soil are Othonna capensis with tiny yellow flowers, Convolvulus

sabatius and Aptenia cordifolia monilifera), dune crowberry with fleshy bright green leaves and small red flowers.

Some plants grow in such a way that they cover the soil. Agapanthus do this well, and because of their strong root system, help prevent erosion by binding soil. Other bulbs to use are Tulbaghia and watsonia.

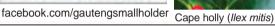
According to biodiversity and plant expert Kay Montgomery, Bergenia cordifolia is a much under-rated plant. It has large evergreen, leathery leaves that hug the ground and attractive pink flowers.

For hedge plant choose from Krantz aloe, tick berry (Chrysanthemoides

(Searsia crenata) and camphor bush (Tarchonanthus camphoratus).

A useful tree for the perimeter is the Halleria lucida (tree fuchsia) which is quick growing with pretty flowers and glossy bright leaves. You can also investigate Cape holly (*Ilex mitis*), rooiels (Cunonia capensis) if you have a shady spot near water and Cape beech (Rapanaea melanophloeos).







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#### **DISEASE**

## Wet weather brings on cattle ailments

ith outbreaks of Lumpy Skin Disease and Three-day Stiffsickness being picked up by veterinarians among cattle herds across the Highveld, cattle owners have been advised not to resort to "boer-maak-n-plan" remedies, but to place reliance on registered drugs and vaccines to combat the diseases. Excellent rainfall and relatively warm temperatures are what bring out the carriers of these diseases, and prevention is better than cure. Thus, vaccination of healthy animals, during the course of the year and before any possible outbreak, should form part of every livestock owner's regular regimen. Vaccinating sick animals is useless, say veterinarians. Moreover, treating sick

## Home-made remedies are daft, ineffective and dangerous say vets

animals with, for example, bizarre remedies such as injections of Dettol, or acetylsalicylic acid (aspirin, to you) is also useless, and possible dangerous.

Antibiotics are used to treat lumpy skin disease, while anti-inflammatory products registered for livestock are used for three-day stiffsickness.

Lumpy skin disease is transmitted by mosquitoes and flies, among others. It was first detected in what was Northern Rhodesia in 1929, but has since spread throughout Africa, and outbreaks have also been reported from, among other countries, Israel and Bulgaria. Transmission can occur by

Member of the Borehole Water

Association of South Africa

Kevin: 084 538 4600

Email: kevin@rainsford.co.za

**Quality Service** 

**Throughout Gauteng** 

ingestion of feed and water contaminated with infected saliva. The disease is characterised by painful nodules on the entire body, particularly on the head, neck and udder, between seven and 19 days after the animals are infected by the virus.

The nodules can become necrotic (ie the flesh dies off). The disease is sometimes fatal.

Three-day stiff-sickness, also called bovine ephemeral fever, is also a viral disease, particularly devastating in the dairy industry. Symptoms include a sharp rise in temperature followed by, among others, loss of appetite, a stiff gait, nasal discharge and salivation,

inflamed joints, and rapid pulse and respiration rates. It is also an insect-transmitted disease.

### QUIRKY



Moth repellant, maplotter-style



**Borehole Pump Installations** 



## Quality Agricultural Equipment & Spares



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# GAUTENG SMALLHOLDER CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

## ABSOLUTELY FREE TO PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS. CONDITIONS:

- 1. Animals (including horses), birds, poultry, fodder, bedding, etc must be paid for as SuperSmalls (see p 56).
  2. Wanted ads, services of any kind are also SuperSmalls.
- 4. No Commercial ads accepted as classifieds (see display ad tariff p 1).
  5. Placement maximum of 3 months

## SUPERSMALLS

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

#### **FOR SALE**

## BIRDS & POULTRY

Japanese quails available, already laying, R40 per bird, ideal size for restaurateurs for their tables. Eggs available as well at R250 per tray of 200. Contact Audrey 084 746-1221

Chickens: Layers R145 each, day-old R23 each, four weeks R50 each. Roosters R150 each. Ducks R120 each. Contact Botha 083 304-3060, Mari 072 295-0139 or apbventer@gmail.com

Potch Koekoek: 1 young male, approx 15 weeks old end Feb. Breeding quality bird - R75. Phone Pete 072 587-9137 Bredell

Adorable fluffy yellow day-old ducklings R12,50 each, collected from farm. 074 550-4315 Magaliesberg.

Skrop kapokkies, Bosvelders, Koekoeke, wit en Patrys kleur Silkies, Hollandse Kwaker eende, Chinese ganse, gewone ganse, Tarentale, budgies, Kameroense Dwergbokke. Christian 073 230-6474 Hartbeespoort

#### **LIVESTOCK**

Potbelly pigs x 14, in very good condition. For pets or breeding. What offers? Kobus 083 773-2954 or Martin 012 345-1052

#### **FISH**

Koi fish: Variety of large and small fish in top condition. Make an offer. Phone Kobus 083 773-2954 or Martin 012 345-1052

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

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

Stainless steel farm donkey. 210 litre, fireheated. Constant hot water. From R3 996 incl VAT. Contact 011 762-1212, 082 456-0973 or stainlessspecial@absamail.co.za.

## PRODUCE & FODDER

Lucerne for sale in Kempton Park. R70-00 per 50 cm by 70 cm round bale (delivery excluded). Hammered lucerne also available at R6-00 per kilogram. Call 082 569 1679.

1,2m Oulandsgras bale R430, Teff bale R500, Bemeste 2016 bale. Kontak JFR Neuhoff 082 610-3544

6 acres of clean grazing ~ teff/eragrostis-/kikuyu/veld grass mix ~ in Kyalami area. Last grazed April 2015, now ready for mowing & baling/otherwise carting away. Will share cutting costs. Call 083 515-8547

Shavings – 25kg large bags. Meranti – R15/bag, White Pine – R22/bag. Delivery can be arranged for loads of 100-200 bags Contact Thea or Samantha 011 957-2588

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

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

#### **FOR SALE**

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

## FARMING REQUISITES

Chicken manure, free ~ collect and load yourself. 082 873-9969

Pleysier broeimasjien: semi-outomaties +-350 eiers R5 500. Christian 0732306474 Hartbeespoort

#### **MISCELLANEOUS**

Security light fittings. Large commercial lights, old metal halide type etc, 8 in total. R500 the lot. Pete 072 587-9137

Large office desk, dark varnished wood, drawers both sides (one side for hanging files. R500 collected Bredell. Pete 072 587-9137

Hiker's backpack. Lightweight pale blue material, on long aluminium frame (space for sleeping roll under pack). R250. 2-man beige canvas tent (old fashioned, custom made ~ large enough for space between two sleeping bags.) Needs 2 poles. Ideal kids' play tent. R250. Pete 072 587-9137 Bredell

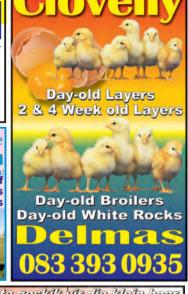




facebook.com/gautengsmallholder









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 FRFF.

NOTE: FARMERS' & CRAFT MARKETS. For a listing of REGULARLY HELD markets and fairs please see the separate section on page 51. 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 0427730. 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.

#### 2017

#### March

4: Folk Music Festival at In the Forest Venue, Aloe Ridge Drive, Walkerville, 0930 - 1900. Tickets at intheforestvenuenutickets co.za

7-10: Introduction Course to Beef Cattle Management (4 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. R2 680. Call Annetije Loubser, aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012

Bashewa, Pta East: 50 ha farm for sale

R7m or rent R16 000 pm, 19 km from

Solomon Mahlangu Dr, Pta east. Good

security area, 3 big bedrooms 2 baths,

immediately. Call Ben 082 707-6900

town with beautiful mountain view. All

outbuilding, one side is a river. Available

Stutterheim E.Cape: 17 000 m2 stand in

672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273 7-10: Introductory Course in Pig Production (4 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. R2 680. Call Annetjie Loubser, aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273

11: 9th Purebred Dexter Klub annual auction, 1100am, Willem Prinsloo Agricultural Museum, R101 Old Pta road, near Rayton. Auctioneer: Kobus Ehlers, BKB van Wyk 083 692-9809. Further enquiries Kobus van der Linde 082 783-9605 or Hennie van der Westhuizen 082 879-1945

12: Full moon

20: Fauinox

21: Human Rights Day

28: New moon

#### April

8-9: 55th Walkerville Agricultural Show, Walkerville Showgrounds. Old Vereeniging Road, Walkerville. 08h00 till late

**Buyers of ALL Scrap Meta** 

11: Full moon

14: Good Friday

Collectible stationary engines: 3 HP Wolseley (working order), 3 HP Vetsak (working order), 3 HP Lister - petrol. Plus spare magnetos to be serviced. R6 000 the lot. Contact Evan Langley 058 924-0764 or SMS 082 265-4073

Table & four chairs R400. Old tent R300. Tile saw R600. Toilets and wash basins. Dot matrix printer R50. Wooden bed ends

Top Bloedlyn & Geregistreerde

Wit Dorper Stoet

Olive, peach, nectarine, plum, almond, apricot,

walnut, prune, pomegranate, pecan nut, apple, cherry

pear, fig, quince, mulberry, lemon and grape vines. Shade Trees

Vrugtebome

Olyf, perske, kaal perskes, pruim, amandel, appelkoos,

okkerneut, pruimedant, granaat, druiwe, pekanneut,

appel, kersie, peer, vy, kweper, moerbei en suurlemoen

Skadubome

Trees

· Stoet & Kudde Ramme

· Volwasse Stoet Ooie

Jong Ramme en Ooie

ruit

R50. Rocking chair R300. Alarm system R300. Antique Chesterfield R800. Gas geyser R100. Electric geyser R100. Hifi speakers R50. 083 633-3193

#### **PROPERTY FOR** SALE/TO LET

Pretoria: Uitzicht: 2ha for sale 17 km from town and 25km from Hartbeespoort. Very neat 4 bedroom, 3 bathroom house. Lovely garden. Ideal for small farmer. Strong borehole, armed response, good security, quiet area. R2 million neg. Contact Louis 072 390-8892

services in place, ideal for development of townhouses, retirement cottages etc. R900.000 Cell 072 305-4890

#### **TRACTORS & IMPLEMENTS**

Eenrigting dis R3 300, 3-lit eg plus parte R2 000; 5 tand skoffel R1 200. Christian 073 230-6474 Hartbeespoort

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erru: 084 840 0409

kerry.wire@hotmail.com



Gerhard - 081 552 0126

Or email: gkgroen@gmail.com

75% ABSORPTION RATE

LESS POO TO PICK-UP!!!

15: Easter Saturday 16: Easter Sunday

17: Family Day

24-26: Artificial Insemination of Cattle Course (3 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. Call Annetjie Loubser,

aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273

26: New moon

27: Freedom Day

End April, dates to be confirmed: Summer/Autumn Purebred Dexter Show. For details contact Kobus van der Linde 082 783-9605

#### May

1: Workers' Day

8-12: Introductory Course in Poultry Production (5 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. Call Annetjie Loubser, aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273

10: Full moon

13: Elementary course in beekeeping at Highveld Honey Farm, 186 Uys Street, Rvnfield Benoni A.H, commencing 9.00 to 12.30pm. Cost R300 including refreshments. Call convenor Peter Clark 011 362-

16-19: Nampo Harvest Day Agricultural Show, Nampo Park, R30 between Klerksdorp and Bothaville.

22- 26: Veld management course offered by Africa Land-Use Training, Pretoria. For more information, such as venue and full programme, or the reservation form, email courses@alut.co.za.

25: New moon

27 & 28: Outdoor X Expo at Malonjeni Guest Farm, Heidelberg. Tel 016 423-4073 or email info@outdoorx co za

www.outdoorx.co.za

29-2 Jun: Introductory Course to Small Stock Management (5 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. Call Annetjie Loubser, aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273

29-2 Jun: Meat Processing Course (4 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. Call Annetjie Loubser, aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273

3: Chelsea Lane Home for Seniors Morning Market, 13 James Road, Fairleads, Benoni. A variety of stalls, a tea garden, live music & entertainment for the kids. Entrance Fee of R30 includes a bacon & egg roll. Plenty of free parking & security. Call Wendy or Bridget 072 696-8367

3: Mampoerfees at Willem Prinsloo Agricultural Museum, old

Pretoria/Bronkhorstspruit road, Rayton. Food stalls, a fleamarket, demonstrations and house tours, pap en kaiings, oxwagon rides. Gates open 08h00 for the public and close around 17h00

6-9: 7-10: Introductory Course in Pig Production (4 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. R2 680. Call Annetjie Loubser, aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273

15-17: Kragdag Expo, Diamantvallei Landgoed near Rayton. Afrikaans-focused alternative living exhibition with food. entertainment etc in association with Solidarity. To exhibit call 087 231-1644 or email info@kragdag.co.za. Online bookings at www.kragdag.co.za

16: Youth Day

20-23: Introduction Course to Beef Cattle Management (4 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. R2 680. Call Annetjie Loubser,aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha,

PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273 21: Solstice

24: New moon

#### <u>July</u>

4-5: Dairy Processing Course: Yoghurt and Maas Manufacturing (2 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. Call Annetjie Loubser, aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273

9: Full moon

18-21: Dairy Processing Course: Cheese Manufacturing (4 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. Call Annetjie Loubser, aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273

#### **August**

3: New moon

3: National Women's Day

7: Full moon

15-18: Introduction Course to Beef Cattle

Management (4 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. R2 680. Call Annetjie Loubser, aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273 21-25: Introductory Course in Poultry Production (5 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. Call Annetjie Loubser,

tel 012 672-7273 End August, dates to be confirmed: Second Purebred Dexter Spring Show at the Willem Prinisloo Agricultural Museum, Rayton district. For details contact Kobus

aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or

Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za,

#### <u>September</u>

van der Linder 082 783-9605

1: New moon

5-7: Artificial Insemination of Cattle Course (3 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. Call Annetiie Loubser.

aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273

6: Full moon

11-15: : Introductory Course to Small Stock Management (5 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. Call Annetjie Loubser, aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273





In 2 litre bags: R15



Website design, developement & redesign

Brand Print|G
Identity|Logo Design
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folder, logo) Invitati
Flyers|Leaflets Poster|

Print/Graphic

Design

gn,
It & redesign

Print/Graphic
Design
Brochures
Packaging
Design
Restaurant Menu
Invitation
Poster/Banner
Print Ad

### **DIARY**

18-22: Aquaculture management course (5 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. Call Annetjie Loubser, aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273

- 20: New moon
- 22: Equinox

979 5088

- 24: Heritage Day
- 25: Heritage Day spillover holiday

#### October

5: Full moon

9-13: Meat Processing Course (4 days), ARD Animal Production, Irene. Call Annetjie Loubser, aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273 16-20: Introductory Course in Poultry Production (5 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. Call Annetjie Loubser, aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273

#### November

19: New moon

4: Full moon

7-10: Introductory Course in Pig Production (4 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. R2 680. Call Annetjie Loubser, aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thahisho Phasha Phasha T@arc agric za

aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273

18: New moon

22-23: Introductory Course to



Veld/Rangeland Management (2 days), ARC Animal Production, Irene. Call Annetjie Loubser, aloubser@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-9153 or Thabisho Phasha, PhashaT@arc.agric.za, tel 012 672-7273

#### December

3: Full moon

16: Day of Reconciliation

18: New moon

21: Solstice

24: Christmas Eve 25: Christmas Day

26: Day of Goodwill

#### Snake Catcher



Only R 1295.00 & FREE Postage Call or SMS Ralph: +27 825730710 Or email: SnakeAlert@Global.co.za



## 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

DAY	WHAT	WHEN	WHERE	WHO TO CONTACT	WHAT TO EXPECT				
			Thurso	day					
Every Thursday	Bryanston Organic & Natural Market	09:00 to 15:00	Culross Road (off Main Road), Bryanston.	Konrad or Glenda 011 706-3671 or glenda@bryanstonorganicmarket.co.za	Quality hand crafted goods, unique art and fresh organic and naturally grown produce				
	Friday								
1st Friday	The Shed Night Market	18:00 to 22:00	109 Malcolm Road, Randvaal	Felicity 073 232-0017 or 081 011-9456	Food & craft market.				
Saturday									
Every Saturday	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 Bronkhorstspruit	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 wholefoodmarket@gmail.com	Variety of organic & homemade foods				
Every Saturday	The Shed Food & Craft Market	08:00 to 15:00	109 Malcolm Road, Randvaal	Felicity 073 232-0017 or 081 011-9456	Food & craft market.				
Every Saturday	Pretoria Boeremark	05:30 to 09:30	Pioneer Open Air Museum, Silverton.	012 804-8031 or 082 416-3900 blinsga@lantic.net	Fresh produce and traditional bazaar treats like jaffles, kaiings with pap and boerewors rolls.				
Every Saturday	Bryanston Organic & Natural Market	09:00 to 15:00	Culross Road (off Main Road), Bryanston	Konrad or Glenda on 011 706-3671 glenda@bryanstonorganicmarket.co.za	Quality hand crafted goods, unique art and fresh organic and naturally grown produce				
Every Saturday	The Hazel Food Market	08:00 to 14:00	Greenlyn Village Centre, cor Thomas Edison & Mackenzie Sts, Menlo Park, Pta	Rietha 083 554-5636. www.hazelfoodmarket.co.za	Fresh produce straight from the producer. Coffee, eats on sale				
Every Saturday	Walkerville Farmers Market	09:00 to 15:00	R112 Main Road, Walkerville	079 076-7680 info@wfmarket.co.za	Fresh produce, arts & crafts, food court and kids play area				
Every Saturday	Walkerville Agricultural Market	09:00 to 15:00	K154 T-junction with R82	082 573-2780 market@walkervillesa.co.za	Organic produce and Crafter's Market. www.walkervillesa.co.za				
Every Saturday	Bosheuvel Fresh Produce	09:00 to 15:00	54 Glory Road, Muldersdrift	Mitch 082 553-2846	Meats and vegetables, delicacies, honey, cheese, brewery, crafter's market and children's entertainment.				
Every Saturday	Market @84	09:00 to 14:00	84 On Main, Walkerville	Ariel 078 223-9238	Fresh organically grown produce and crafters market				
1st Saturday	Jozi Real Food VEGAN Market	09:00 to 15:00	Pirates Sports Club, Braeside Avenue, Greenside	083 532 2992 whitespace@mweb.co.za	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 info@victuschristi.org.za	Arts & crafts, fine art, food, fresh meat & produce and home industry				
2nd Saturday	Brakpan Boeremark	09:00 to 14:00	cnr van der Walt and Dirk van der Hoff Brakpan	Marius 011 744-2322 082 904-8852	Over 50 stalls. Food, arts, crafts, etc.				
Last Saturday	Fresh2U Farmers Market	08:00 to 14:00	Corner Main Street and High Street Modderfontein (behind 33 High Street)	Jane 083 376 5567 Chantelle 082 338 7818 wardek@iafrica.com	Over 50 stalls. Fresh produce, home made goods, plants, food and more.				
Last Saturday	Fresh Produce Market	08:00 to 13:00	Lakeside Mall Boathouse	Alma 079 940-0201 realfood4realpeople@gmail.com	Local fresh produce direct to the public				
Last Saturday	Windpomp Market	08:00 to 14:00	Broodblik & Koffiepit on the R51 between Petit & Bapsfontein	adelekoffiepit@gmail.com 083 445-1608	Homemade crafts & food stalls bakery & coffee shop and entertainment				
1st Saturday	Bunny park food and craft market	09:00 to 14:30	Bokkie park, Southvale Rd, Parkdene, Boksburg	Janine Richardson 072 713 3332	Arts & crafts, fine art, food,				
	Sunday								
Every Sunday	Fourways Farmers Market	10:00 to 15:00	Corner Montecasino Boulevard and William Nicol Drive, Fourways	011 465 0827 www.ffmarket.co.za	Get your groceriesIn the garden!				
Every Sunday	Jozi Real Food Market	09:00 to 14:00	Northcliff Country Club, Fir Avenue, Northcliff	083 532 2992 whitespace@mweb.co.za	Arts & crafts, music & entertainment, inspired cuisine organic vegetables & coffee, pet productsy				
Last Sunday	Aloe Valley Food, Arts & Craft Market	10:00 to 14:00	48, R511 Doornrandjies	012 669-3043 info@serendiptiycafe.co.za www.serendipitycafe.co.za	Community market to promote local business				

#### Conditions.

- 1. Small advertisements that do not qualify for FREE CLASSIFIEDS: PRODUCE, FODDER, PLANTS, LIVESTOCK & WANTED ADS.
- 2. Cost: R120-00 per 25 words or part thereof. Additional words chargeable at R1-00 per word.
- 3. Payments to be made to BOWFORD PUBLICATIONS (PTY) LTD, Nedbank Northmead, Account 1948 073 099.
- 4. Use your telephone number as reference on your payment.
- 5. Advertisements will only be published on our website and in the magazine when paid for.
- 6. The Publisher reserves the right to edit or omit advertisements at his discretion.
- 7. It is the Advertiser's responsibility to ensure we have received the advert and payment.
- 8. Services do not qualify for SuperSmalls. Please see our business rates on page 1.

**USE THE SuperSmalls FOR:** PRODUCE, FODDER, PLANTS, ALL ANIMALS & PETS including HORSES, POULTRY AND WANTED ADS

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Tel:

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DEADLINE for submission: 15th of the month prior FOR ENQUIRIES TEL 011 979-5088

Send your advertisements and PROOF OF PAYMENT to:

BY FAX: 086 602-3882

BY POST: Box 14648, Bredell 1623 BY EMAIL: gautengsmallholder@gmail.com

BY HAND: 370 da Costa Dr, Bredell, Kempton Park

#### Conditions:

Tel:

- 1. Only private advertisements for used or second-hand items accepted. COMMERCIAL and BUSINESS advertisers should refer to our rates on page 1, and those selling PRODUCE, FODDER, PLANTS or LIVESTOCK OF ANY DESCRIPTION should refer to the **SuperSmalls** coupon above.

- Only ONE insertion per application, and one category per coupon.
   No DEALERS or AGENTS or COMPANIES permitted in the free classified section.
   No ANIMALS (including HORSES), PETS or POULTRY permitted as free classifieds
- 5. No WANTED ads will be accepted as free classifieds.
- 6. No SERVICES will be accepted as free classifieds.
- 7. Classified advertisements may only be submitted for three consecutive editions.
- 8. The Publisher reserves the right to edit or omit advertisements at his discretion.

### 9. It is the Advertiser's responsibility to ensure we have received the advert. USE THE COUPON BELOW FOR FREE CLASSIFIED ADS

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PLEASE		
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CAPITALS)		
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DEADLINE for submission: 15th of the month prior FOR ENQUIRIES TEL 011 979-5088

BY POST: Box 14648, Bredell 1623 BY EMAIL: gautengsmallholder@gmail.com BY HAND: 370 da Costa Dr, Bredell, Kempton Park

BY FAX: 086 602-3882

Send your Classified advertisements to us:

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#### THE BACK PAGE

## It's called progress

y, how things have changed in the 18 years since this magazine started! The other day I was invited to give a presentation on the magazine and its origins to an association meeting nearby.

This necessitated a bit of research on my part  $\sim$  18 years is a long time, and at my age the memory begins to dim somewhat. But it also gave me pause for reflection upon the changes that have taken place in the environment in which we operate. Long-time readers will know of the physical changes that the magazine has undergone. Until 2008 it was printed on A4 photocopy paper, and bound down the left hand edge by two staples. We started with only a few thousand copies, distributed solely on the East Rand. Then, by adding 500 copies here and 1 000 there we began distributing in Blue Hills, then Honeydew and Muldersdrift, then Pretoria East, and Delmas, and then we made a foray south to Walkerville and De Deur. The maximum number we ever printed on our own presses was 12 500, decided simply by this being the number of sheets of paper in five boxes, which made budgeting easy – five boxes per sheet times twelve sheets? Go and buy 60 boxes of Typek. Originally, all the text and advertisements were in black only, and the magazine was printed on old (50 years old, or more) single colour presses which printers disdainfully dismiss as "duplicators."

A series of these machines, as well as ancillary equipment such as collators and a guillotine, were housed in my double garage. This is linked to my home which, as a result, was redolent (aka it stank) perpetually with the pungent, and probably toxic, odour of ink, paper and solvents. This, and the perpetual noise from the presses as we hammered away for 18 hours a day for up to three weeks of the month did nothing for either my marital or familial relations...

Interestingly, there are a few advertisers from those very early days who are still selling their wares through our pages today, so while my marriage may have been in jeopardy at least the magazine was achieving what we had set out to achieve. Gradually, advertisers began demanding colour in their ads and so slowly we added, first, single spot colours, and then full colour in a few cases.

This proved a technological nightmare for us on single colour presses and in time we bought a larger, A3 two-colour press. This magnificent beast was a joy to operate when it was running well but, sadly, it had been built at the time when the first little

bits of microchip technology were being applied to industrial machines and its microchip boards were anything but fault free. And so they were quickly bypassed and disconnected, resulting in a machine that operated with an impressive electronic control panel of flashing lights and counters, the information being displayed being absolutely meaningless. Meanwhile the various gates and sensors connected to the lights were bypassed using elastic bands, paper clips and duct tape.

And collating took place around our dining room

table, undertaken by a team of "casuals" ~ otherwise unemployed ladies from nearby plots who would spend their days walking round and round the table putting the pages together, talking loudly as they worked, and occasionally dipping into my booze cabinet for sustenance.

Eventually, nearly ten years ago printing in the garage became too much for us and we graduated to the services of a commercial printer to produce the magazine you are reading today. This also enabled us to grow beyond the five boxes per

By Pete Bower, Publisher

sheet and our distribution area has grown concomitantly and now swallows up 19 000 copies monthly.

In the 18 years great strides have been taken in the field of technology. GPS technology is now commonplace, cellphones are sophisticated devices on which one can read magazines. As a result we now have an electronic version of the magazine, which you can download to you home computer, read online or even enjoy on your smartphone.

Websites such as Gumtree and OLX have just about killed the need for printed classified ads (though we still enjoy a fair number of old-timers selling their livestock and used farming stuff through our pages). And the word "smallholder" itself has taken on a new meaning, having been appropriated by the government to describe the new generation of emerging Black farmers, settling areas outside those that we identified as smallholdings in the late 1990s. And those are the readers we hope to begin serving as well.



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