



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DAIRY FARMERS

MARCH 3 - 2011

Dear Member, Stakeholder and Supplier

All dairy farmers are encouraged to attend the meeting in their respective area to hear the way forward for the NADF based on guidelines generated by a strategic planning meeting held on the 21/2/2011.

National chairman Ajs Kirk will brief members on this very important “road map” for the NADF. Equally important is feedback from members....it is one of those “***I MUST ATTEND***” meetings!!!!

In addition, Dr. Rachel Stewart will be covering a number of topics, namely Tick Resistance, Maximising benefits from bonuses being offered by Processors. This will include mastitis, understanding SSC s, hygiene etc. Time permitting requests have also been made for talks on Crossbreeding of Dairy Cattle and Nutrition. Time permitting, Rob Van Vuuren will give a talk on “Feeding the Dairy Herd – Back to Basics”.

A small slot on the programme will be made available for a briefing by a member of staff from a relatively new company, Dairy Solutions, who offer milking machine installations, testing, repairs and maintenance.

We look forward to well attended meetings and a sharing of information to help members to become more viable.

Regional meeting have been set as follows :

- Mutare** : Tuesday 29th March 2011 Mutare Club at 10.00a.m.
- Chipinge** : Monday 28th March 2011 at 10.00a.m. and the venue is likely to be the Polo Cross Club but this will be confirmed. Should you have any queries, please contact the Regional Chairlady, Mrs Elaine Leach
- Mash A** : Wednesday 23rd March 2011 at CFU Harare – NADF Committee Room at 9.30a.m.
- Mash B** : Wednesday 6th April 2011 Beatrice Club at 10.00a.m.
- Midlands** : Wednesday 30th March 2011 – CFU Offices Gweru at 10.00a.m.
- Matabeleland** : Thursday 31st March 2011 Members Pavilion – ZTIF Showgrounds at 9.00am for 9.30a.m.

We rely on Regional Chairmen to keep us advised of topics to be discussed at these meetings, so if you have any concerns that you would like addressed, please speak to your Regional Chairman.

LEVIES BY STATE AUTHORITIES AND PARASTATALS -a series of Articles- *From the desk of Marc Carrie-Wilson*

Levies by State Authorities and Parastatals – a series of Articles (No. 2)

This is the second in a series of articles on a number of levying and licensing Authorities which Commercial Farmers from all walks of life will need to deal with, and which will potentially pose major challenges to the viability of many types of primary producing agricultural business in Zimbabwe. The main purpose of this series of articles is to provide farmers with accurate information so they know where they stand and can make plans accordingly.

In last week's article I promised to “*complete the article on EMA including which type of licences apply to which type of waste, more detail on the criminal offences, aspects concerning storages of fuel and chemicals and tree cutting (licence*

for this is issued by forestry commission).” So without further ado I will get on with it. Some of the summary of the legislation has been adapted from information obtained from the Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (ZELA) website www.zela.org and has been used in this article with ZELA’s kind permission.

PART 1(b): The Environmental Management Agency (EMA) and the Forestry Commission

Waste and Solid Waste Disposal Regulations, Statutory Instrument No. 6 of 2007 (now amended by Statutory Instrument No. 4 of 2011), (continued...)

Last week we partly covered the disposal of Effluent and Solid Waste and the obligations imposed by SI 6 of 2007 (as amended by the recent SI 4 of 2011) and the various charges which farmers’ will face when applying for the licence concerned. Aspects which were not fully covered were: 1. what licence classification a farmer falls into; and 2. what penalties a farmer will face if he or she fails to get a licence whilst discharging effluent or solid waste.

1. The licence classification criteria are set out in the third schedule to the regulations and they are quite involved. Broadly speaking the classifications are summarised in the table below:

Licence Type	Risk	REASON FOR CLASSIFICATION
Blue	Safe	Low Nitrates, unlikely contamination of ground or surface water etc
Green	Low Hazard	Low hazard pollutant, likelihood of contamination of ground water, trace elements getting out of acceptable range.
Yellow	Medium Hazard	Medium Hazard of contamination with pollutants
Red	High Hazard	High risk of bad contamination, unacceptable trace elements.

In short it is highly unlikely that farmers will fall in anything but the blue or green category.

It is also pertinent to note section 26 of the regulations which read as follows:

“26 (1) No person shall dispose of Agricultural Waste classified in Table 4 of the Third Schedule directly into water, and disposal of such waste to any part of the environment is prohibited except under a waste disposal licence.

(2) Any agricultural waste, which is not purely organic, but has added chemicals, will be classified as hazardous substances.

(3) Any person who contravenes subsection (1) shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding level fourteen or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year or to both such fine and imprisonment.”

In light of this I would suggest that these regulations and licensing requirements will probably only apply to those farmers who discharge dairy effluent, but those farmers who practice fertigation should also be weary.

2. As highlighted last week SI 4 of 2011 now makes it a criminal offence for anyone to discharge liquid or solid waste without a licence. The penalty is 2 years in prison or a fine not exceeding level 14 (i.e. US \$ 5,000-00)

Environmental Management (Environmental Impact Assessments and Ecosystems Protection) Regulations, Statutory Instrument No. 7 of 2007

The Environmental Management (Environmental Impact Assessments and Ecosystems Protection) Regulations, Statutory Instrument no. 7 of 2007 deals with regulation of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and protection of ecosystems. Part 11 of the Act provides that no industrial project shall be implemented without an EIA having been done. These regulations provide the method of doing the EIA. The developer has to submit a prospectus to the Agency which issues a licence if satisfied by the contents of the prospectus. The prospectus has to contain details of the environmental impacts of the project and the measures to be taken to contain or mitigate against such impacts. Local authorities can only issue licences to developers after having sight of the licence from the Agency confirming that an approved EIA has been done. In preparing an EIA, a developer is obliged to consult widely with all stakeholders. The Agency will not issue a licence if it is not satisfied that the developer consulted with all stakeholders in the preparation of the prospectus. It should also be noted that projects which began before the Act was promulgated are subject to periodic environmental audits by the Agency.

These regulations are significant in that they operationalize the EIA provisions in the Act by providing the method which has to be followed. Regrettably, the regulations do not provide specifically for the manner in which the consultation of stakeholders should be done nor who the stakeholders are.

The regulations also regulate the aspect of fire prevention. Every "land-owner" is obliged to put in place fire prevention measures on his land. Between 31 July and 31 December of each year, no person shall light a fire outside residential or commercial premises. Every land owner is obliged to extinguish any fire on his premises. Any person within the vicinity of any fire is obliged to extinguish the fire and failure to do so results in a fine not exceeding level 14 (i.e., US \$5000-00) or imprisonment for one year with labour or both. The penalty for lighting a fire outside premises during the stipulated period is a fine not exceeding level 8 (i.e., US \$500-00) or imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year or both.

The fire prevention regulations are clearly meant to contain veld fires which have become a scourge of the environment in Zimbabwe during the dry season, hence the stipulation that no fires should be lit between July and December. It is very difficult to detect the offenders who cause these veld fires and it is thus important that the law makes it obligatory on anyone in the vicinity of such fires to take measures to put out the fire. Veld fires can however be dangerous and people would need some training on how to handle such fires and equipment to use in the process. The Agency would be encouraged to work with groups like Environmental sub-committees set up at Ward level in terms of section 61 of the Rural District Councils Act (chapter 29:13) to disseminate information about control of veld fires having focal points for such activities on the ground. The containment of such veld fires requires the participation of all stakeholders in ensuring that such fires are not started as it is easier to avoid starting them rather than extinguishing them. Veld fires should be the concern of everyone because they not only destroy people's property, but they also destroy wildlife and vegetation, and pastures for cattle and wildlife in the dry season.

Hazardous Substances, Pesticides and Toxic Substances Regulations, Statutory Instrument No. 12 of 2007

The Hazardous Substances, Pesticides and Toxic Substances Regulations, Statutory Instrument no. 12 of 2007 provides for the labelling, packaging, repackaging and sale of hazardous substances or articles containing hazardous substances in Zimbabwe. It provides conditions which have to be observed by employers over the handling of hazardous substances at the workplace, conditions for transporting hazardous substances and procedures to be followed when there is an accidental spillage of hazardous substances in Zimbabwe.

The Agency is empowered to issue spot fines to any person who violates the law. In addition, any person whose substances affect the environment is liable to pay for the cost of restoring the environment. The offender is also liable to pay compensation for any damage caused by the offence to any person.

The penal provisions in these regulations are very important in deterring would be offenders from violating the law. The law goes beyond merely imposing the traditional penalty of fines and imprisonment for offences. It incorporates the polluter pays principle by making the polluter liable for the cost of restoring the environment in line with the general principles in the Act and modern environmental law. The criminal court dealing with the matter now has power to order the offender to compensate any affected person and this ensures that the victims, who may be poor and therefore cannot afford to hire lawyers to take legal action, obtain immediate redress without having to take legal action on their own.

Bear in mind that all these laws are enforced by officials from EMA who are empowered in certain circumstances to levy spot fines.

Conclusion and criticisms

It is unlikely that any person would not applaud genuine attempts to keep Zimbabwe's environment safe and clean. However, the question is whether or not an appropriate balance is being drawn between keeping agricultural business viable and keeping the environment clean and safe? Given the relatively high fees set out in SI 4 of 2011 it would seem as if the viability of business is being sacrificed in favour of EMA licence fees.

Other questions are:

- Whether these regulations will be selectively enforced?
- What happens to all the money gathered? Is it genuinely ploughed back into projects that promote the conservation and protection of the environment or is it simply a funds raising exercise for an undisclosed purpose?
- Whether the approach taken will genuinely protect Zimbabwe's environment?

It remains to be seen.

Next week we will have more on storage of pesticides and fuel, air pollution and we will make a start on ZINWA. Please send any comments you may have on this article to marc@cfuzim.org

WORKSHOP ON SAFER USE OF PESTICIDES

Dr. Clive Levy represented the CFU at the USAID-Zimbabwe “*Pesticide Risks, Safe Use and Compliance*” workshop held at the Imba Matombo Hotel from 21-25 February 2011. This ‘training-of-trainers’ was specifically designed for the USAID-Zimbabwe partners, but several other institutions, including CFU were invited. Unfortunately, the Pesticide Registration Officer, the Environmental Management Authority (EMA) and members of *CropLife* Zimbabwe (the main agricultural chemical dealers), failed to attend.

Any organisation receiving project funding from USAID have to comply with regulations set by Washington for pesticide use - the safe-handling, transport, storage, application and disposal of these chemicals and their containers. Failure to adhere to these rules by any of the project staff and/or recipients can lead to cancellation of the funding. While many of these are noticeably more stringent than, or differ from, Zimbabwean requirements, most are common sense, and protect the farmer and family, the applicators, the community and the environment. Funding applications must include a comprehensive ‘Pesticide Evaluation Report & Safer Use Action Plan’ (PERSUAP), for each crop/pest involved - and if approved, must be observed.

All programmes require a strong emphasis on Good Agricultural Practice (Global-GAP) and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) - whereby all means to control a pest are employed (not solely chemicals) and the use of less toxic pesticides. Wearing appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) (overalls, boots, gloves, face-masks, respirators, hats etc) is central to the application of any chemical – something significantly lacking, or neglected, in Zimbabwe.

The workshop was almost totally directed at the small-scale farming situation, thus many of the concepts relating to large-scale agriculture were missed.

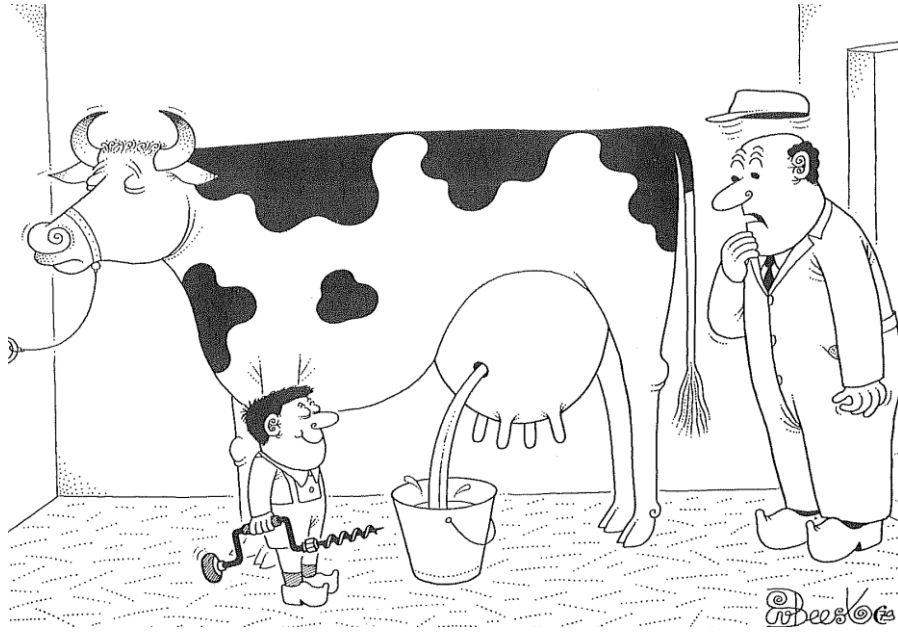
Despite this, a field visit was made to Southern Roses Pvt. Ltd. in Harare South, where participants conducted a mock-‘audit’ of their facilities and practices. Later in the day, each group reported back and discussed the merits and failures in the storage, greenhouse spraying and their disposal/incineration.

Towards the end of the workshop, the 25 participants were split into five groups, and each had to develop a PERSUAP for five major pests, diseases or weeds of either maize, cotton, brassicas, groundnuts or tomatoes. The Pesticide Evaluation Reports (PERs) were individually presented, while the Safer Use Action Plans (SUAPs) were given by the ‘group leaders’. Budgets had to be prepared for all activities envisioned.

There was a happy, fun-filled atmosphere throughout the week and the participants ‘bonded’ well. Upon closing, the USAID organisers complimented the participants on their contributions as the event had exceeded their expectations.

FEED PRICES

PRICES ARE IN US\$	Agrifoods	Croplink	Ice Feeds	Surface Investments	Olivine Harare	United Refineries Bulawayo
Cotton Cake		220		-	-	
Cotton Seed Meal		410		390	410	
Whole Cotton		220		-	-	
Cotton Hulls		-		30	30	
Soya Bean Meal		750		900	680	
Wheat Bran		155		-	-	
Maize Bran		155		-	-	
Coarse Salt		70		-	-	
Sunflower Meal		220		-	-	
Molasses		-		-	-	
NOTES	<i>Prices Awaited</i>	Prices are ex-Harare or 50km radius & prices will be charged 1.5% commission	<i>Prices Awaited</i>			<i>Prices Awaited</i>



“RISING COSTS ERODING YOUR DAIRY PROFITS?”

**AJS KIRK
CHAIRMAN
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DAIRY FARMERS**