**SIMXTRAVAGANZA**

Die SimXtravaganza veiling vind op Vrydag, 16 Oktober 2015 by die Agra/ Bank Windhoek Veilingsring in Windhoek.

Besoek ons webtuistes vir meer inligting en fotos van die bulle op die veiling. Daar is 26 Simmentaler en 8 Simbra bulle op die veiling, asook 25 Kommersiele Simbra (loop by die bul) en 6 dragtige Simmentaler verse op die veiling.

www.simmentalernamibia.org en www.simbranamibia.org

Alle telers word uitgenooi na n steakbraai die aand, 15 Oktober by die Simmentaler/ Brahman Huis. Kom kuier as telers gesellig saam.

**GENOMICS**

Artificial selection of cattle has been practiced for centuries using a variety of methods and tools. Early selection was based on visual observations that eventually lead to the development of breeds. In efforts to improve production, selection was practiced on measured phenotypic traits with limited success depending on the heritability of the trait. The next big breakthrough in selection tools was the development of statistical methodologies and computer hardware, capable of handling large data sets, to estimate the breeding values of cattle, the tool known as Estimated Breeding Value (EBV) . Widespread usage of EBVs in the seedstock and commercial beef sectors has led to great increases in the genetic propensity of beef cattle for a variety of traits including calving ease, growth and carcass composition. Expected Progeny Differences are data-driven computations and the accuracy of an individual EBVs is based on the amount of information used to estimate that EBV for an individual. For this reason young, unproven bulls have EBVs with low accuracy values, indicative of a greater range of possible change as more data is collected on the bull. As more data is

collected on a bull, particularly progeny information, his accuracy value rises and his possible change reduces.  Given that commercial bull buyers do not have the advantage of seeing their natural service sires increase in accuracy, they heavily rely on the stud breeder's commitment.   In the late 80's and early 90's technologies were beginning to develop that allowed access to the genetic code of living organisms.  Based on these discoveries the beef industry soon developed genomic based predictors for a limited number of traits, initially reported as candidate genes.   As genomics technology advances it becomes increasingly tempting to visualize a day when a drop of blood or a hair follicle could be analysed to tell us all we needed to know about an animal to make completely informed selection decisions.  Despite considerable progress in the arena of genomics based selection tools over the past 20-plus years, including the mapping of the bovine genome, genomics has not developed into a standalone tool to replace EBVs.  It seems the more we know about bovine genomics the more questions we have about how to properly use the information in selection decisions.
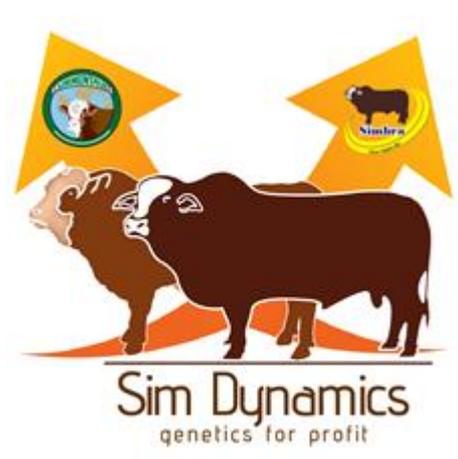
KAMAB BOEREDAG

N Baie geslaagde beesinligtingsdag is aangebied op   6 Augustus op die plaas van Diethelm en Katja Metzger. Die dag is bygewoon deur 120 mense met baie interessante lesings en demonstrasies.



Onder is  Jacque Cloete van FNB, Hannes Smit van Santam, Christo Du Plessis van Voermeester, Frederico van Wyk van FNB .

# NAMIBIA SIM NEWSLETTTER

Die borge van die dag: Hannes Smit (Santam) , Dawid Krause (Voermeester) , Andre Botes  (Standard Bank) , Christo du Plessis (Voermeester) , Dr. Pauline Lindeque en Frank Witneben (Agra ProVision) saam met Diethelm Metzger.



*We wish all the breeders exhibiting on the Agricultural Show good luck and many thanks for promoting the breeds and our Society. Showing, although very costly, is a vital marketing tool that should not be underestimated in our dinamic life style today!!*