

## FRIDAY BRIEF

WEEK 35, 2017

### HIGHLIGHTS

- 20 MAN CHINESE DELEGATION VISITS ZNFU
- UP GO ZESCO TARIFFS!
- PARROGATE GINNERY ACQUIRES CARGILL CHIPATA
- GOATS EXPORT TASKFORCE SET UP

### IN DETAIL....

#### 20 MAN CHINESE DELEGATION VISITS ZNFU

A delegation of 20 Chinese businessmen and agriculturalists from Han Chin City in China today visited the Zambia National Farmers' Union (ZNFU) to explore possibilities of partnership with the Union and investment in Zambia's agriculture sector.

And the ZNFU has called on the Chinese to consider utilising the abundant opportunities available in Zambia's agriculture sector, which country teems with abundant arable land, where only 6.02 million hectares or 14% of 43 million hectares of land classified as high potential for agriculture is being utilised, water resources and a good investment climate.

ZNFU president Jervis Zimba urged the delegation to explore possibilities of investment in the entire agriculture value chain, value addition and processing. He also told the Chinese delegation that a window for enhancing mechanisation and technological advancement begs to be tapped. He said Zambian farmers want to move with the rest of the world in agricultural technological advancement that would trigger increased production and improved productivity.

He said there lies a great opportunity to invest in irrigation, with irrigation potential estimated to be about 2.75 million hectares; based on water availability and soil irrigability, which 523,000 hectares can be economically developed.

He said only 340,000 hectares of land is irrigated in Zambia, which is about 65 percent of the economical irrigation potential leaving a total of 183,000 hectares yet to be developed.

The Chinese delegation said its main investment interest is in plantation agriculture, fisheries, agriculture value addition, processing and agriculture machinery, but mainly livestock and the entire agriculture value chain.





Head of delegation Cheng Chungsheng said they bring with them vast agriculture technology in raising cattle, chickens and other agricultural products and massive marketing experience and ready capital.

Mr. Chungsheng said they have been to South Africa, Zimbabwe and now Zambia and are happy with what they have seen here.

## UP GO ZESCO TARIFFS!

Zesco Limited on Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017 midnight effected the increase in electricity tariffs by 25%.

This is in addition to the 50% increment of 1<sup>st</sup> May 2017, which translates into a 75% tariff increment in electricity for 2017.

Zesco public relations manager Henry Kapata says the increment has been necessitated by the current demand, which is not meeting supply.

He says Zesco is currently connecting an average of 200 people every day.

## PARROGATE GINNERY ACQUIRES CARGILL CHIPATA

Cargill has reached agreement with Parrogate Ginnery Ltd to purchase Cargill's cotton gin, maize mill as well as land, buildings and equipment associated with Cargill's operations in Chipata. The transaction is subject to clearance by the relevant competition authorities.

Parrogate Ginnery Ltd is expected to run the cotton gin and maize mill as a viable business operation, providing cotton seed to farmers and buying cotton for the gin from the local communities.

Cargill's other business activities in Zambia are not impacted by this transaction.

Parrogate Ginnery Ltd has extensive experience with cotton origination and ginning operations in Zambia, Zimbabwe and Malawi. The company also has a considerable network in the region. The deal was sealed on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2017.

## GOATS EXPORT TASKFORCE SET UP

Government has set up a taskforce to actualize the agreement with Saudi Arabia for Zambia to be exporting a million goats to that country every year.





Fisheries and livestock minister Michael Katambo said on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> August, that the committee which will be chaired by the Secretary to the Cabinet, Dr Rowland Msiska, will look into modalities of how the exports will be done.

He said a team from Saudi Arabia will be in the country soon to finalise the agreement saying the Zambian government has already identified farms that are rearing goats.

## FROM THE REGIONS

### SOUTHERN

#### MONZE FARMERS WELCOME ZAMACE WAREHOUSE RECEIPTS SYSTEM

Farmers have welcomed the new system of depositing their maize with the Zambia Marketing Commodity Exchange (ZAMACE) via warehouse receipt system. The farmers spoken to, however, said there is need to strengthen and intensify awareness by **ZAMACE** and other stakeholders to the farmers if this service is to be appreciated and utilized more. **ZAMACE** announced having a facility at the NWK Agri services meeting in Monze. ZAMACE said the system allows farmers to deposit their maize with the Exchange, but the system has been slow to pick up because farmers cannot fully understand this model of Agribusiness, hence the need for increased sensitisation.

### EASTERN

#### MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK HOLDS A CONSULTATIVE MEETING WITH STAKEHOLDERS

The Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock held a consultative meeting on the livestock development policy which the government wants to formulate in the livestock sub-sector. The policy is being formulated to give guidance to effective implementation of activities and programs in the livestock sub-sector.

The consultative meeting was held in Chipata attracted various stakeholders in the agricultural sector who presented their views on what the policy should include in order for it to address challenges that farmer's encounter such as disease prevalence, poor extension service delivery, poor breeding stock, lack of livestock research and development in the livestock sub-sector. The meeting also proposed that the policy should be streamlined together with the Seventh National Development Plan and the Vision 2030.

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## NOW NORTH-WEST FARMERS SELL MAIZE TO FRA

Having no alternative market for their maize produce, some farmers in north Western Province have started taking their maize to the Agency.

A check conducted by ZNFU found farmers weighing their maize though some farmers talked to said the FRA pricing mechanism this season because farmers were going to incur huge losses. A lot of farmers have resorted to selling their produce to private buyers at the same price of K60 while others have resolved to keep their produce and only dispose it during rainy season.

## NORTHERN

### EMBRACE E-VOUCHER; DACO URGES FARMERS

The District Agriculture Coordinator (DACO) of Mpulungu has called on farmers in the area to embrace the e-voucher system.

Speaking during the Mpulungu DFA farmers' training on 24<sup>th</sup> August 2017, the DACO said the E-Voucher presents the best platform that farmers can use in diversifying Agriculture, access inputs timely and also help them have a wider choice of subsidised inputs.

The DACO also encourage farmers to make use of their District Marketing officers in accessing marketing information, pertaining to commodity prices and market linkages within the District and beyond.

The farmers' meeting also witnessed stakeholders such as Zamseed, SeedCo, Pioneer, Pannar and ATS Chemicals unveil their products and services.

And DFA Chairperson Julius Sikazwe thanked all stakeholders for their participation and support, and pleaded with Mr. Kapela Osward, the DMDO, on behalf of the Guest of Honour to help educate farmers about the functionality of the e-voucher system. He further asked government to consider increasing the price of maize, as farmers were reluctant to sell their maize to FRA due to the low market price that was being offered.

### MBALA WORLD VISION TRAINS FARMERS IN GROUP DYNAMICS AND FOREST RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

World Vision Zambia has trained 100 farmers in group dynamics, forest and natural resource regeneration in Senga and Kaka zones. The aim of the training was to strengthen beans producers in business and marketing skills and risk assessment in order to have a source of income and reduce dependency on Maize.

About 50 farmers from Kaka zone were also trained in forest resource management and alternative sources of energy. This was with the aim of trying to discourage indiscriminate cutting of trees.





## ALERTS! ALERTS! ALERTS!

### ZAMACE ACCEPTING WHEAT DEPOSITS

ZAMACE certified storage facilities in Lusaka, Mpongwe and Mkushi have started accepting will Wheat deposits on ZAMACE warehouse receipts.

For further details, kindly contact :0960283604 for storage in Lusaka and 0965872082 for Mpongwe and Mkushi facilities.

ZAMACE contact number: +260 960 432 266

### ZFEA MEMBERSHIP FOR 2017

Zambia Farm Employers' Association (ZFEA) to submit a list of all paid up members and has cautioned the ZFEA that only paid up members are eligible to use the ZFEA Collective Agreement. The ZFEA is therefore reminding all farmers that use its Collective Agreement and have not paid membership for 2017 to do so. The ZFEA has been given up to the end of August 2017 to submit the list for paid up members to the Labour Commissioner's office. Membership fees should be paid either through the ZNFU District Offices or ZNFU Head Office.

### RED SUNNHEMP SALE

Red Sunnhemp Seed for sale. K18/kg (recommend 25kg/ha). Significant Discounts for orders over 1 tonne. Excellent for legume rotation. Improves soil organic matter, adds nitrogen, suppresses weeds and nematodes, breaks soil pans, cools soil temperatures. Contact Andrew Moffat. 096 689 8939 or [a.and.c.moffat@gmail.com](mailto:a.and.c.moffat@gmail.com)

### ULTRAVETIS TO HOLD TRAINING FOR POULTRY FARMERS

ULTRAVETIS will be hosting a training on poultry production for farmers in September, tentatively 30<sup>th</sup> September 2017. ULTRAVETIS is now inviting interested farmers to attend this training AT ZERO COST.

Those interested can call Dr. Mzota Lungu on 0968 222 976.

### INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE AT THE WORLD EXPORT DEVELOPMENT FORUM

The Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry wishes to inform business entities, including farmers, that the International Trade Centre (ITC) of the United Nations will be hosting the 17<sup>th</sup> World Export Development Forum (WEDF) in Budapest, Hungary from 24<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> October 2017.

The Forum will involve policy discussions, practical workshops and facilitated Business To Business (B2B) meetings, which gathers farmers, manufacturers, exporters, importers, wholesalers, retailers and investors.





If interested, kindly follow the link the below to complete registration and obtain more information; <http://www.intracen.org/WEDF-2017-Business-to-Business-meetings-24-and-25-October-2017/> Kindly note that the cost of participation will be covered by the entity wishing to participate.

For further details contact Ms. Zungaye Phiri or Ms. Lina Mutandwa in the Department of foreign Trade on +260 211 224 115.

## INTELECTAUL PROPERTY AND GENTIC RESOURCES – INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

On behalf of the Swedish International Development Corporation Agency (SIDA), the Embassy of Sweden in Zambia is inviting Zambians to nominate candidates for the INTELECTAUL PROPERTY AND GENTIC RESOURCES – INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME, scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017 in Sweden, and a regional follow up in one of the participating countries in June 2018.

Closing date for applications is 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

Members that are interested should send their applications (including an extra copy) to:

**The Embassy of Sweden**  
**Haile Selassie Avenue**  
**Opposite Ndeke House**  
**P.O Box 50264, RW**  
**LUSAKA**

## ZABS CALLS FOR COMMENTS ON FRESH GREEN BEANS & REFRIGERATED TRANSPORT STANDARDS

The Zambia Bureau of Standards is inviting comments on the draft standards, which its Technical Committee on Legumes and Derived Products has developed.

The standards include;

- DZS1068 Fresh Green Beans Specifications
- DZS 1067 Storage and refrigerated transport

The comments should be submitted to the Zambia Bureau of Standards on SDF 008 by 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2017. Suggestions entailing amendment to the text should include the wording preferred and the relevant clause number quoted against comments.

## ORGANIC OATS, WHEAT, SOYA BEANS ON SALE

Organic oats (K4.50/kg), Organic wheat (K4.50/kg) and Organic soya beans (K3.00kg) for sale. Hurry, hurry, while stocks last!





# ZNFU

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