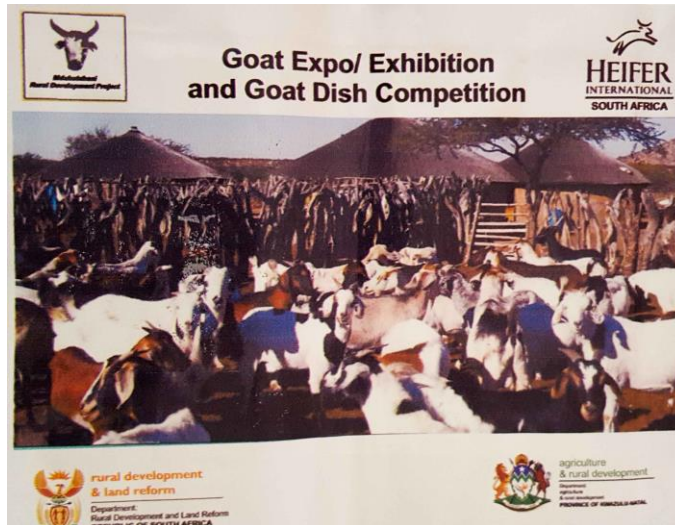


Msinga Goat Expo and goat dish competition

30th January 2016

As part of our ongoing collaboration with the Provincial Department of Agriculture a goat Expo on breeds farmers could work with as well as a goat meat cook off was held in Msinga at Mphelankani drifting circuit.



The first part of the day was to show off both exotic and local goat breeds so farmers were more informed on breed strengths and possibilities. Mdukatshani and local officials organised bringing local breeds and AAM the auction agency got some of their buyers to bring examples of the exotic breeds.



The visit was attended by King Zwelthini and the MEC Agriculture as well as local dignitaries.



A very engaged King went from goat kraal to goat kraal speaking to the breeder getting an idea of what they were breeding and how it was going...



Here he talks to Gosi Mnthambo
One of MRDP staff who also has
an extensive goat herd at
Mdukatshani- Nkosi Mchunu on the left
The King bought 6 of
the displayed goats from the Msinga
Stock at between R3 000 and R5 000
each



Mdukatshani training materials and
block mixing instructions were being handed to all guests

Mdukatshani was asked to set up an exhibits on the interventions to improve Msinga and Kwazulu goat herds



The stand with goat creep feeding examples, training materials, stover processing equipment, goat energy block making equipment. Also information on the Community Animal Health Worker (CAHW) program as well as examples of products made with local goat skins by local crafters.



Gugu explains the goat skins value adding thinking to the MEC and





Here Zandile Ndlovu explains to the King how to measure a goat using the goat girth belt that we co-developed

The third part of the day was around goat value adding and getting goat meat into the value chain. The department had prepared various types of goat meat



Burgers, cabanossi, wors, Salami, meat loaf, biltong
All tasting very good to many cynics surprise.



Then the highlight for many was the best goat dish competition. 8 Msinga co-operatives had been training in Pietermaritzburg for a week and had a chance for a cook-off with catering equipment as prizes. The judges headed by the head chef of the Durban based International convention Centre (ICC)



The judges



The arena



The teams



The sort of dishes presented by the co-operatives



And the dishes of goat meat prepared by ICC chefs for the MEC and King and other VIP's



Two days later the MEC and the KZN Premier Mr Mchunu attended a sod turning ceremony for the first goat abattoir adjacent to the sales yard.



“Goats are largely drought-resistant and we believe that in an area which already has a large goat population it is a natural and worthwhile development.” during the sod turning of a goat abattoir in Msinga.