

## NWVLU

Platina region's 28th Congress

p4+5

## RED MEAT INDUSTRY

RPO appoints new executive chief

p7

## IN MEMORIAM

Homage paid to Jacques Swanepoel

p8

# For the love of lavender

AGRIPULSE – DE WILDT – Lavender reminds us of beautiful purple swathes of colour in the fields, butterflies, fragrance, comfort and relaxation - so many positive emotions.

Lavender it is one of the most popular flowers grown anywhere in the world, but there are two lavenders that stand out above all and they are the Margaret Roberts *Lavendula intermedia* which grows with long flowering stems and flowers growing intermittently up each stem and the *Lavendula dentata 'elegans'*, with its deep purple singular, large head.

Both these lavender varieties were cross bred and mother stock grown at the Margaret Roberts Herbal Centre in De Wildt, Northwest, to be the easiest, least complicated variety enjoyed by growers and for all gardeners in South Africa today. AgriPulse visited the herbal centre to witness the spectacular display of fields of lavenders during the celebration of the 41st Lavender festival, which took place 2 September. Sandy Roberts, daughter of the late Margaret Roberts told AgriPulse that her mother left a legacy of lavenders and that she (Sandy) is just as passionate about the precious purple herb.

"*Lavendula intermedia* and the *Lavendula dentata 'elegans'* are two wonderful varieties that love full sun, deeply dug rich composted soil and both need to be spaced one meter apart for their enormous size of growth when planning of planting starts," Sandy said. "A twice weekly watering into the roots in winter and three to four times in the hot summer months are needed for its full flowering heads to grow prolifically."

If picked often, the flowers will grow in abundance, with the richest fragrant oils ideal for distilling.

"Remember to pick a bunch of lavender and tie it to a hot running bath tap to ensure a fragrant bath filled with its essential antioxidant antiseptic healing properties that will soothe dry skin and de-stress a tired body and soul within minutes," she said.

Tips on pruning for hedging and growing for bee and butterfly gardens:

Lavender should be cut back twice a year, early spring and midsummer, to keep it

compact and to extend its longevity. Cut back by a third after flowering, lavenders that flower continuously can be lightly trimmed when bushes start looking untidy. This will prevent lavender from getting woody.

Rule to remember: Only cut into semi-hardwood (green stems), but not into old, brown wood. Always make sure that there are small shoots below the cut. Lavender does not regenerate from old wood.

When to prune: Lavenders that mainly flowers in spring can be pruned in November after flowering. When flowering starts to slow down due to heat, it can be pruned in summer. The Margaret Roberts lavender that flowers continually can be trimmed 2 to 3 times a year, but don't cut back by more than a third.

Especially this time of year lavenders in a garden are a gentle reminder to slow down and embrace the beauty of life.



Literally at the foot of the Magaliesberg, the abundant scent of lavender welcomes visitors to the Margaret Roberts Herbal Centre in De Wildt, North West. With the dawn of spring, the luxurious palette of purple pigments is a tonic for all the senses. In this edition Sandy Roberts talks about lavender in the garden and kitchen.

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**22 SEPTEMBER 2023 - 11:00**  
**NKLH VEILINGSKRALE, KIMBERLEY**

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**Third Quarter Moon 22 Sept.**

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**Moon Phases September 2023**

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### Contact us:

Tel: 014 592 8329  
 Fax: 014 592 1869  
 E-mail: [mailbag@rustenburgherald.co.za](mailto:mailbag@rustenburgherald.co.za)  
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Epko se aanleg in Lichtenburg produseer 210 ton se ru-olie as hy op spoed is.

# Power issues in Lichtenburg affect Epko’s production

AGRI-PULSE – LICHTENBURG – This town has recently been without power for almost four weeks – with a devastating financial impact for residents and businesses.

Epko, NWK’s sunflower oil crushing plant in Lichtenburg, has been unable to produce since 2 August, due to a large-scale power outages that leave the plant with as little as eight hours of electricity on some days.

This plant, with the ability to crush 600 tons of seeds per day to produce 210 tons of crude oil, is at a standstill because certain residential areas are being supplied with power for only four hours at a time, before being disconnected to supply another part of town with electricity.

A new transformer was installed, but Eskom refused to restore power to the entire town until the Ditsobotla Local Municipality paid at least R123,5 million of its debt to the power supplier. Ditsbotla owes Eskom about R1 billion in total.

“It is a nightmare,” Adriaan Oosthuysen, financial manager of Epko, described the situation.

“After a power outage, we must allow two hours for the pipeline to be cleared for us to resume production. The process is also halted a while before an outage to prevent damage to machinery. It is therefore not feasible to try and produce in such a short timeframe.”

Should the plant produce with the help of generators, it will absorb 90% of the profits due to the high fuel costs.”

Epko has already lost more than R53,5 million between 1 May 2022 and 30 April 2023 due to load-shedding.

“The costs are astronomical. The money could have been used to expand other business segments,” Theo Rabe, group CEO of NWK, said.

The fallout from the break in production will be seen over the long term with the price of sun flower oil produced to go up costing the consumer more money in the long run.



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# Die 28ste NWWLU Kongres by Buffelspoort aangebied deur Platinastreek



Jeanné Slabbert (NWWAU judges organiser) passed her judges examinations for sewing, baking and sweets, arts and crafts. Pictured here with her is Gerda Swart (NWWAU President).



Knitting: Elize Oosthuizen (second, Sonneblom). With her is Gerda Swart (NWWAU President).



Writing: Ita Viljoen (second, Platina) and Verona Loots (fourth, Platina).



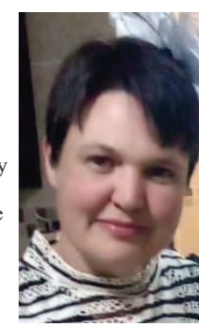
Louise Herbst (Platina) receiving the trophy for the region who best communicated with head office from Gerda Swart (NWWAU President).

AGRI-PULSE – RUSTENBURG - The NWWAU Congress started off on a high note with an aesthetically pleasing and attractively decorated hall. Delegates bearing banners representing the three regions, SAWAU, ACWW and the new Rural Women in Action Fund made a grand entrance. Pastor Flip Herbst spoke about elders being a gift from God, and the need to pass skills to the younger generation. President of NWWAU, Gerda Herbst welcomed all and officially opened the congress. Greetings from the guests were interesting, particularly Dr Marina Muller, the Area President of the ACWW who spoke of faith and hope and

financial assistance to improve the lives of rural women. Branches who have applied for and received funds for a project to improve the lives of women in their area, must be sure that it is maintained. The old "Pennies for Friendship" which has long been meaningless has been replaced by the Rural Women in Action Fund and she showed the new banner to depict it. The first speaker, Naas Grové, President of the Dendrological Society, elaborated on the theme "Protect the Environment" by means of an interesting presentation. He showed the fragility of the planet resulting from overpopulation, pollution (particularly plastic), deforestation, and burning fossil fuels, that

draws a bleak picture for the future of the earth. These factors result in climate change with the attendant loss of biodiversity, melting of glaciers and overall warming. As Al Gore said, "The earth's condition of deterioration is an Inconvenient Truth". What can we, as WAU members, do? Start small, by for example patronizing local suppliers, planting, and preserving our indigenous trees, and reaching out to others by carrying the message of preserving the environment. The talented guest artist, Sharonney, had a powerful voice that kept the audience entranced. Simone Coveiro gave a dramatic performance to illustrate our project, "Care for Others" using coffee as the theme.

Share with others and do not to just pour a cup of coffee for a friend but show love. A new judge for certain subjects was congratulated. All the North West judges present were thanked and each given a WAU teaspoon. The prizegiving was conducted in an orderly way and Platina Region received most points, followed by Sonneblom Region. The formal dinner was a great success with beautifully set tables and Fanus Pieterse as the guest artist. Gerda Swart was re-elected as President and Madeleine van Heerden as Provincial Public Relations Officer.



Madeleine van Heerden of Groot Marico was appointed as new NWWAU liaison officer at the NWWAU Congress.



Pictured here are Louise Herbst (Platina), Hester Koegelenberg (Verwes), Gerda Swart (NWWAU President) and Elize Schutte (Sonneblom).

Embroidery: Elize Oosthuizen (first, Sonneblom), Francis Liebel (third, Platina) and Elsa van Rooyen (fifth, Platina).



Painting: Cecilia Nel (first, Sonneblom), Fia van der Merwe (second, Platina), Annelie Coetzer (third, Platina), Louise Herbst (fourth, Platina), Ineke Bakker (fifth, Sonneblom) and Christelle Buys (sixth, Platina).

Crafts: Jeanné Slabbert (first, Sonneblom), Elsa van Rooyen (second, Platina), Elize Oosthuizen (third, Sonneblom) and Francis Liebel (fourth).



Crochet: Maureen Blom (second, Verwes), Elsie Marx (third, Verwes) and Helen Elkington (sixth, Sonneblom).



Pictured here are Naas Grové, Johan Bezuidenhout, Flip Herbst, Carlos Coveiro, Sharonney, Dr Marina Muller, Barbara Nell, Hester Koegelenberg, Elsie Marx, Elize Schutte, Judy Steynberg, Thea du rand, Gerda Swart, Tienie Lewis, Maatjé Hobson, Elaine Smit, Istella van Rhyn-Nel, Simoné Coveiro and Louise Herbst.

Preserving: Istella van Rhyn\_nel (first, Platina), Francis Liebel (second, Platina), Neeltje Louw (third, Platina), Jeanné Slabbert (fourth, Sonneblom), Rebecca Malepe (fifth, Platina) and Alda van der Walt (sixth, Sonneblom).



Baking: Maatjé Hobson (first, Verwes), Riana de Villiers (third, Verwes), Elize Schutte (fourth, Sonneblom) and Susan Loots (sixth, Platina).



Neeltje Louw (Brits) receiving the trophy for NWWAU branch project n behalf of Brits branch from Gerda Swart (NWWAU President).



Louise Herbst (Platina) receiving the trophy on behalf of Platina Region for the region with the most points at the congress from Gerda Swart (NWWAU President).



Elize Oosthuizen (Sonneblom – Leeuhart) receiving the trophy for the most points at the congress from Gerda Swart (NWWAU President).



Pictured here are Thea du Rand, Hester Koegelenberg, Elize Schutte, Tienie Lewis, Louise Herbst, Maatjé Hobson, Gerda Swart and Istella van Rhyn-Nel.

Sewing: Elize Oosthuizen (first, Sonneblom), Marlien van Vuuren (second, Sonneblom), Maatjé Hobson (third, Verwes), Fia van der Merwe (fifth, Platina) and Magda Owgan (sixth, Platina).



Gerda Swart (NWWAU President) was again appointed as NWWAU President at the NWWAU Congress. Pictured here with her is Elize Schutte (Sonneblom).



Photography: Anja Nieuwoudt (third, Platina) and Riana de Villiers (sixth, Verwes).

## HJW BRAHMANE

### BUL VEILING 2023

# 19 SEPTEMBER 2023

11:00 - WOLMARANSSTAD

HJW 20 61  
LOT 11

HJW 20 42  
LOT 19

HJW 15 17  
LOT 12

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☎ Johannes: 082 333 0919  
☎ FP: 0829329034  
☎ Willem: 082 782 3055  
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# Baking with lavender and lemons



AGRIPULSE – DE WILDT – At the Margaret Roberts Herbal Centre in De Wildt, Sandy Roberts, daughter of late Margaret Roberts said that *Lavendula intermedia* is the best lavender to use in cooking.

Every part is used, particularly the seeds, flower heads and young leaves are used in cakes, herb teas and even in pan fried fish for the most delicious flavour that is truly unlike any other.

She shared a special lavender and lemon shortbread recipe, her great grandmother, from Scotland, used to make. "The taste of this shortbread always brings back the fondest memories," she said. To compliment the shortbread, enjoy it with a cup of lavender and lemon tea.

**Lavender shortbread**  
Preheat the oven 180°C  
250g chilled butter  
100g castor sugar and add 5-6 short stems Margaret Roberts lavender flowers and 10 ml lemon zest.  
1½ cups sifted cake flour.  
25 ml cornflower

Mix all the ingredients together, starting by creaming butter and castor sugar and thereafter add cake flour and corn flour until you get a firm dough that comes away from the sides of the bowl. Do not over work the dough as it becomes sticky and warm. Roll out onto a well-floured surface and cut out shapes approximately 5mm thick. Place it in a well-floured baking pan and allow it to rest in the freezer for 30 minutes.

Take out of the freezer and then straight into the oven for approximately 15-20 minutes depending on the size of the biscuit.

Watch carefully to see that the shortbread bakes until light golden brown, not any darker. Serve with a sprinkling of castor sugar on the top.

**Lavender and lemon detox tea**  
1 cup boiling water and 3-4 Margaret Roberts lavender flowers  
3-4 thinly sliced lemon peels  
1 teaspoon honey  
1 small piece of cinnamon.  
Add all ingredients together, allow to stand and steep for a few minutes and cool down.



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Leeupoort Bazaruto PN19294 (Lot 13)

# The Sultan cuties

AGRI-PULSE – RUSTENBURG – The Sultan (breed standard according to SASPO) has its origin in Turkey, is a soft feather, light breed, lay white to cream eggs and are good sitters.

The large Sultan rooster weighs approximately 2,7kg and a hen 2kg while the bantam rooster weighs 680g to 790g and a hen 510g to 680g.

General characteristics of a Sultan's carriage is deep, neat and compact and sprightly. The body rather long and deep with a prominent breast, back short and straight, wings long, large and carried low. The tail is long, broad and carried open, numerous side hangers that is long and fine. The head is medium sized, beak

short and curved, pale blue or white in colour. Eyes are bright red, the comb red, very small with two spikes and almost hidden by the crest. The face covered with thick muffling, nostrils large, rising above the line of the beak. The crest is large, globular and compact. The neck moderately short, slightly arched and carried well back, thighs short, covered with plenty of feathers inside and out.

The Sultan is only available in white and is a rare breed in South Africa.

Enquiries about the Sultan or info of Sultan breeders or if you want to join the Rustenburg Poultry Club, sms or whatsapp Dawie at 071 196 7696.



## New CEO announced for RPO

At the national congress of the Red Meat Producers' Organisation, Prof Frikkie Maré was announced as the organisation's new Chief Executive officer. He will be take office after the retirement of Gerhard Schutte. Prof Maré is currently the head of the department Agricultural Economy at the Free State University. After the announcement, Maré thanked the RPO management for the trust shown and said that he believes that the organisation, as well as the red meat industry, have much potential for growth.

## PRODUKSIEVEILING



**Kortkloof  
Bonsmaras**

**28 SEPTEMBER 2023**

**11:00 | VRYBURG SKOUGRONDE**



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uit die Kalahari*

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**THEUNS VISSER (AFSLAER) : 082 338 1356**

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# Tribute to adv Jacques Swanepoel



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AGRI PULSE, KLERKSDORP - Adv Jacques Swanepoel’s death in August is widely mourned in agricultural circles.

He lost his battle with cancer on August 23. He was at home, surrounded by his loved ones.

On the day of his funeral service, the North West Red Meat Producers organization paid tribute to him for his outstanding contribution to the red meat industry as well as for his fellow humanity and willingness to always help where he can. Swanepoel’s life was celebrated on August 30 when colleagues and friends paid tribute at a memorial service in the Oase Auditorium.

He was buried later the same day during a private ceremony attended only by close family and friends. Swanepoel was known as a fearless legal expert who was passionate about animals, environmental conservation and farming. He was a respected chief state prosecutor in the Klerksdorp area. During his tenure as chief state prosecutor, he became involved in Agri NW’s rural security committee in 2007. His involvement with it, as well as his extensive knowledge of the investigation of crime and subsequent court processes paved the way for him to become involved in the NWRPO’s provincial livestock theft prevention forum in 2008.

In 2011, he was elected as vice-chairman of the NWRPO and as chairman of the provincial livestock theft prevention forum. He pioneered work in the red meat industry during his

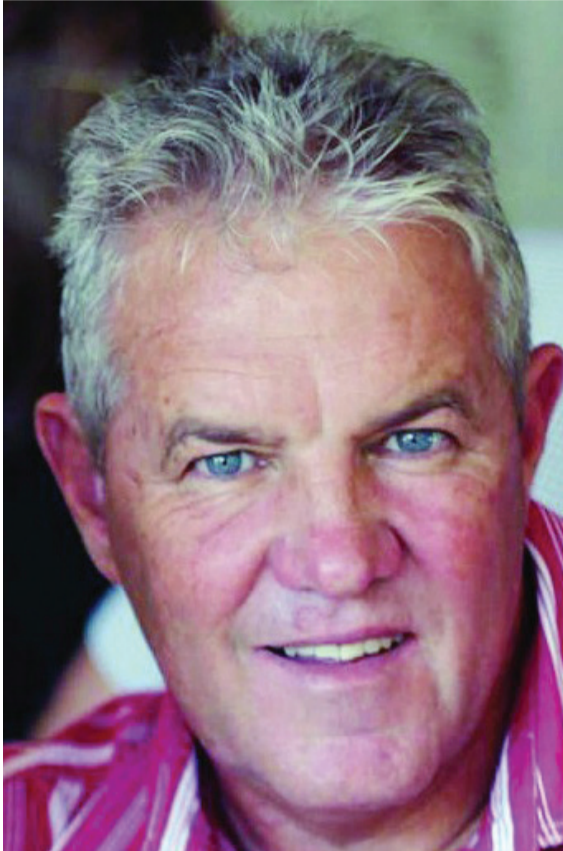
term as chairman of the Livestock Theft Prevention Forum up to and including 2014. During his vice-chairmanship, Jacques represented the NWRPO in the executive board of the National RPO as well as in the national livestock theft prevention forum with great enthusiasm and competence.

He made a notable contribution with the compilation of the livestock theft prevention manual and also offered numerous training sessions to state prosecutors with the English version as a basis. Under his able guidance, the Regulations of the North West Pound Act are drawn up.

He also prepares several commentaries on draft bills regarding the red meat industry and organized agriculture’s interests. At the request of the National RPO, Jacques also drew up a legal opinion at the time on the legal validity of the livestock import policy from neighbouring countries.

The North West Red Meat Producers Organization and its producers mourn the

untimely death of advocate Jacques Swanepoel. The NWRPO will remember Jacques eminently for his particular insight into red meat matters as well as his dedication and selfless service to producers. The NWRPO and red meat producers honour him, his death leaves a great void.



Adv Jacques Swanepoel died last week.



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