



Oscar Award 2015

*The Zimbabwean Farming Oscar Award has a long and proud history, having been introduced in 1961 by the late Mr. C.G. Tracy during his term as Vice-President to the Commercial Farmers' Union as an award in recognition of those people who have generally done well for agriculture.**

The annual Oscar has become known as the "Farming Oscar" to be given to some person or persons who have given outstanding service to agriculture, and has been awarded to people who have contributed to the Industry in its widest sense.

Over the years, winners have been chosen from the practical and scientific disciplines of agriculture, as well as from the administrative and leadership roles with the winners selected in recognition of having contributed significantly to the agriculture progress in Zimbabwe.

This year's winner is no exception, and fits the required profile as having given outstanding service to the advancement of agriculture.

Our recipient was born in 1961. His love of farming and especially animals came from spending time with his grandfather on their farm in Famburton. He spent most of his school and University holidays on this farm which later stimulated his career in veterinary work. In 1987 he obtained the qualification of BVSc in Pretoria.

After qualifying his main goal was to travel and see the world and having spent two years overseas, he returned to Zimbabwe and opened his own practice. This practice grew significantly and within a short period of time he was covering a large area of Manicaland Region.

He was then offered a position with Croppers Zimbabwe as a Technical Advisor and later promoted to Marketing Manager. During this period he was able to become more involved in his profession and was able to serve as President of the Veterinary Association and on the Council of Veterinary Surgeons for Zimbabwe.

Working with all stakeholders in the Livestock Industry our recipient became involved in the Livestock Identification Trust and was fundamental in allowing producers to comply with traceability requirements for international trade.

In 1998, the Board of Triple C Pigs offered him a position as an understudy to the Chief Executive. At this time Triple C Pigs was the single largest pig unit in Africa.

This year's recipient also spent some time with ZIMON Agriculture and was instrumental in increasing the production of sows at Triple C Pigs from 2200 to 8000 sows.

Regrettably in 2008 he left Zimbabwe due to the deteriorating conditions within Zimbabwe, fortunately for Zimbabwe he did not stay away too long and returned in 2010 to continue veterinary consultancy to both pig and cattle industries to this day.



Ladies and gentlemen, it is worthy of mentioning that our recipient also served on the following Boards and Associations. They are:-

- Zimbabwe Veterinary Association where he served as Vice President and Cosponsor of Veterinary Congresses from 1994 to 1996. From 1996 to 1997 he was President of this Association.
- Council of Veterinary Surgeons of Zimbabwe.
- Livestock Identification Trust. Here he was Chairman of the Management Board for the period 1998 to 2005.
- South African Veterinary Association.
- Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.
- Livestock Meat and Advisory Council in Zimbabwe.
- Veterinary Wildlife Unit. To name but a few of the many Boards and Associations where our 2015 recipient was active on.

Ladies and gentlemen, I am sure by now you have a very clear indication of the 2015 Farming Oscar recipient. However please bear with me for a little longer as it is worthy of mentioning that in his capacity as a Veterinary Surgeon our recipient also has vast experience in medicine and surgery within Zimbabwe, South Africa and the United Kingdom.

He also has vast experience in the Equine industry and provides a broad service in medicine, surgery and reproduction in the local Zimbabwean tack and breeding industry. He is an able cattle judge and supporter and has been known to judge both Brahon and Sussex cattle.

Finally ladies and gentlemen, it is very clear that our recipient is a vet therefore please allow me before disclosing the name to make the following remarks.

Our recipient's paternal grandfather was of Scottish breeding from Kilmarnock with claims that his lineage goes back to the bloodlines of Robert the Bruce and all the Kings of Scotland. He inherited the traits of stubbornness, humor, intelligence and a propensity of great chaos. The bloodline was imported into Zimbabwe and established territory in the Famburoune district. His sire and dam were born in Zimbabwe and South Africa respectively.

He is a fine specimen of a bull weighing in at 103kg's of rippling muscle. He shows very economical feed conversion when put in a feedlot. Regrettably there is no information available about his sexual circumference but he has proven breeding records- mating with a local "heifer" and producing three offspring. Hybrid vigour has also been proven as the eldest son has already outstepped his parents in both size and strength. Although our recipient's breeding days are over, he has years of active service left before being out to pasture to ramble on his life. He has a docile nature, walks well to span with his "heifer" and progeny, and is easy to handle as long as the telephone, internet and computer are all working!

Ladies and gentlemen, it is now my honor to present to you the Commercial Farmers' Union of Zimbabwe Farming Oscar Award winner for 2015. I kindly ask our guests to step forward and present this award to

Dr Douglas Bruce

Awarded with thanks during the Commercial Farmers' Union 72nd Annual Congress on Wednesday 28th October 2015 in Cresta Lodge, Manara.

H.W. OLIVIER
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

For and behalf of the 71st Council of the Commercial Farmers' Union of Zimbabwe

COMMERCIAL FARMERS' UNION OF ZIMBABWE OSCAR AWARD 2015

The Commercial Farmers' Union Farming Oscar Award for Zimbabwe has a long and proud history, having been introduced in 1961 by the late Mr. CG Tracey during his term as Vice President at the Commercial Farmers' Union. He introduced the award in recognition of "those people who have generally done well for agriculture."

This annual Oscar has become known as the "Farming Oscar" to be presented to some person or persons who have given outstanding service to agriculture, and has been awarded to people who have contributed to the industry in its widest sense.

Over the years winners have been chosen from the practical and scientific disciplines of agriculture, as well as from the administration and leadership roles with the winners selected in recognition of having contributed significantly to the agricultural progress in Zimbabwe.

This year's winner is no exception, and fits the required profile as having given outstanding service in the advancement of agriculture.

Our recipient was born in 1961. His love of farming and especially animals came from spending time with his grandfather on their farm at Featherstone. He spent most of his school and University holidays on this farm which later stimulated his career in veterinary work. In 1985 he obtained the qualification of BVSc in Pretoria.

After qualifying his main goal was to travel and see the world and having spent two years overseas, he returned to Zimbabwe and opened his own practice. This practice grew significantly and within a short period of time he was covering a large area of Manicaland Region.

He was then offered a position with Coopers Zimbabwe as a Technical Advisor and later promoted to Marketing Manager. During this period he was able to become more involved in his profession and was able to serve as President of the Veterinary Association and on the Council of Veterinary Surgeons for Zimbabwe.

Working with all stakeholders in the Livestock industry our recipient became involved in the Livestock Identification Trust and was fundamental in allowing producers to comply with traceability requirements for international trade.

In 1998, the Board of Triple C Pigs offered him a position as an understudy to the Chief Executive. At this time Triple C Pigs was the single largest pig unit in Africa.

This year's recipient also spent some time with Colcom Agriculture and was instrumental in increasing the production of sows at Triple C Pigs from 2200 to 8000 sows.

Regrettably in 2008 he left Zimbabwe due to the deteriorating conditions within Zimbabwe, fortunately for Zimbabwe he did not stay away too long and returned in 2010 to continue veterinary consultancy to both pig and cattle industries to this day.

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He is a fine specimen of a bull weighing in at 103kg's of rippling muscle. He shows very economical feed conversion when put in a feedlot.

Regrettably there is no information available about his scrotal circumference but he has proven breeding records- mating with a local "heifer" and producing three offspring. Hybrid vigour has also been proven as the eldest son has already outstripped his parents in both size and strength. Although our recipient's breeding days are over, he has years of active service left before being out to pasture to ruminate on his life.

He has a docile nature, walks well in span with his "heifer" and progeny, and is easy to handle as long as the telephone, internet and computer are all working!

Ladies and gentlemen, it is now my honour to present to you the Commercial Farmers' Union of Zimbabwe Farming Oscar Award winner for 2015. I kindly ask our guest to step forward and present this award to Dr. DOUGLAS BRUCE.

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H.W.OLIVIER

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

For and behalf of the 72nd Council of the Commercial Farmers' Union of Zimbabwe

Commercial Farmers' Union

Zimbabwe

October 2015

HWO

