

GAME FARMING AFRICA 2021

"Empowering commercial farmers and youth development ..."

25th ~ 26th March 2021

Kievits Kroon Country Estate, Pretoria, Johannesburg

"South Africa's experiment in 'wildlife privatisation' is under threat from the Covid-19 pandemic and the lockdown measures to contain it. The once-thriving game-farming industry is in serious trouble because its main sources of revenue — hunting, game viewing and sales — have been under lockdown" (Business Maverick.)

Overview

Empire Training and Conferences brings you an event on Game Farming Empowering Youth Development and Commercial Farmers Conference—scheduled to take place in Johannesburg, on the 25th & 26th of March 2021.

The Wildlife ranching or Game farming sector is one of the positive growing agricultural industries which generates much needed foreign value and interest, create sustainable jobs, provide food, revitalize declining vigour in rural areas and contribute towards sustainable natural resources management.

According to Dr Tertius Bergh, who is an independent expert in food Safety, "South Africa is now in a situation where game farm numbers are not really growing, but their game populations are reaching and exceeding their carrying capacity. The excess game needs to be harvested and marketed formally and safely to consumers."

More than 20% of the meat consumed in South Africa is game meat, according to Oberem. 'This meat is not only tasty, but very healthy in terms of fat versus protein content, its high mineral levels and so on.'

Last year, the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development amended the Animal Improvement Act, redefining 32 wild species.

The practical effect of this is 'to legitimise this part of the 'game meat value chain' and therefore to develop the industry, especially the export of game meat, offers a meeting place for top Game Farmers, Ranchers, Farmers, decision-makers

and other business professionals as they share their knowledge and experience in transforming the Game farming process in the age of technology and providing alternative farming for the upcoming youth and to encourage Emerging Farmers.

We @ Empire Conferencing are providing you with valuable insights from specialists in the sphere of agriculture and game farming.

Highlights include:

- In Game farming
- How to promote the benefits,
- Techniques,
- Case studies and inspiring keynote sessions to help you address issues related to your farm operations and Management.

Challenges

- The issues being played and challenges within Game Farming include:
- Whether game farmers should be regulated as just another agricultural activity?
- Whether biodiversity conservation concerns should take precedence?
- Whether wildlife should be treated in the same way as livestock?

Speakers:



Prof P van der Merwe,
Senior Lecturer and
Researcher, School for
Tourism Management, NWU



Johan Rabie
Owner,
Chimoyo Safaris



Dries van Coller
President Professional
Hunters of South
Africa



Deon Furstenberg
Director,
Wildlife Production & Ecologist at
GEO WILD Consult (Pty) Ltd



Adri Kitshoff-Botha
Outgoing CEO
WRSA



Franco Joubert
Owner,
NWWT – North West
Wildlife Traders



Francois Knowles
Registrar Agricultural
Produce Agents
Council (APAC)



Dr Andrew Taylor
Programme Officer
Endangered Wildlife Trust
Wildlife in Trade



Ron Thomson
CEO
True Green Alliance.



Andrew Aphane
Entrepreneur,
Game farmer



Marja Spireberg Vrije
Universiteit Amsterdam



Dr Estelle Kempen,
Chief Director: Biodiversity Economy
& Sustainable Use Department of
Environmental Affairs

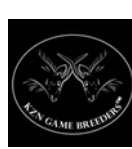


Dr Tertius Bergh
Independent Meat Safety
Expert, Owner, Mobile
Abattoirs



Brian Paine
KZN Game Breeders,
Chairman, Wildlife
Ranching South Africa

With speakers from:



Speaker Bios



Prof P van der Merwe, Senior Lecturer and Researcher, School for Tourism Management, NWU

Peet van der Merwe is currently a senior lecturer and researcher in Tourism Management at the North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus, School of Tourism Management. He obtained his degree in Recreation and Tourism Management in 1994, honours degree in 1995 and master's degree in 2000 from the North-West University. He completed his PhD in 2004 in Tourism Management, was promoted to associate professor in 2010 and full professor in 2014. Peet received his NRF (C3) rating as a researcher in 2016. He also applied successfully for numerous NRF funding for projects, with the most recent focusing on land-use models for the private wildlife industry. As a researcher, he forms part of the NRF research unit TREES (Tourism Research in Economic Environs and Society) and currently lectures Game Farm Management to third-year students, and Ecotourism at honours level.



Johan Rabie, Owner, Chimoyo Safaris

Chimoyo Game Ranch offers three species of Africa's Big 5 namely buffalo, leopard, and white rhinoceros. The magnificent and proud sable antelope as well as a wide variety of plains game are also available as part of the annual hunting quota. Twenty two mammalian species as well as several game bird species like guinea fowl and francolin are available for trophy and biltong (venison) hunting purposes.



Dries van Coller – President Professional Hunters of South Africa

A professional hunter will find himself sitting on a ridge in the African Bush and just become still in witnessing the magnificence of all that Mother Nature has to offer. What is difficult to explain is that the same person will then lift up his rifle and go hunting. It is a passion we are born with, a goal we feel we have to achieve. We do admire, love and respect all that is creation. We are deeply aware of all the complexities of nature and want to do nothing to disturb or negatively affect our exquisite world. A professional hunter wishes to contribute to all that is precious around him, for the very sake of nature. Hunting will never be about us, the professional hunters. Hunting in a responsible, sustainable and legal manner is our salute to the very creatures we hunt. The hunt is taken on as equals. There are no alternates used or timesaving methods being applied. It is man in nature, respectfully tracking down his conquest.



Andrew Aphane – Entrepreneur and Game farmer

Meet Andrew Aphane, director and shareholder at Data Electrical Instrumentation (DEI) Projects – an electrical and instrumentations company that supplies low voltage and medium electrical systems and installation. Learn his Entrepreneurial Success Story: From Boyhood to Manhood at 10 years old Andrew is one of the entrepreneurs funded by our enterprise development arm Zimele, who was able to fulfil his business ambitions and go on to make the difference he always wanted to make. "Making a difference in peoples' lives is what drives me," says Andrew.



Surgeon Marebane Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture



Adri Kitshoff-Botha – Outgoing WRSA CEO

I had a wonderful career in the wildlife sector from 2001—2020. I was privileged to sit around the board room table with businessmen and women with a passion for the South African wildlife sector, serving as volunteers on various organisations' Boards and or Executive Committees.



Franco Joubert, Owner, NWWT – North West Wildlife Traders

Franco Joubert, founder and managing director of NWWT said that this is the 6th year running that this prestigious award has been presented. The criteria for this particular award is not so much about who is the biggest and the best, but rather about giving due recognition to wildlife/game farmers who have been adjudicated to be truly interested and involved in making a difference in the South African game and wildlife industry—particularly in the current difficult times in which the industry finds itself.



Francois Knowles, Registrar Agricultural Produce Agents Council (APAC)

Francois Knowles is Registrar of the Agricultural Produce Agents Council (APAC). A statutory body regulating the occupations of fresh produce, export and livestock agents in South Africa (an industry worth more than R100 Billion per year) in terms of the Agricultural Produce Agents Act (APA Act), 12 of 1992. He has 24 years' experience in the fresh produce market environment backed up by a degree in accountancy & economics, a post-grad qualification in management and a Masters Degree in Environmental Management from the University of Pretoria. He has a passion for agriculture in SA and believes that "the best is yet to come".



Dr Andrew Taylor, Endangered Wildlife Trust Wildlife in Trade Programme Officer

Andrew Taylor works for the Endangered Wildlife Trust, a conservation NGO based in Gauteng. He is part of the Wildlife in Trade Programme and works on issues around legal and illegal trade in wildlife. Andrew conducts research on the wildlife ranching sector in South Africa and has investigated the economic, social and conservation benefits of the commercial use of wildlife on private land



Ron Thomson CEO, True Green Alliance.

Ron Thomson, now 77, has been working within and around Africa's national parks and/or wildlife management systems for 58 years. For 24 of those years he was employed by the Rhodesian Department of National Parks and Wildlife Management. Important past posts held include Provincial Game Warden-in-charge Hwange National Park; Chief Nature Conservation Officer, Ciskei; and Director of the Bophuthatswana National Parks Board. He operated as a Professional Hunter for three years; and for the last 27 years he has been a full time author and wildlife journalist - investigating and reporting upon wildlife management affairs in Africa



Deon Furstenberg Director, Wildlife Production & Ecologist at GEO WILD Consult (Pty) Ltd

Interest in nature and wildlife developed as kid on two family farms in the Waterberg of Limpopo, as well as annual country travelling with my parents. Have experienced the major of South Africa before finishing school at Hendrina on the Eastern Highveld. Started as a researcher in Kruger Park in 1985 and graduated M.Sc. Wildlife Management at the Eugène Marais-Chair of the University of Pretoria in 1991, awarded by the National Academy of Science Art and Culture in 1992 for a 7 year study on tannin toxification of giraffe. In 1990 employed as wildlife researcher by the Agricultural Research Council commencing a 12 year study on the eco-dynamics of game production in semi-arid environments while being based in Port Elizabeth, and later at Grootfontein Agricultural College.



Marja Spierenberg, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Marja Spierenburg is Professor in the Anthropology of Sustainable Development and Livelihoods at Leiden University (the Netherlands), and Research Fellow at Stellenbosch University South Africa. Her research focuses on the role of the private

sector in nature conservation and land reforms in Southern and East Africa, and the impacts on local communities' access to land and livelihood strategies. She has also published on the inclusion of local and indigenous knowledge in biodiversity and sustainability assessments. Marja Spierenburg is a member of the Water, Energy and Food Nexus Knowledge Action Network of Future Earth, and a member of UNESCO's International Advisory Committee for Biosphere Reserves.



Mr. Khorommbi Matibe, Chief Director: Biodiversity Economy & Sustainable Use Department of Environmental Affairs

The focus of the biodiversity and conservation programme is on the regulation and management of all biodiversity, heritage and conservation matters in a manner that ensures equitable and sustainable use, conservation, management and, where necessary, the restoration of this resource base as well as to mitigate threats to them as a basis for sustainable and inclusive socio-economic development facilitates sustainable economic growth and development.



Brian Paine, CEO, KZN Game Breeders, Chairman, Wildlife Ranching South Africa

KZN Game Breeders: Our focus has always been on effective game breeding practices and gaining the knowledge and skill to advance not only the success of the individual game farmer, but also to add as much value as possible to the Wildlife and Game industry as a whole.



Dr. Tertius Bergh, Independent Meat Safety Expert, Owner, Mobile Abattoirs

Dr. Tertius Bergh, a seasoned veterinarian working in the field of meat safety for many years with a wide expertise in meat regulations, training of inspectors and abattoir approvals had a vision of closing the gap that existed in the game industry by rather bringing the abattoir to the animals if game animals could not be brought to the abattoir.

Agenda

Day One - 25th March 2021

08:30 -09:00 Registration

09:00-09:45 Keynote Opening Game farms as sustainable ecotourism attractions
Presenter: Prof Petrus Van Der Merwe, Senior Lecturer and Researcher, North West University

09:45-10:30 The Increasing expectations for the South African game ranching industry- post Covid
Presenter: Johan Rabie, Owner/ Director, Chimoyo Wildlife and Safaris

10:30-10:45 Networking break

10:45-11:30
The role of Extension Farmers in the South African Game Farming Sector
Presenter: Dries Van Coller, President, Phasa

11:30-12:15 Understanding Biodiversity Economy: A Focus On Wildlife Sector (Please note that you are free to make changes to the topic to look at Risk than investment)
Presenter: Mr. Khorommbi Matibe, Chief Director: Biodiversity Economy & Sustainable Use Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries

12:15-13:00
Formulating forward looking Conservation Strategies for Wildlife Habitats
Presenter: Surgeon Marebane Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture

13:00-14:00 LUNCH

14:00-14:45 Amendments to South Africa's Meat Safety Act; Regulating the wildlife farming industry- Defiance or Compliance
Presenter: Adri Kitshoff-Botha – Outgoing WRSA CEO

14:45 -15:30 The growing need for Wildlife Farming the untapped Extension/ Alternative
Presenter: Franco Joubert, Owner, NWWT – North West Wildlife Traders

15:30-15:45 Networking break

15:45-16:30 Understanding the Conservation Value of Game Ranching
Presenter: Dr. Andrew Taylor, Senior Trade Officer, EWT Wildlife in Trade Programme

Emerging game farming and the challenges
Presenter: Andrew Aphane – Entrepreneur and Game farmer

End of day one

Day Two - 26th March 2021

09:00-09:45 Creating a resilient Balancing Act- sustainable Game farming Vs unethical animal
Presenter: Francois Knowles – Registrar, Agricultural Produce Agent Council

09:45 -10:30 GAME FARMING challenges in SA
Presenter: Ron Thomson, CEO, True Green Alliance

10:30-10:45 Networking break

10:45 -11:30 Game Ranch Management
Presenter: Deon Furstenberg Director, Wildlife Production & Ecologist at GEO WILD Consult (Pty) Ltd

11:30-12:15 Virtual Session: The Future of Game Farming
Presenter: Marja Spierenburg, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

12:15-13:00
Understanding Meat safety in South Africa and Unpacking the Meat Safety act
Presenter: Dr. Tertius Bergh, Independent Meat Safety Expert, Owner, Mobile Abattoirs

13:00-1400 LUNCH

14:00-14:45 The Importance of Producing strong, high-quality and traceable genetics in the Game breeding industry
Presenter: Brian Paine, CEO, KZN Game Breeders, Director, KZN Game Meat, Wildlife Ranching South Africa - KZN Chairman

14:45 -Closing remarks



www.kievitskroon.co.za



Kievits Kroon is a 16 hectare upmarket country estate in Pretoria, Gauteng, with superb leisure and conferencing facilities. Built in 1997, the estate once had a chapel and was a popular wedding venue, but the chapel has now been converted to a conference venue. A number of buildings razed in a fire in 2000 have been rebuilt.

The estate houses a 142 room hotel with a library bar, two restaurants, a well-stocked wine cellar, a wellness spa with superb thermae facilities, an outdoor lap pool and bar, a Conference Centre, Business Centre and banqueting venue. With its lush manicured lawns, beautiful rose beds, landscaped gardens and Cape Dutch-style Manor House, Kievits Kroon is reminiscent of the wine estates of the Cape, and has been labelled 'the Winelands in Gauteng'. In 2011, it cemented this relationship with the Cape by launching its own Grand Rouge and Sauvignon Blanc wines, which are included on the estate's award-winning wine list.

Today this luxury, award-winning hotel in Pretoria, just 45 minutes from Sandton, is acknowledged to be one of the top 10 romantic getaways in Gauteng, and one of the leading wellness spas

25th ~ 26th March 2021

Kievits Kroon Country Estate, Pretoria, Johannesburg

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25th ~ 26th March 2021

Kievits Kroon Country Estate, Pretoria, Johannesburg

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We hope to see you there.