

# NGUNI CATTLE BREEDERS' SOCIETY

## OFFICE REPORT FOR 2011



(From Left to right): Yolanda Venter (Office Manager), Maki Moshao (Office Assistant), Louise du Toit (Financial Officer), Elmarie du Preez (Administrative Officer)

The membership of the Nguni Cattle Breeders' Society rapidly grew to make the Society one of the largest cattle breeders' societies in South Africa. The Society had a busy year and many goals were achieved during the year under consideration.

### NUMBER OF BREEDERS AND ANIMALS

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of January 2012 the membership of the Society totaled 405 registered breeders. During the reporting period 47 new members joined the Society and 51 members resigned.

The numbers of animals registered by the Society were as follows:

Female Animals	Total	1year >	2 year >
2 January 2011	44 741	38 752	31 090
1 January 2012	44 261	38 594	31 086
Male Animals	Total	1year >	2 year >
2 January 2011	17 177	11 500	6 227
1 January 2012	16 460	11 117	6 006

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

The following Council meetings were held during this period:

- 18 & 19 January 2011
- 10 & 11 May 2011
- 15 & 16 August 2011
- 11 October 2011 - Workshop
- 10 November 2011

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held on 12 November 2011 at Kopano Nokeng. The meeting was attended by 72 people. A formal evening function was held the previous evening and it was attended by about 163 people. Photos of this event are available on Facebook.

### OFFICE MEETINGS

The office staff has a meeting every Monday to discuss the week's schedule. Problems are also discussed at these meetings and resolved as far as possible. At these meetings each staff member has the opportunity to discuss their problems and to get solutions in place.

### FINANCES

A full report on the financial position of the Society was given to the Council at every Council meeting. Issues regarding income, expenses, outstanding creditors, bank balances and outstanding debtors were discussed at all Council meetings. During this period thirty one breeders were handed over to Equity Trust for debt collection. The Society's finances were fully audited by Price Waterhouse Coopers and are in a healthy condition.

### ENQUIRIES

A large number of enquiries are handled daily by email, telephone, letters and personal visits to the office. Except for the resolution and correction of errors in the data, most of the enquiries reflected interest in the Nguni breed and praise in the virtues of the Nguni breed. The Office Manager also handled queries of a technical nature.

### SASAT CONGRESS (SA SOCIETY FOR AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGISTS)

The Office Manager attended the 29<sup>th</sup> SASAT Congress in September 2011 where a poster was presented. The title of the poster was: "The evaluation of culling reasons used by the Nguni Cattle Breeders' Society" (page 94 -95). The poster was awarded 2nd place in the competition for the best poster.

### TRAINING CD

The following documents were compiled for a training CD:

The word "Nguni" is written in a large, elegant, cursive script. The letters are dark and have a slight shadow, giving it a three-dimensional appearance. The background behind the text is a light, curved, wave-like shape that tapers off to the right.

- Description of Nguni cattle
- Ecotypes
- Technical and Administration matters
- Codes for rejection reasons during inspections
- Disqualifications of Nguni cattle (Schedule B)
- Rules regarding Semen- and embryo donors
- Requirements for sales held under the auspices of the Society

## JUNIOR INSPECTORS- AND BEGINNERS COURSE

The above mentioned course was held in Bloemfontein on 12 and 13 October 2011. Fifteen people attended this course and three persons have passed the Junior Inspectors course.

## INSPECTOR'S REFRESHER COURSE

The above mentioned course was held at Reyneke Park on 11 November 2011. This course was attended by 45 inspectors.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT WORKSHOP

The officer and Ms Louise du Toit attended the above mentioned workshop on 18 and 19 October 2011. The aim of this workshop was to gain a better understanding of financial statements in order to be able to monitor the financial health of the Society.

## MARKETING/COMMUNICATION

The office was involved with the following marketing and communication actions of the Nguni Breeders' Society:

Journal 2011

Calendar 2012

Nampo 2011 - exhibition

Royal Show - exhibition

Mega week 2011 - exhibition

Website and Facebook

The Nguni breed of cattle - History book about the Nguni and Society.

Advertisements in Magazines:

- Veeplaas, April 2011, "Nguni - 'n boerbees vir Afrika"
- Stockfarm, August 2011, "Nguni - a breed for Africa"
- Veeplaas diary - logo and contact details
- The Farm Africa - 4 banner advertisement with 12 months exposure on the [www.agrifika.co.za](http://www.agrifika.co.za) website
- National Agricultural directory 2012
- RPO, quarterly advertisement of Society's logo and contact details, September 2011 - June 2012
- Mega week programme guide
- Promotion article in *Landbouweekblad* - 30 September 2011

- AgriSA, December 2011 / January 2012 - "Nguni het reeds diep spore getrap"

The following communications were sent to breeders:

- Newsletters ( April, July, December 2011)
- By-laws - 1 July 2011
- Schedule G2 - 1 July 2011
- Call for Application for annual inspection
- Call for Advertisements for Journal 2012
- Call for Advertisements for Calendar 2012
- Preliminary notice of annual general meeting and call for nominations
- Final notice of annual general meeting, agenda, minutes of previous annual general meeting

## TECHNICAL

## SALES UNDER AUSPICES OF THE SOCIETY

Twenty four auctions were held under the auspices of the Society during this period and 2 334 animals were enrolled in these sales. All the data of these animals (dam and sires included) were verified to make sure that they meet the relevant breed standards of the Society. Mr G Hollowell was contracted to assist the office in compiling the sales catalogues and to verify the data. The final catalogues were checked by the Office Manager and inspectors were appointed for the sale screenings.

## IMPORT OF NGUNI ANIMALS FROM NAMIBIA

Twenty four animals were imported from Namibia. All the necessary application documents, permits and certificates were arranged by the Office Manager, who also verified the data to ensure that the animals meet the relevant breed standards.

## UPGRADING COWS FROM FR TO APPENDIX A

The number of animals upgraded from First Registration to Appendix A was 126. The applicable data of the cows were verified and checked whether they complied with the relevant standards for upgrading to Appendix A and whether the animals could be transferred.

## RE-INSTATEMENTS

Re-instateMENTS were done for 133 animals during this period.

## IDC PROJECTS

A request for the verification of the data of 144 animals was received during this period.



Nguni

## CLEANSING OF THE DATABASE

Mr. G Hallowell was contracted to handle the cleansing of the database on a quarterly basis. All female animals that did not meet the minimum reproduction standards were cancelled after the breeder was informed. Animals in non-active herds that did not comply were also cancelled, and problem herds (herds not meeting breed standards) were also identified. More than 4 281 animals were cancelled. The office assisted him with the necessary correspondence to breeders and the handling of the enquiries from breeders.

## INSPECTIONS HANDLED DURING THIS PERIOD

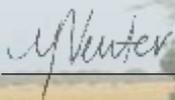
Appeal inspections: 5  
Annual inspections: 245  
Special inspections: 10

## SA STUDBOOK

Several issues were sorted out with SA Stud Book, for example:

- Catalogue programming
- Catalogue inspectors report for the SA Stud Book format
- Programming of breed standards
- Logix problems
- Pending animals
- Import animals

The Nguni Society's office was very busy during the period under consideration and all the staff are grateful for the patience and support shown by the breeders. The breeders form the backbone of the Society and with their help and encouragement the office will strive to keep on rendering a good service. The Nguni is a unique breed with unique characteristics - it is the aim of the office staff to empower the breeders of this Society to make the most of our breed of cattle.



Yolanda Venter  
Office Manager



**Ivonne van Tonder**  
Responsible for handling the  
direct dealing at SA Studbook.

