



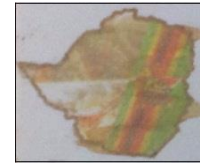
Zimbabwe Farmers Union



Zimbabwe Commercial Farmers Union



Commercial Farmers Union of Zimbabwe



Zimbabwe National Farmers Union

THE JOINT FARMERS' UNION PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL OF ZIMBABWE

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LIVESTOCK STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOP ON DROUGHT MITIGATION HELD ON 23 FEBRUARY 2016 AT ANDY MILLAR HALL, SHOWGROUNDS HARARE

WORKSHOP REPORT

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Executive Summary

The livestock stakeholders' workshop was organized by the Joint Farmers Union President's Council of Zimbabwe (JCP) to share with stakeholders the proposed livestock drought mitigation strategy in the face of the current and future droughts. Livestock stakeholders made presentations in response to the call. 115 participants drawn from government departments, private sector, NGOs and the donor community attended the workshop. The Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Mechanization and Irrigation Development responsible for livestock officiated at this workshop. The presentations from stakeholders would enrich the Farmers Unions' short, medium and long-term livestock drought strategies.

Workshop Objectives:

- i. To share information on the livestock drought situation
- ii. To understand the various efforts by all stakeholders to save livestock
- iii. To appreciate the Government and other stakeholders' interventions in the livestock sector during the current drought.
- iv. To map out a livestock drought mitigation strategy.

Welcome Remarks

1. WELCOME REMARKS ON BEHALF OF THE JOINT FARMERS' UNIONS PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL OF ZIMBABWE From the JPC current chairperson: Mr. S. Goredema

In his welcome remarks the JPC Chairperson highlighted the following;

- The need for stakeholders to work together to guarantee food for the nation.
- The devastating effects of the current El Nino phenomenon which has caused drought in Sub-Saharan Africa and how this weather pattern has severely affected Zimbabwe characterized by below normal rainfall.
- How the El Nino phenomenon has drastic and devastating effects on livestock as they deteriorate in condition and die due to lack of adequate drinking water and grazing.
- In addition to this adverse phenomenon, livestock are also vulnerable to pests and disease, some of which are trans boundary. These include Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Anthrax and a host of other contagious diseases.

- That if serious steps towards drought mitigation are not implemented, regulated and enforced, farmers will lose their businesses and livelihoods and that communities will die due to poor nutrition and starvation.
- Called upon all stakeholders in the livestock value chains to come up with solutions that address the threats brought about by this catastrophe.
- Highlighted the objective to formulate strategies that are feasible, well informed and achievable in the short, medium and long-term and that these strategies should culminate into plans that attract the necessary resources necessary to mitigate the effects of drought on livestock

Official Opening

2. Official Opening by The Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Mechanization and Irrigation Development (MAMAID) responsible for Livestock – Honorable P.D Zhanda

- The country was divided into Agro-ecological Regions I to V with regions IV and V set aside for livestock as opposed to crop production.
- Challenged the farmers Unions to be proactive and approach the Ministry before the situation starts to deteriorate to enable proper planning.
- Encouraged farmers to destock and buy food and stock feeds for the breeding stock.
- Called on all stakeholders to ensure that the value chain they depend on continues to survive
- There was reduced cold dressed mass (CDM) of cattle because of the effects of drought and climate change.
- The government has started establishing some feedlots in various areas working in conjunction with some abattoirs as one of its drought mitigating strategies.
- Highlighted that disease control especially FMD in most areas bordering the conservancies is a burden.
- Disease Fund – The government approached the abattoirs on the 5th quarter issue to contribute at least US\$5.00 per beast slaughtered towards the disease fund.
- The Ministry of Agriculture is engaging the Ministry of Local Government with a view to suspend cattle levies.
- Agreed with the temporarily removal of levies on stock feeds during the drought seasons.
- To seriously consider the establishment of Livestock Banks that will help the livestock farmers with the funding necessary for drought mitigation.

Weather Forecast Analysis

3. Weather Forecast Analysis from the Meteorological Department

The Meteorological Department divides the country of Zimbabwe in to three parts as follows: (see Fig 1 below).

- i. Mashonaland East, Central and West and Manicaland
 - ii. Matabeleland South and Mashing and
 - iii. Matabeleland North.
- The seasonal forecast was normal to below normal.
 - Cloud seeding was done during the season.
 - Between 18-22nd February rainfall distribution was very erratic and poorly distributed which affected crops
 - To date most areas received below normal rainfall.

Fig 1: October-November-December as at 02 September 2015

- **Region 1**
Harare, much of Mashonaland East, Mashonaland West, Mashonaland Central, northeastern parts of Midlands, parts Manicaland

Below normal rainfall expected

- **Region 2 & 3**
Region 2 The bulk of Matabeleland North, parts of Midlands and parts of Mashonaland West.

- Region 3 Masvingo, the bulk of Midlands, the extreme southern parts of Manicaland and the bulk of Matabeleland South.

Normal to below normal rainfall expected

Homogeneous Zones (Oct- December 2015)

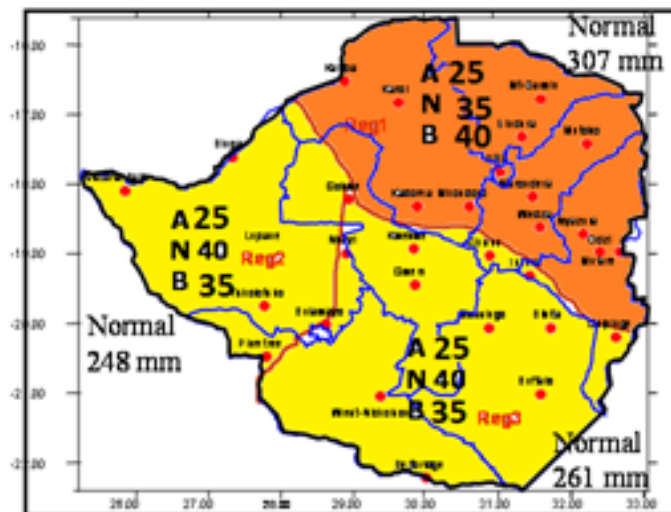


Fig 2: January-February-March as at 02 September 2015

Region 1: Mashonaland Provinces, Harare, most of Manicaland, Northern parts of Masvingo and northern parts of Midlands

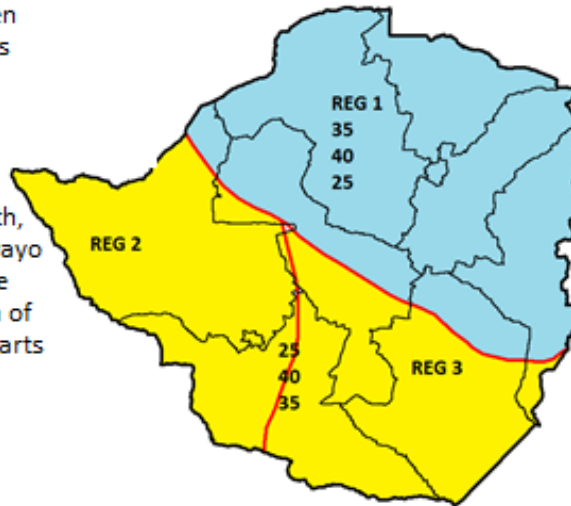
Normal with a bias towards above normal rainfall

Regions 2 and 3:

Region 2 Most of Matebeleland North, north of Matebeleland South, Bulawayo

Region 3: Most of Masvingo, extreme parts of south of Manicaland, south of Matebeleland south and southern parts of Midlands

Normal with a bias towards below normal



A: Probability of above normal rainfall

N: Probability of normal rainfall

B: Probability of below normal rainfall



Normal with a bias towards above normal rainfall

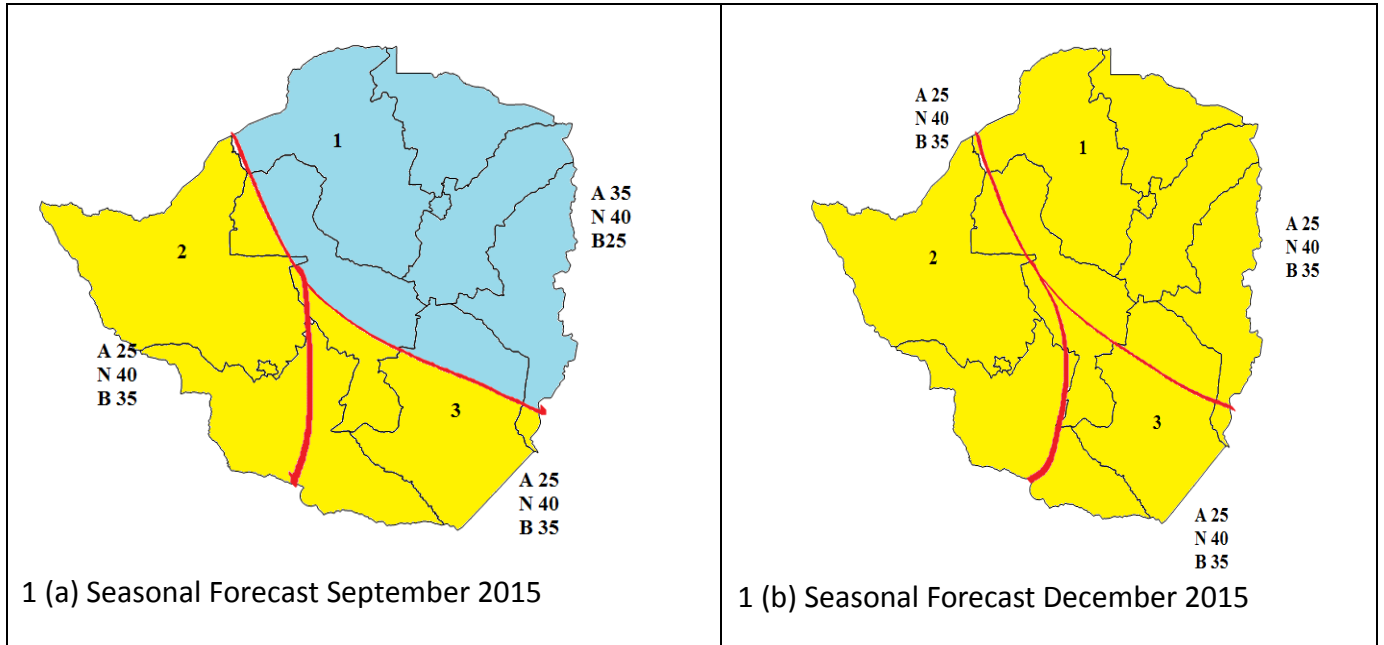


Normal with a bias towards below normal rainfall

Implications of the 2015/16 summer rainfall season forecast

- Zimbabwe will experience a short rainfall season (December to February)
- There is need to enhance rainfall this season. As such the national cloud seeding programme is highly recommended.
- Irrigation is a must for those with access to dams, boreholes as well as rivers with water.
- Encouraged small dam construction and borehole drilling/ deepening, conservation and protection of wetlands.
- For those with livestock (a) water points should be preserved and protected and (b) livestock destocking should be given more consideration and done timeously to avoid losses.
- Application of fertilizers should be guided by the 10-day weather forecasts as well as advice from Agricultural authorities; (Conservation, e.g., contouring and ridging/ smart agriculture); The 10-day weather forecasts will be issued from October until April;

Fig 3: Seasonal forecast update



- Likelihood of normal rainfall with a bias towards below normal for the whole country.
- Short rainfall season (December, January and February)

Fig 4: Weekly and Seasonal Accumulated Rainfall (mm)

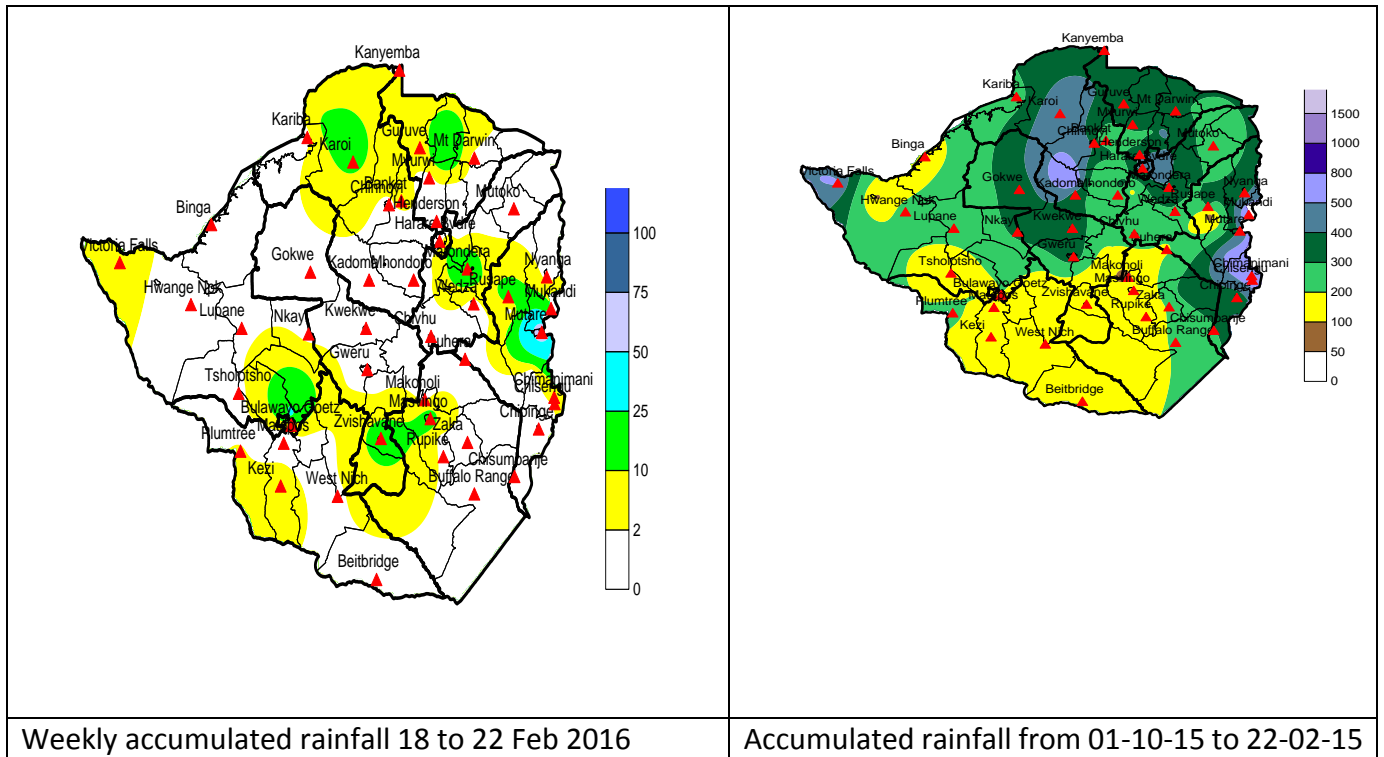
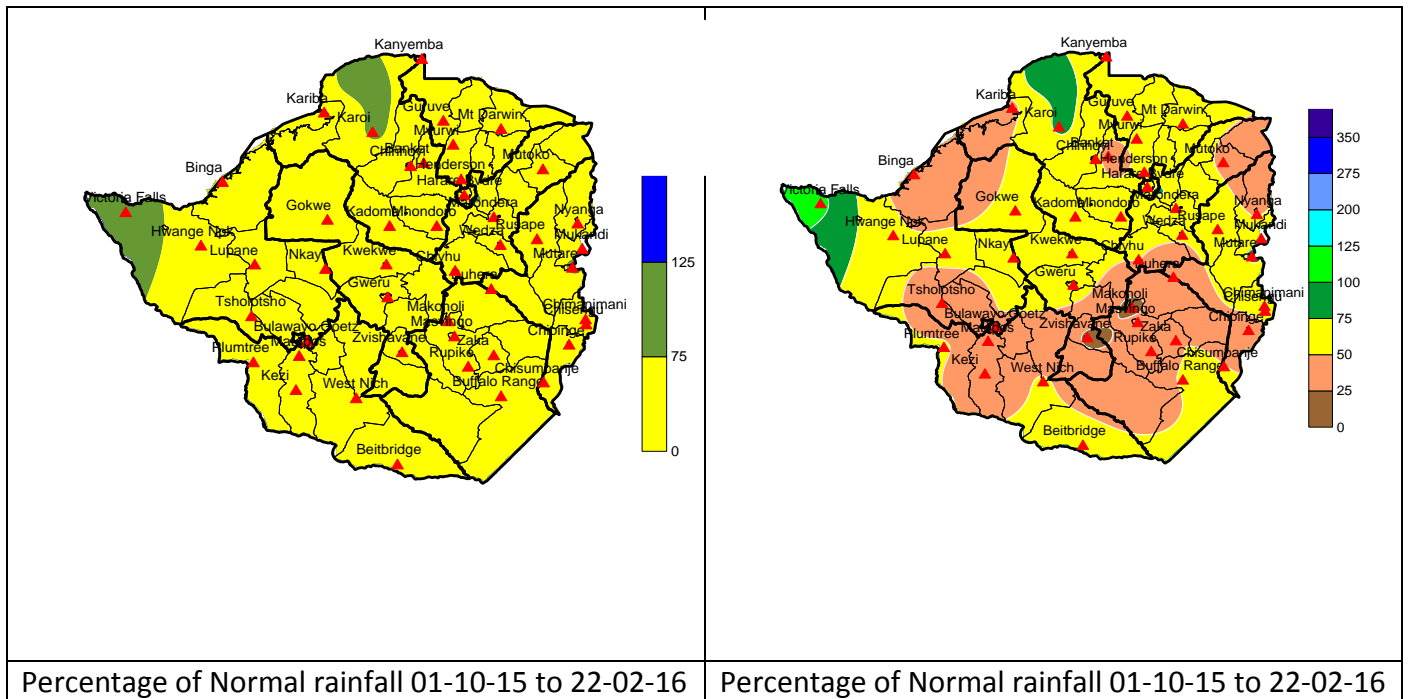


Fig 5: Percentage of Normal (Accumulated and Long-term Average)



Dr. Makarawu asked the workshop to borrow some of the strategies from our neighboring country Botswana on how it is coping with the drought in its vastly desert country. He went

further and called up on organizations to be represented by senior personnel at the seminars held by the MET department between August and September every year.

Division of Veterinary Services

4. Division of Veterinary Services

4.a Animal Health – Dr Makaya

The Division of Veterinary Services runs official control programs against 4 specified animal diseases of economic and zoonotic importance, i.e. Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Anthrax, Rabies and New Castle. The control and prevention of these diseases is considered a public good due to their economic and/or zoonotic importance.

- FMD Prevention and Control Program

The FMD control program targets to vaccinate a total population of 650,000 cattle in the wildlife-livestock interface areas three times every year to prevent outbreaks of the disease in this subpopulation and possible spread to the rests of the country. The total vaccine required to vaccinate this cattle population is 1,950,000 doses.

The Division failed to carry out preventive vaccinations in 2013 and has resulted in the outbreak of FMD in Mengzi district of Mashing province in April 2014. The disease spread to 24 districts in 6 provinces in 2015. Due to the critical shortage of vaccine the Division is now managing the disease through creation of strategic vaccination barriers around the infected areas to prevent further spread. The total cattle population in the barriers and infected areas is 948,646 and they require 2,845,938 doses. The 2016 FMD vaccination and control program needs 4,795,938 doses.

- Anthrax Vaccination Program

Anthrax is a deadly soil borne disease that can affect both animals and human beings. Regular vaccination of cattle in high risk areas prevents the occurrence of the disease in the animal population thus preventing human cases and continual contamination of the soil and pastures. Anthrax vaccination program targets a total of 1,722,500 cattle in known high-risk areas throughout the country. This remains the target for 2016 and a total of 1,722,500 doses are needed.

- Rabies Vaccination Program

Rabies is a fatal viral disease that can affect all warm blooded animals including humans. Dogs are particularly susceptible and usually get the disease from contact with jackals, or other rabies infected dogs. There is no cure for rabies once an animal or human being start to show symptoms of the disease. However, the disease is easily preventable

through vaccination. The Division needs 2,000,000 doses of vaccine this year, 2016, to vaccinate all dogs in country.

- New Castle (NC) Vaccination Program

NC is a devastating and dreaded poultry disease that can cause up to 100% mortality in unvaccinated flocks. 60% of human consumed meat comes from poultry meat. Fortunately the NC vaccine can be produced locally. The program targets to vaccinate 8,000,000 chickens at least twice every year using a locally produced thermostable vaccine. A total of 24,000,000 doses of the NC vaccine is needed for the treatment and control of NC disease.

4. b Animal Nutrition (LPD) – Mr. A. Mbundure

Overview

- Rains received to date have led to improvements in grazing in areas along the Highveld and parts of the Middle veld. There has been very little change in quality and quantity in the southern parts of the country.
- Water for livestock is inadequate in most area with rivers dry and dam levels very low. Situation critical in the traditionally drier areas.
- To date a total of 22 208 cattle have succumbed to drought. Highest number was recorded in Mashing with a total of 10 038.
- Worst affected provinces are Manicaland, Mashing, Midlands, and Mat. North & South.

Cattle Condition

23% Good. **66% Fair** and **11% Poor**

- Grazing Conditions

16% good, **50% fair** and **34% poor**

Table 1: Cattle Deaths by Province and Districts

Mashing	
Bikita	545
Chiredzi	2, 717
Chivi	577
Gutu	381
Mashing	696

Mengzi	4,561
Zaka	561
Total	10,038
Manicaland Province	
Buhera	438
Chimanimani	2,800
Chipinge	121
Makoni	161
Mutare	51
Nyanga	9
Total	3,580
Matabeleland North	
Binga	1,737
Bubi	323
Hwange	477
Lupane	340
Nkayi	156
Tsholotsho	1,378
Umguza	226
Total	4,637
Matabeleland South	
Beitbridge	17
Bulilima	82
Gwanda	350
Insiza	66
Mangwe	186
Matobo	436
Umzingwane	131
Total	1,268
Midlands	

Chirumhanzu	192
Gokwe North	59
Gokwe South	58
Gweru	90
Kwekwe	497
Mberengwa	847
Shurugwi	110
Zvishavane	832
Total	2,685
Cumulative National Total	22,208

2016 Outlook

- With bulk of cattle and grazing areas in the poor to fair range situation is projected to get worse than previous season should dry conditions persist.
- Areas affected to spread to areas currently viewed as fair.
- Shortages of grain expected to impact on dairy, pig and poultry production.
- Distress sales and barter exchanges will take center stage.

Mitigation Measures

- 3 869Mt of survival feed supplied to 7 districts under the FAO Drought Mitigation Programme.
- Farmers are destocking but prices are depressed because of poor quality of animals.

Farmers' Union Joint Presentation

5. Farmers' Union Joint Presentation by the Zimbabwe Farmers Union – Mr. A. C. Nyathi

The following were highlighted in the presentation;

a) Private-Public-Partnership Participation and Involvement

1.1 **Coordination:** This implies the private-public-partnerships (PPPs) working in unison to plan and implement agreed drought mitigation measures.

1.2 **Involvement:** The need for every livestock stakeholder being actively involved including the need to support the primary stages of the value chain since it produces the livestock.

ii. **Stock feed prices:**

- The prices of stock feeds are very prohibitive more so when stock feeds producer/millers know that farmers are in a drought season.
- Duties and taxes imposed on stock feeds should be removed to reduce costs to make the feeds affordable.
- The need for farmers to access all cattle input items such as veterinary supplies and stock feeds duty free during the drought times.
- The exporting of molasses to South Africa, for example, and other regional countries should be minimized in order to supply our local livestock market first.
- Transaction costs on subsidized stock feeds meant for drought mitigation are too high. E.g. the FAO subsidized stock feeds.

iii. **Stock feeds imports:**

- With the maize shortage/failure there should be other measures in place to meet the shortfall e.g. import of bran from the SADC region or abroad.
- Farmers must be accorded the priority to directly import stock feeds inputs, rather than using middlemen.

iv. **Capacity building:** Farmers need education on strategic feeding of animals during drought, like what class (es) of animals to prioritize and also options for survival feeding e.g. provision of bush meal etc. Train farmers in farming as a business (FaaB) for them to change their mindset. Farmers should be prepared to sell some of their stock to save key breeding stock.

v. **Up scaling of Feedlot Schemes:**

- Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) is said to have been witnessed in six of our country's eight provinces; the cattle from these provinces have to be quarantined and put in feedlots before they are pronounced FMD free or slaughtered
- vi. **Indigenous breeds:** There is need to look specifically at the needs of stud herds so that key genetic resources are not lost. This applies especially to indigenous breeds such as Mashona, Tuli and Nkone. Indigenous breeds have a degree to withstand local harsh conditions and resist some diseases infections. The indigenous breeds can be cross bred with the exotic ones to take advantage of indigenous traits.
- vii. **State land:** Government and parastatals' land such as CSC, ARDA estates and Research stations should be targeted for the support of stud and breeding stock for herd rebuilding. This aspect will help to cover for the cattle that will be lost during or because of drought.
- viii. **Finance:** The financial service providers should consider livestock as collateral so that farmers can easily access credit lines as opposed to lending to middlemen who will be having the necessary security needed by banks.
- ix. **Establishment of a National Livestock Sector Revolving Fund:** The possibilities of a revolving fund should be explored for use in livestock development programs and projects.
- x. **Fodder banks:** There is need to establish some fodder banks especially in areas where farmers have irrigation facilities. Such farmers have to be assisted.
- xi. **Machinery and equipment:** There is need to invest in balers. These need to be allocated to farmers or contractors who are in areas where a lot of grass grow to cut and bale the grass.

Suggested Short term Drought Mitigation Options

6. Suggested Short term Drought Mitigation Options by Livestock and Meat Advisory Council (LMAC) – Dr Sikume

Introduction

- Need to reduce pressure on reduced grazing resource
- Need to increase feed resource availability
- Need for water availability
- Need for better health of animals weakened by lack of food/water

Option 1: Abattoir-Community feedlotting of culls in exchange for survival feed for core breeding herd

PROS

- Encourages destocking
- Saves core breeding animals for recovery
- abattoir have access to quality slaughter animals
- Basis for long-term market linkage development

CONS

- expensive to implement as ferrying in feeds may be greater than market value of animals under a flooded destocking market
- Huge outlay for a GVT with limited resources

Implementation issues

- GVT/Donor sources feed raw materials; toll mills it at feed plants; give to abattoir; abattoir enters buying contract with farmers for culls; survival feed for core breeding herd

Option 2: Transport subsidies provided to cattle traders to encourage buying of destocked animals

PROS

- Encourage traders to seek cattle in at risk areas
- Reduce transactions costs for traders
- Increased competition and hence better prices for farmers

CONS

- Difficult to gauge performance of traders given subsidies

Implementation issues

- Use of movement permits as basis for claiming subsidies.
- Organising traders buying cattle for group transport provided by GVT/Dev Partners

Option 3: Destocking to feed into human drought food relief

How?

- GVT/DevPartners purchasing weak and non-breeding animals for slaughter within areas, drying the meat and using the dried meat as supplementary drought relief food to vulnerable people. Use proceeds to purchase survival feed for core breeding herd

Pros

- Links destocking with human drought relief . Money otherwise used to bring in protein foods into drought affected areas used within the areas to solve animal problems

Cons

- Non-use of proceeds for survival feed purchases
- Storability of dried meat as drought relief

Implementation issues

- Close working relationship between human food relief agencies and livestock drought relief agencies.
- Use of survival feed barter as mean to purchase destocked animals

Option 4: Movement of cattle to properties with grazing/water

- Movement of cattle from areas of low to areas of high grazing and water availability paid for by in-kind cattle at the end of the crisis. Could be:
 - Could be within district
 - Across districts but within province
 - Across provinces

Pros

- Opportunities for livestock acquisition by farmers with under-stocked farmers
- Little investment by GVT/donor community

Cons

- FMD

Implementation issues

- Need teams to assess under-stocked properties; negotiation platforms to match at risk farmers and farmers with extra grazing
- Applicable in northern but problematic in southern provinces

Option 5: Bringing feed (hay/survival feed) to affected area

Pros

- Full cost recovery and therefore no need for subsidies

Cons

- Bulky and therefore costly to transport
- Not linked directly to preserving core breeding herd.
- If no takers for non-core animals no funds

Implementation issues

- Balers
- Transport
- Distribution channels

Option 6: Water provision interventions

- How? Emergency borehole drilling; rehabilitation and repair of boreholes; water tankering

Pros

- Reduce distance to water points and hence conserve animal reserves

- Dual usage for livestock and human
- Increase future community

Cons

- Depleted ground water reserves

Implementation issues

- Mapping of water drilling opportunities
- Mapping of water sources that can be rehabilitated
- Capacitating DDF and private drilling rig operators to drill in affected areas

Option 7: Veterinary Interventions

- GVT/Dev Partner provides subsidised drugs, vaccines and pesticides targeted at core breeding animals. During drought animals become weak due to water and pasture shortages making them more susceptible to disease.

Pros:

- Increase the effectiveness of supplementary feeds

Implementation issues

- Organisation of farmer groups
- Paravets
- DLVS

Food & Agriculture Organisation

7. Food & Agriculture Organisation 's (FAO) Response to the 2015/16 Drought – Mr. D. Mufote

- Improved food security of drought affected households in Zimbabwe (UN CERF)
- FMD & Anthrax (ECHO)

UN CERF project – FAO intervention

- CERF allocated USD 2.1 million for Drought Mitigation
- Targeting over 8,000 HHs in Mat. South, Manicaland & Masvingo Provinces

- Districts: Mangwe, Matopos, Beitbridge, Gwanda, Chivi, Chiredzi & Chipinge
- Project duration: Nov 2015 to April 2016

Objective & Outputs

To improve the food security of over 8,000 vulnerable households in Mat. South & Mashing Provinces by the end of the next season.

Enhance farmers' access to crop and livestock inputs:

- 6,715 households have access to survival stock feed
- 8,000 households have access to seed for small grains and legumes

Key Interventions

- Working through Livestock Development Associations (LDAs) to make inputs available at subsidized prices
 - 5 kgs of sorghum at USD 2/bag and 5 kgs of cowpeas, at USD 3/bag in 4 district
 - Livestock feed at 50% of cost (max. 2 cattle per HH – 360 kg per animal – USD 7/50kg bag)
- Revenue remain with communities for agreed activities

Target Beneficiaries

- Beneficiaries are self-selecting within the target populations of vulnerable smallholder farmers
- Selection confirmed through local leadership, LDAs & NGO implementing partners
- High priority given to women farmers & women-headed HHs

Achievements to Date

- Over 80% of the stock feed has been sold, with several districts sold out (Chivi, Matobo & Mangwe)
- The value of deposits in revolving fund accounts has reached nearly USD 500,000
- Funds are being used to implement other drought mitigation activities agreed by communities/LDAs & approved by LPD & FAO
- Training of partners & beneficiaries on warehouse management, Farming as a Business (FaaB) was undertaken

Hard Pipe Line Project

FMD & Anthrax Vaccination

- Funded by ECHO approx. EUR 650, 000
 - 250,000 doses of Anthrax
 - 220,000 doses of FMD

New Pipe Line Project

Comprehensive drought mitigation programme responding to GoZ drought appeal:

Expected Results

- Smallholder farmers' access to key agricultural inputs enhanced through cash transfers and farmer contributions
- Agricultural Development Associations (ADAs) established and capacitated to develop community agricultural assets
- Protection of animal resources for women and men smallholder farmers through improved animal disease control systems
- Provision of safe water for both humans and livestock

United Nations (UN)

8. United Nations (UN)

He acknowledged the importance of livestock among the smallholder farmers. Emphasis was made on the need to support the farmers. He said under UN, FAO leads all the agricultural inventions. The representative further acknowledged that Elnino was a big challenge facing the nation. The stakeholders were urged to prepare even for the next season.

European Union (EU)

9. European Union (EU) Representative – Mr. Thomas Operer

The EU Representative reported to have met with various agriculture partners to discuss and listen to their issues on the EU co-ordinated Elnino response strategy. The representatives highlighted that the current EU support programmes include; Elnino Response (ECHO), Productive Agriculture (supporting beef and poultry value chains) and resilient program. He also called for a regional response strategy and for the national strategy he emphasized on the need for involving all relevant stakeholders.

Open Session

Response by Deputy Minister of Agriculture

Response by Deputy Minister of Agriculture Honourable P. Zhandu

Resource mobilisation:

All the strategies brought out by the meeting needs money, we need to mobilise resources to implement the strategies

RDC Levies:

Progress has been made; The Ministry is engaging Local Government on this and should be able to conclude on this year

High Cost of Stock Feeds:

Generally Zimbabwe's costs of production are high when compared to the regional costs and this makes Zimbabwe's producers uncompetitive. It was agreed to remove taxes and duty on stock feeds

Molasses Exports:

Will engage Ministry of Industry and Commerce who is responsible for issuing export licenses, Ministry of Agriculture only issue export permits

Unlocking Value in Livestock

Livestock bank can assist farmers to have access to funding through using insured cattle as collateral

Cattle Finance Scheme

Government is working on a programme to resuscitating Cold Storage Company

Fodder Harvesting

Government is not the ideal entity to harvest fodder. There is need to identify other players for harvesting fodder

Recommendations

10. Recommendations

It was resolved and recommended that some of the Drought Mitigation Strategies have to come from presentations by:

- a) The Joint Farmers' Union Presidents' Council Of Zimbabwe
- b) Livestock and Meat Advisory Council (LMAC)
- c) Food and Agriculture organization (FAO) and
- d) Other contributions from other stakeholders

Closing Remarks

Mr. Chabikwa ZCFU President

In his closing remarks ZCFU President on behalf of the JPC thanked the presenters and stakeholders for their input and support. He called for continued support in coming up with the workshop report

Appendix 1 – Workshop Program

Time	Activity	Facilitator
0730 – 0800	Registration	LMAC

0800 – 0805	Introductions	Director of Ceremonies
0805 – 0810	Welcome Remarks	JPC – S. Goredema
0810 – 0815	Workshop Overview & Objectives	Director of Ceremonies
0815 – 0830	Official Opening	Hon. Deputy Min. Zhandu
0830 – 0840	Weather Forecast Analysis	Met Department
	Overview of the Livestock Situation	
0840 – 0855	(a)Health	DLVS
0855 – 0910	(b) Nutrition	DLVS
0910 – 0925	Farmers’ Unions Joint Presentation	JPC – A. C. Nyathi
0925 – 0940	LMAC – Value Chain Presentation	Dr. C. Sikume
0955 – 1010	Tea	All
1010 – 1025	EU	EU – Thomas Operer
1025 – 1040	FAO	FAO
1040 – 1140	Open Session	Director of Ceremonies
1140 – 1210	Action Plan	Director of Ceremonies
1210 – 1215	Vote of Thanks	JPC – W. Chabikwa
1215	Depart	All