

Wagyu Social Development Report

Dr Baldwin Nengovhela

NkhanedzeniN@dalrrd.gov.za

Purpose

Getting developing farmers engaged in farming with a niche product such as Wagyu is one of the corporate goals of the Wagyu Breed Society. Target commercially orientated emerging farmers that want to be part of a value chain that produces high value beef. Report will focus on the activities from the 13th of May to 13th September 2021

WSD Focus

WSD is currently focusing on three activities i.e. establishing a demonstration site (Booyskraal farm), a business model & then access to Wagyu genetics & breeding plan.

The focus has been on supporting one farmer to serve as a demonstration site with all needed infrastructure to raise Wagyu to meet Certified Wagyu Protocols. This period a plan around the farm was developed and finalised and implementation commenced (attached). The plan is being implemented but inputs from the rest of the board will make it replicable. Two teams visited the farm to establish the infrastructure needs and plan on repartitioning of the farm into more camps with capabilities to supplement cows and creep feed calves. The range management team from NWDARD & DALRRD accessed the farm maps and had a farm orientation visit. The team also had a candidate agricultural engineer from DALRRD-CASP to assess the state of infrastructure on the farm and their report is also attached. The team will finalise the costing by the week of the 27th of September 2021 to include in the business case for support through government support for 2022/23 financial year.

WSD committee met on the 19th of August 2021 and more discussions were had on the possible business model that can be promoted by WSD. The focus has been on supporting a model that will breed F1 weaners that receives creep feeding to sell to those ready to finish over the required period. The breeding plan includes breeding F1 heifers with either Akaushi (Red Wagyu) or Japanese Black depending on their sires e.g. Booyskraal is having Akaushi heifers that could be bred with Japanese Black in 2022 breeding season.

Correspondence

- a) A request from another farmer Ms Ndoni Khanyile-Isaacs to be included for 2021/22 breeding season. She farms Beefmasters on farm Kleinfontein in Amersfoort area in MP and would like to breed 60 cows.
- b) Another request was from Ms Naledi Mhlongo a co-owner of Boy Meat Girl Butchery which is in Maboneng precinct in downtown Johannesburg – a tourist HUB interested in accessing Wagyu meat for her clientele.

<https://mabonengprecinct.com/archives/listings/20-kruger-street-city-and-suburban-johannesburg-south-africa-boy-meats-girl-butchery-2>

