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'n Voëltjie met
VOORDELE

Game ranching
QUO VADIS?

Wettige wildsvleis
IS GOUD WERD



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High hopes for the industry

Dr Gert Dry was unanimously elected the new president for Wildlife Ranching SA (WRSA) at the organisation's annual general meeting held on 14 March 2008. He succeeds Borrie Erasmus, who served in this capacity with distinction.

In his inauguration overview, Dr Dry praised the work done by his predecessor Borrie Erasmus, and expressed his commitment to follow in such illustrious footsteps.

"Historically, game was regarded as part of nature, with the result that numbers decreased to a point close to extinction," Dr Dry said. Towards the middle of the 20th century, game had almost no monetary value, and was regarded as unwelcome competitors for limited grazing available.

As a response to the declining numbers and uncontrolled hunting, conservation agencies such as the National Parks Board and Nature Conservation were established, as well as a number of statutory game reserves.

It was a step in the right direction, and South Africa became a world leader in the concept of fenced-in game ranches. Furthermore, provincial ordinances and Acts applicable to the hunting, catching and selling of game, enabled the land-owner to claim ownership of a particular game on his land.

"Without the efforts of private land-owners, nature conservation today would have been in a much poorer state. The growth of game ranching industry is a strong vehicle preventing the extinction of game species. Game such as bontebok,

the Cape mountain zebra, the geometric tortoise, both rhinoceros species and various plant species, were preserved by private game ranchers.

"With only 17% of South Africa's agricultural land having a high yield potential, wildlife ranching should be regarded as one of the best development options of marginal agricultural areas.

"By 2000, around 9 000 privately-owned game ranches covered 16 million ha. Today, South Africa has more game than it had in the past 150 years," he said.

Adding another 6,1 million ha in national and provincial reserves, means that 20% of all agricultural land is utilised for game.

Almost 50% of all game ranches are situated in Limpopo, followed by the Northern Cape and Eastern Cape with 19,5% and 12,3% respectively. "This industry is worth in excess of R1 billion if related tourism is taken into account. Furthermore, game

is a very important source of high-grade protein." Government needs to look at the optimal performance of wildlife ranching needs, and should promote the consumption of organic venison to reap the benefits from culling programmes. He gave the assurance of WRSA that the meat scheme under the Meat Safety Act proposed to the Department of Agriculture (DoA), will be prioritised and honoured as negotiated with that department on an annual basis. Together with DoA, Wildlife Ranching SA will develop a plan for development targets over a two-year period. **WR**



Dr Gert Dry

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Cover photo taken
by Neil Trollip

Witwarm veiling voorspel 'n goeie jaar



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- 1 Willie Roux, afslaaer van Vleissentraal
- 2 Die WRSA-kataloguswildveiling op 15 Maart buite Pretoria, het 'n rekordbedrag van net oor die R9,063 miljoen opgelewer
- 3 Wildboere by WRSA se veertiende jaarlikse katalogusveiling

- 4 Stuart Dorrington se witnosterbul het 'n rekordbedrag van R650 000 behaal
- 5 Gary Murphy van Middelburg, Mpumalanga, het verskeie wildsoorte aangebied
- 6 André en klein Divan Viljoen van Pretoria, het die veiling elk op sy eie manier gevolg

Wildbedryf SA (WRSA) het sy veertiende jaarlikse katalogusveiling aangebied waar wild van 44 wildboere uit sewe provinsies aangebied is – bykans 1 400 diere van 36 soorte.

Hierdie veiling word beskou as een van die heel grootstes en rigtinggewend in die land, met verskeie rekordpryse wat aangeteken is. Verkope het meer as R9 miljoen oorskry, wat wildboere optimisties stem so vroeg in die jaar.

Die WRSA-kataloguswildveiling is op 15 Maart buite Pretoria gehou en het 'n rekordbedrag van net oor die R9,063 miljoen opgelewer. Nuwe rekordpryse vir Zambiese Swartwitpense (R240 000) en 'n witrenosterbul (R650 000) is op die veiling behaal.

Wildboere was in die algemeen tevrede met die pryse behaal en met die wildsoorte beskikbaar, hoewel min buffels en bastergemsbokke uiteindelik hande verwissel het.

“Hierdie hoë omset so vroeg in die jaar dui op goeie dinge vir die res van die jaar. Die mark vir lewendige wild is steeds stewig en kan deursuur na ons ander benuttingsvorme,” sê Reinhardt Holtzhausen, bestuurder van WRSA.

“'n Mens wonder net wat die pryse sou wees as rentekoerse nie so hoog was nie en die Amerikaanse dollar nie so verswak het nie,” voeg hy by.

“WRSA wil graag die organiseerders van die veiling en ons verkopers en kopers hartlik bedank vir hulle bydrae. Ons dank ook aan SA Jagtersvereniging dat ons hulle fasiliteite vir die veiling kon gebruik – ons hoop ons kan volgende jaar weer so maak!”

Die veilingsverslag hiernaas is deur die afslaer by die veiling, Vleissentraal, verskaf.

Familiegroepe Family groups	Getalle Numbers	Gemiddelde prys Average price	Hoogste prys Highest price
Blesbok	40	R800	R800
Blesbok-Wit/White	5	R1 500	R1 500
Blouwildebees/Blue Wildebeest	21	R1 500	R1 500
Bosbok/ Bushbuck	11	R6 318	R6 400
Buffel/Buffalo (bull and cow)	1 + 1	R120 000	R120 000
Duiker-Grys/Common Duiker	4	R1 900	R1 900
Eland	30	R3 633	R3 900
Gemsbok/Gemsbuck	21	R3 900	R3 900
Kameelperd/Giraffe	4	R15 000	R15 000
Koedoe/Kudu	91	R2 008	R2 100

Sebra/Zebra	10	R4 000	R 4 000
Njala/Nyala	10	R6 000	R6 000
Rooibokke/Impala	60	R650	R 650
Rooihartbees/Red Hartebeest	21	R3 500	R3 500
Springbok-Hartwater/Heartwater	9	R6 000	R6 000
Swartrooibok/Black Impala	8	R31 256	R35 000
Swartwitpense/Sable Antelope	19	R103 000	R120 000
Swartwitpense-Zambiese/Zambian Sable Antelope	4	R240 000	R240 000*
Vlakvark/Warthog	20	R500	R500
Waterbok/Waterbuck	24	R4 292	R4 700
Witrenoster/White Rhino – Koei & Bulkalf/Cow & Bull Calf	1 + 1	R350 000	R350 000
– Vers/Heifer	1	R225 000	R225 000
– Bul & Koeie/ Bull & Cows	1 + 2 =3	R170 000	R170 000
– Koeie/Cows	5	R308 000	R380 000

Bulle & Ramme Bulls & Rams	Getalle Numbers	Gemiddelde prys Average price	Hoogste prys Highest price
Bastergemsbok/Roan	4	R26 000	R26 000
Buffel/Buffalo	2	R85 000	R85 000
Kameelperd/Giraffe	4	R11 000	R11 000
Njala/Nyala	3	R11 000	R11 000
Seekoei/Hippopotamus	1	R50 000	R50 000
Swartwitpens/Sable Antelope	10	R41 400	R55 000
Witrenoster/White Rhino	3	R408 333	R650 000*

* Rekordprys behaal 