



## **MENTORING OF EMERGING DAIRY FARMERS AT ELIM, BREDASDORP**

(PRJ-0015-2013)

### **Milk Producer's Organization -**

**Year 2013** (January 2013 till December 2013)

#### **Project goals**

##### **Goal 1 - Establish additional 20 ha of pasture by May 2013**

###### ***Achievements***

###### **ACHIEVED**

Elim now has 44 hectares under pasture.

Although Elim dairy produced 600 wrap roughage bales from the dryland areas, the budget for 2014 also makes provision for buying the following roughage: round Straw bales, round Oats bales and round Lucerne bales.

The necessary pastures are under irrigation and the current grazing management plan in operation (see below) is successful and will be continued with in 2014.

- Cattle graze in blocks and move to another block every new day.
- Fertilizer is applied within 3 days after grazing and then irrigated immediately afterwards.
- The target to graze on a 28 day cycle.
- The pasture will be cut from time to time with a mulcher after grazing, to ensure even re-growth.
- 30kg Nitrogen is also applied after each grazing.
- The target is to move the cattle to the grazing fields as soon as possible after milking.

Of utmost importance now is the speedy implementation of the Phase 2-Irrigation stage and is the priority for 2014. This will contribute towards even better and more grazing. The new system will contribute towards better and effective irrigation on existing graze-land with a resultant improvement in milk production.

#### ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

##### **Goal 2 - Obtain more cows: milk 200 cows by June 2013**

###### ***Achievements***

###### **AMMENDED**

The target has been amended to align with the latest business plan approved by CPAC and is set as 170 cows in milk by November 2013

The Herd Composition as of December 2013 is as follows:

COWS IN MILK - 149, DRY COWS - 27 and HEIFERS of all ages - 161

The current average milk production is 14 litres/cow/day which is a normal trend when taking the warmth of the summer months into consideration. An average of 17.2 litres/cow/day at certain times in the year has been reached. The total milk production had more than doubled due to

more cows in milk and better pastures.

### ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

#### **Goal 3 - Sustain good herd health**

##### ***Achievements***

ACHIEVED

Veterinaries are continuously involved with the herd. The parlour manager together with the herd manager are both very aware and concerned with the herd health and give special attention to Red Water, which had devastating results after an outbreak earlier in the year.

### ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

#### **Goal 4 - Maintain strict financial control**

##### ***Achievements***

ACHIEVED.

A budget has been compiled for the current year and financial matters is discussed at the monthly management. Strict controls are in place to ensure control over the budget. Expenses are well managed and listed below are some of the major approved expenses:

- New tractor R 623 880-00
- Cows R 342 000-00
- Fertilizer R 6 650-00

- 2nd Phase Irrigation R 400 000-00 is in the process of being installed

The dairy applied for the reallocation of the remaining funds that were underspend and this application is already approved by the Department of Agriculture and CPAC.

### ***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

#### **Goal 5 - Maintain good communication with Elim community and Moravian church governing bodies**

##### ***Achievements***

ACHIEVED.

Establishing a successful project such as the Elim Dairy Project is more complicated than many might expect, for it cannot be compared to the average commercial dairy farm, where one person (the owner) makes all decisions and then implement it in a short period of time. With a project such as the Elim Dairy there are but too many role players resulting in many unnecessary delays. However, many of the "relationship "related issues have been addressed and resolved in 2013.

The current stakeholders are:

The community - which is still a very important role player in the project. They have to be beneficiaries of this undertaking and the management team are therefore continuously making plans to get the community as a whole behind the project .

The Milk Buyer - consultations with the milk buyer (Parmalat) has at goal to try and get a milk scheme up in running for five institutions in the Elim community.

The Moravia Church - Elim Dairy signed a lease agreement with The Moravian Church which is the owner of all Elim property (land) so many of these land related problems have been resolved and that provided the dairy with tremendous growth opportunities

Technical Committee - there was a reduction in the previous structure to just one management structure which is the Technical Committee. This committee has a close relationship with the Elim Dairy Board and give feedback to and on it regularly.

***No Non-achievements / underperformance has been reported***

## Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	<a href="#">MPO ElimExpensesJantoDec2013Q4report.xlsx</a>
Unnecessary spending during period	No

## Popular Report

No file has been uploaded

## Additional documentation

[Additional Documentation MilkSA Yearlyreport 2013.docx](#)

## Statement

Levy funds were applied only for the purposes stated in the contract	Yes
Levy funds were applied in an appropriate and accountable manner	Yes
Sufficient management and internal control systems were in place to adequately control the project and accurately account for the project expenditure	Yes
The information provided in the report is correct	Yes