



Veterinary Consultancy - Animal Health and Welfare

(PRJ-0357-2023)

Dr Mark Chimes

Quarter 2 2023 (April 2023 till June 2023)

Project goals

Goal 1 - Veterinary Consultancy - Animal Health and Welfare

Achievements

1. 5 Apr 2023 - Attend Webinar of Jompie Burger - "Sharpen your pencil on Dairy Legislation"
2. 12 Apr 2023 - Attend meeting with the SPCA, Jompie Burger & Fanie Ferreira to discuss the amendments of SANS 1694 - The transport of dairy calves
3. 19 Apr 2023 - Attend IDF online discussion on dairy calf rearing. - The latest approaches advised is to rear calves in groups of at least 2 individuals, but no more than 10, to allow direct contact. This apparently improves cognitive development. In addition, various systems to implement cow-calf contact were also discussed. The aim is to allow the calf some contact with the dam for at least the first 8 weeks. This is to reduce the negative public perception of calves being removed from the dam shortly after birth.
4. 20 Apr 2023 - Attend IDF Subcommittee on Animal Health and Welfare AGM per zoom
5. 26 April 2023 - Present webinar for the DSA - "rBST - Friend or Foe?"
6. 3 May 2023 - Attend IDF webinar on the Nutrition Matrix of Dairy online.
7. 8-10 May 2023 - Attended RUVASA annual congress in Muldersdrift.
9 May 2023 - Presented 2 lectures at RUVASA Congress "The welfare of bobby calves" and "The welfare implications of lameness in dairy cattle".
The preparations for the webinar and lecture presentations took a lot of my time during this quarter.
8. 17 May 2023 - Attend IDF webinar on "Understanding Methane"
9. 24 May 2023 - Attend DSA Webinar on "The fear factor in automated microbiological test methods"
10. Revised SANS 1694 and SANS 1488 to compile a list of all the guidelines we would like to update and

Non-achievements / underperformance

The Biosecurity Plan tick sheet, that farmers can use to compile a documented biosecurity plan for audit purposes, has not been finalised yet.

Reasons for non-achievements / underperformance

The first two iterations proved to be too onerous and impractical for general farm use and had to be redesigned.

Planned remedies for non-achievements / underperformance

A new outlay has been adopted and a "test run" will be performed at my next dairy farm audit.

ensure that they are synchronised between the 2 SANS documents. Compiled annexes for inclusion in the SANS standards. (See uploaded documents - Annex J, K ,L)

10. 26 May 2023 - Attend LWCC meeting online and provide feedback on the revision of SANS 1694 - The transport of dairy calves

11. 31 May 2023 - Completed survey questionnaire of the NAHF regarding the operational plan stemming from the joint workshop of the NAHF and Tia in Jan 2023. (see uploaded documents)

12. 1 June 2023 - Compiled a report for the IDF on "Animal welfare effects on the 4 pillars of sustainability" from a South African perspective. (See uploaded documents)

13. 5 June 2023 - Studied the guidance notes of the IDF for IDF Experts since my registration as an expert on animal health and welfare was accepted.

14. 7 June 2023 - Attend DRDC meeting online.

15. 15 June 2023 - Attend online meeting with Dr Heinz Meissner, Chris van Dijk and Jompie Burger to discuss the viability of a possible research project that was applying for funding from the UK.

16. During this period I also completed 6 x Dairy Farm audits for the DSA as well as registered for the IDF World Congress in Chicago, booked flights and accommodation and arranged my visa.

Income and expenditure statement

Income and expenditure statement	2nd Quarter Budget 2023 - Dr Mark Chimes.xlsx
Unnecessary spending during period	No

Popular Report

[South Africa - Examples of animal welfare interacting with the 4 sustainability domains.docx](#)

[Annex J - Assisted Calving.docx](#)

[Annex K - Paired Calf Housing.docx](#)

[Annex L - CALF SELLER-BUYER AGREEMENT.docx](#)

[Proposed amendments to SANS 1488-2014 - when due for revision.docx](#)

[Proposed amendments to SANS 1694-2018 - when due for revision.docx](#)

[Copy of survey answers submitted to the NAHF.docx](#)

Additional documentation

[Dr Mark Chimes - Lameness in Dairy Cows as a Welfare Issue.docx](#)

[The welfare of dairy calves.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