



RADIUS

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**Striking a Balance -
Smart Insurance for
the Stormy Season**

**New Shoes and
Tinned Bread**

Break the Chain

**Weather-Proofing
the Breadbasket**

**Quietly Taking
Centre Stage**

**Sowing Success
Farewell to Ken
Leisegang**

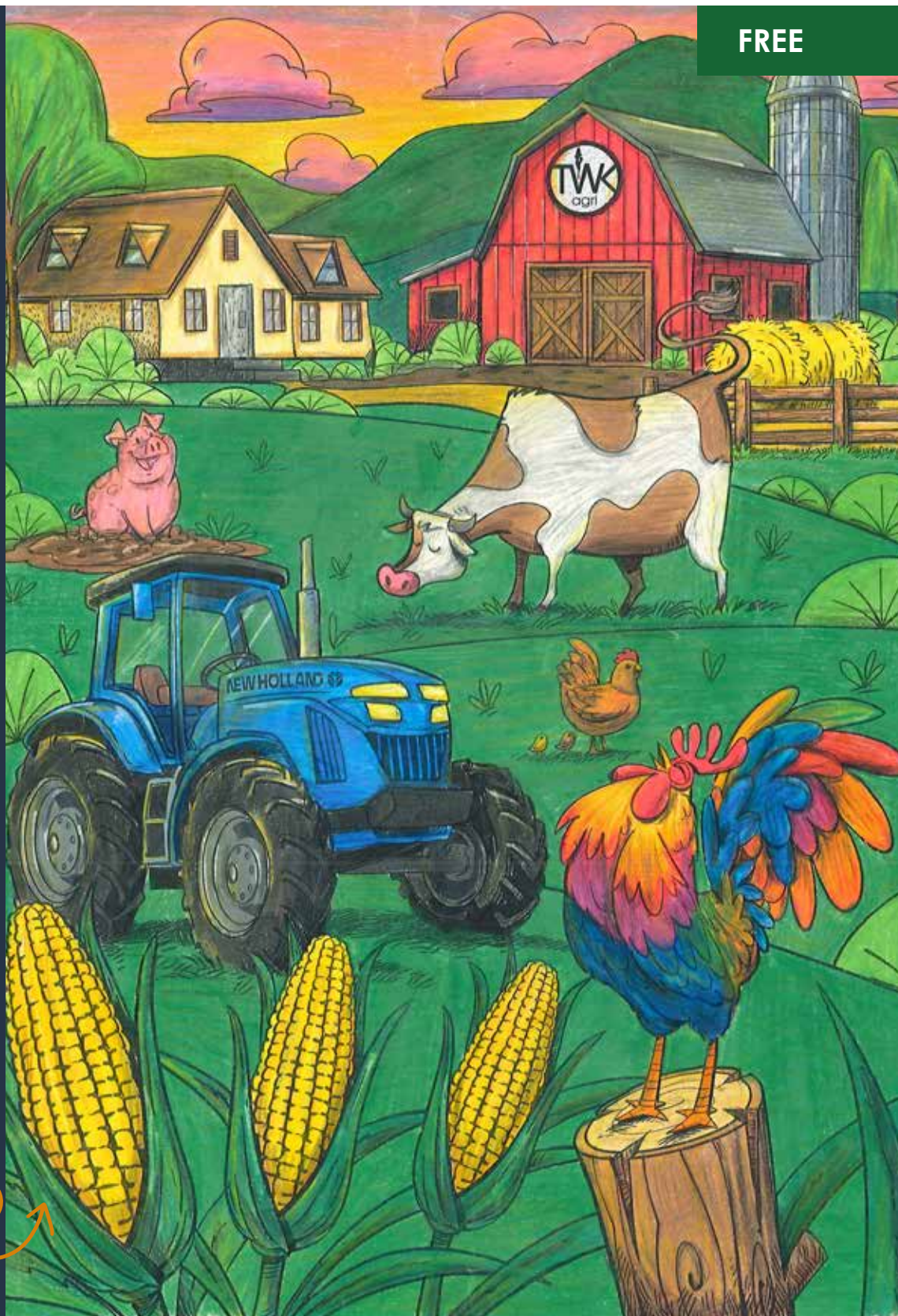
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**Winning Image of
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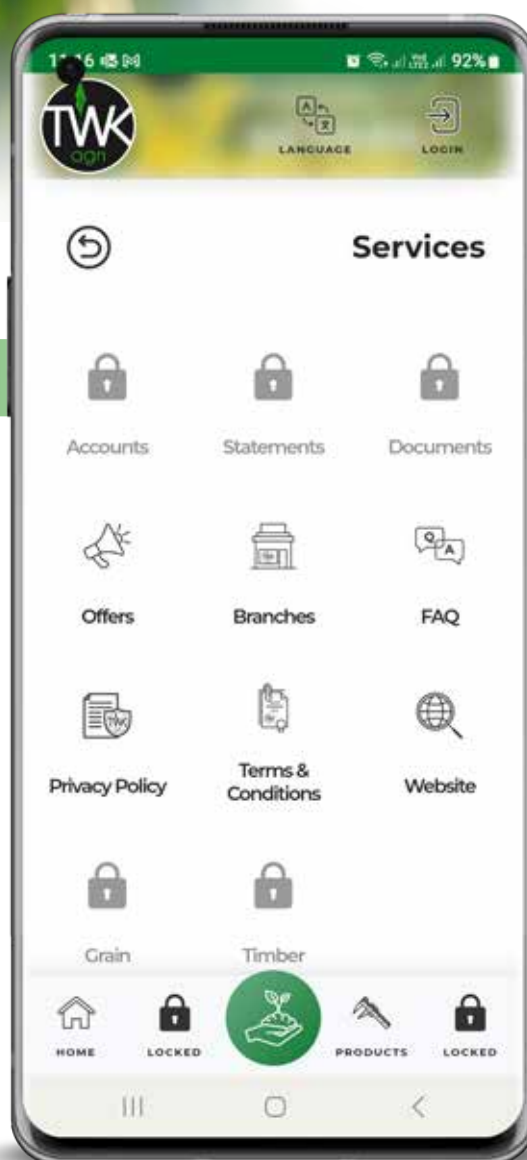
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Springtime Lessons in Life's Trials

As the blossoms of Spring begin to colour our South African landscapes, we are reminded of the cycle of life, how endings and beginnings are always intertwined. Spring is a season that whispers of hope and growth, yet it also invites us to pause and reflect on what we have lost along the way: people who shaped our lives, dreams that slipped through our fingers, and moments we longed to hold onto forever.

Life, in its many chapters, often presents us with frustrations, those delays, disappointments, and struggles that test our patience and shake our resilience.

These moments can feel overwhelming, leaving us questioning our path and wondering why things unfold the way they do. But it is within these trials that we often discover the quiet strength within ourselves, the resilience that carries us forward, and the courage to begin again.

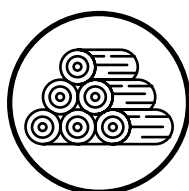
Loss, too, has a way of reshaping us. It leaves an imprint on our hearts, tender yet profound. While it brings sorrow, it also deepens our compassion, teaching us to treasure the people and blessings that remain. Each loss reminds us of the fragility of life but also of its beauty, how every sunrise, every laughter shared, and every new beginning matters.

As we step into Spring, let us embrace the gift of renewal. May we learn to see frustrations not as roadblocks, but as stepping stones that refine us. May we allow the grief of what we've lost to transform into gratitude for what we once had, and into courage for what lies ahead.

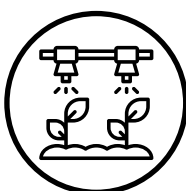
The Bible reminds us: "We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed; perplexed, but not in despair" (2 Corinthians 4:8). These words encourage us to carry hope in our hearts, even when life feels heavy.

So, as petals unfold and the air grows warmer, let us choose to begin again, with renewed faith, fresh perspective, and hearts open to the beauty of what this new season brings.

To our customers, employees, partners, investors, and communities, we ask: **how can we be of service to you?** 🌱



TIMBER



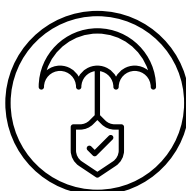
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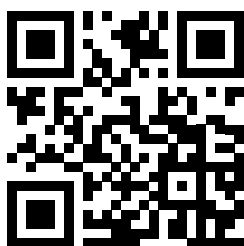
We drive sustainable growth through agility and perseverance.

Innovation

We develop unique solutions to solve complex challenges.

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Striking a balance

smart insurance for the stormy season

By Lindi Botha

The summer season in the eastern regions brings its own set of risks for farmers as the rainy season means increased frequency of lightning, power outages and surges.

While insurance cover can help mitigate the negative effects of lightning, power outages and surges, premiums add to the already long list of costs farmers have to absorb.

Although damage caused by lightning is increasingly making headlines, especially as livestock, and high value stud animals have been struck, the frequency of lightning has not.

Connie Vermaak, Insurance Manager at TWK Agri, stated that although the costs of insurance given these risks has increased, this does not necessarily mean the frequency of lightning has increased - rather, the value of these claims has.

"This is because the value of animals, and especially stud animals, has increased vastly over time" he said. "In past years, a R20 000 stud bull was considered expensive - today we see prices over R200 000 per animal."

Higher premiums demand good choices

The increase in the value of the animals has meant that while insurance premiums were previously considered relatively affordable, this is no longer the case.

The increase in value of the animals has meant that while insurance premiums were previously considered relatively affordable, this is no longer the case.

"Paying a premium that equates to 5% - 15% of a R20 000 stud animal is easier to budget for than the same rate on a R200 000 or R500 000 animal", he said.

With insurance premiums rising, farmers have become more selective in the insurance coverage they buy, with higher risk items gaining more traction.

"This includes public liability insurance in the case of runaway fires, and crop insurance so that at least input costs would be covered in the event of an insured peril," he added.

"Alternative Risk solutions create facilities for uninsurable risks or to support traditional insurance products."

"However, cattle coverage will always be important, especially in areas like Piet Retief, which has one of the highest rates of lightning strikes per square kilometre in the country, as confirmed by several research studies and publications."

Theft - and other risks to consider

The highest risk for livestock farmers however remains theft. The high incidence of theft means that insurance premiums have become very high.

Vermaak said that farmers should ensure that their high value animals are at least covered if they opt not to cover their entire herd. Extra caution should be taken during peak periods especially over the festive seasons when theft incidents are generally more frequent.

Another critical area where farmers should consider insurance is on electrical and electronic equipment. Vermaak says that damage caused by power surges is more frequent and severe than ever, and these risks need to be mitigated to keep farms operational at all times.

Mitigating costs with Alternative Risk solutions

As farmers continuously reassess their expenditure, Vermaak notes that it is common

for farmers to question the need for insurance, especially when they have

continuously paid premiums, but seldom claimed.

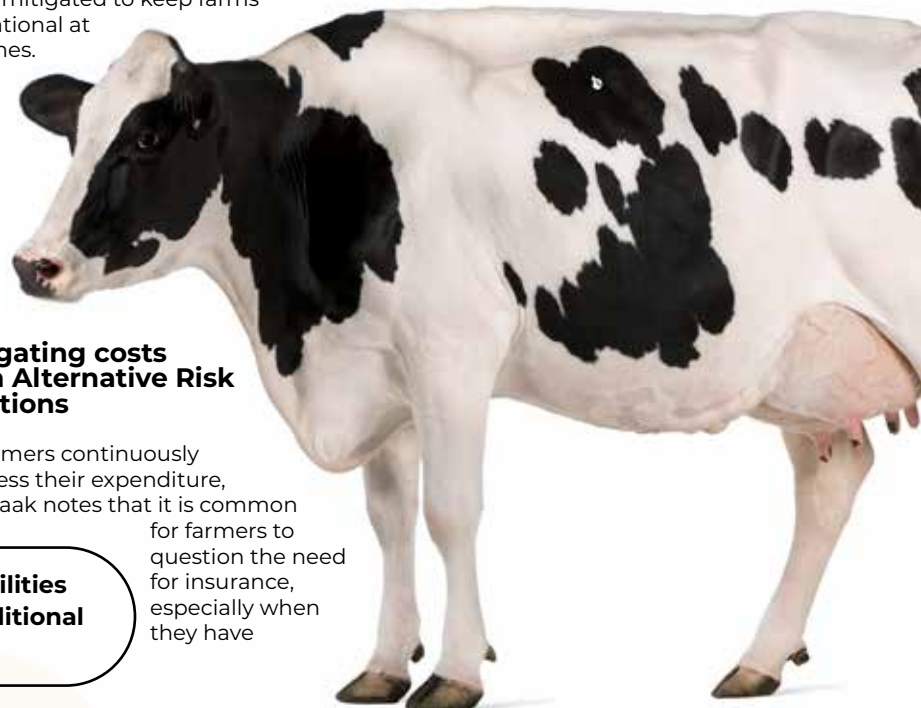
"This is where Alternative Risk solutions are useful, since it allows one to create facilities for uninsurable risks or to support traditional insurance products," he said.

"The facilities incur interest, are tax deductible, and can be tailored to the insured's specific needs. This is a good solution to consider for sheep farmers

"High value animals mean high insurance premiums, so farmers must be selective in the insurance coverage they buy."

for example, where risk premiums become very high or are not insurable through traditional markets."

Vermaak concluded that a carefully considered insurance policy will not eliminate risk, but will help farmers to manage it wisely, and sustainably. 🌱



NEW SHOES AND TINNED BREAD



➔ The Shiselweni Forestry Company received a consignment from Japan that made put smiles on the faces of school children in eight schools, and many more.

Themba Masuku, Shiselweni Regional Administrator, in April this year launched the distribution of a consignment of new and second hand shoes and boxes of bread to school children in umphakatsi, the Royal Kraal of Ekwendzeni Chiefdom.

The donations from Japan totalled 570 new shoes, 29 second hand shoes, and 246 boxes of bread.



Salem Primary and Salem High School



Salem Primary and Salem High School



Single Tree Primary School



Vulamehlo Primary School



Galile Primary School



Ndzongomane Primary School



Ekuthuleni Primary School



Nsongweni Primary School



Mashobeni South Primary School



Break the chain

of Lumpy skin disease virus transmission with BOVIPOX

Dr Beate F von Teichman, Design Biologix

Lumpy skin disease (LSD) is a vector-borne disease of cattle caused by a poxvirus which is transmitted by blood-feeding arthropod vectors into the skin of its target host. The disease outcome has a substantial economic impact on animal productivity resulting in decreased milk and meat production, abortions, infertility and damaged cattle skins. Large-scale and timely immunisation of cattle is the most effective control measure to prevent infections and to stop the spread of LSD.

Live attenuated homologous vaccines have been trusted over many decades to control LSD. Successful vaccination and herd protection does require timely vaccination and widescale vaccination coverage. Bovipox, (Reg. No. G3861, Act 36/1947), using the LSD Neethling-like vaccine strain, is an excellent-quality vaccine, researched for optimal protection of cattle against LSD virus (LSDV) and safety for use in all age groups, both sexes and all breeds of cattle. Bovipox is manufactured by Design Biologix, following international standards of good manufacturing practices for veterinary vaccines.

Background

Nearly a century after first being reported in Zambia in 1929, LSD has become a global concern, having spread across the African continent into the Middle East, Asia and Eastern Europe. Outbreaks of LSD are associated with high rainfall when vector populations are abundant. The LSDV is genetically stable with high genetic similarity within members of the genus Capripox. LSDV mainly infects cattle and water buffalo although the role of wild bovine species as potential reservoirs for LSDV has been reported

based on detection of genetic material and antibodies. The major risk of virus transmission is by blood-sucking insects, with the most competent vector being the stable fly *Stomoxys* species (spp.) and *Aedes aegypti* mosquito. Ticks of the *Rhipicephalus* spp. play a crucial role in the transmission and maintenance of LSD because they can act as both vectors and reservoir hosts, maintaining the virus during cold seasons. Transmission of the virus via excretion in bull semen during natural breeding, transplacental (intrauterine) transfer from dam to fetus, lactogenic transmission through milk, indirect contact via fomites, or direct contact with infectious saliva is considered to present a low risk. Although the virus has a specific preference for the skin, it has been isolated from multiple internal organs and blood of infected cattle. Movement of asymptomatic viraemic cattle may introduce the disease over long distances and promote the spread and transmission of the virus.

LSD progresses after acute infection with high and prolonged fever, enlarged lymph nodes, formation of generalised nodular skin lesions, mucopurulent infectious discharge from the eyes and nose, mucosal lesions and salivation,

Vaccination Info

The Bovipox vaccination:

- induces a protective antibody and cellular immunity against viral challenge
- prevents clinical signs related to infection with LSDV
- is presented in pack sizes of 10 and 100 doses
- is administered as a 1 ml dose subcutaneously in the side of the neck
- in a single dose should confer good and long-term protection three weeks after vaccination



Lumpy Skin Disease, Dr. Dries Lessing, Frankfurt

These diseases, which include LSD, are sensitive to change in favourable climate conditions, which allows for rapid geographic expansion, virus survival and reproduction in vectors and transmission to cattle. LSD is widespread and endemic in Southern Africa where outbreaks are recorded annually in summer rainfall regions. Control and prevention of LSD is only achievable through prophylactic vaccination prior to an outbreak season. In naive herds early detection critical, followed by rapid vaccination coverage. Control of LSD also depends on restriction of movement of cattle and associated animal products in infected regions and removal of clinically affected animals. There is no evidence of successful vector control.

LSD vaccination

Vaccination is the most effective measure for LSD control, ensuring herd protection and preventing entry and spread of the disease. Since the 1960's Southern Africa's cattle farmers relied on vaccines that contain live attenuated Neethling or Neethling-like LSDV. Still the disease remains endemic. Reasons are multifaceted, including lack of disease awareness, reporting, epidemiological risk assessments and notifications, implementation of LSD vaccination as part of an annual vaccination program, and the lack

pneumonia, oedema of the skin, reduced weight gain and emaciation. Thin-skinned, high milk-producing breeds and young calves are most severely affected. High prevalence of insects significantly exacerbates the infection, spread and transmission of the virus.

LSD has significant financial and trade (local and international) implications for farmers and livestock markets. It has a direct economic impact on production through decreased milk and meat

production, poor reproduction through reduced animal fertility, abortion in pregnant animals and damaged cattle hides. LSD is therefore classified as a notifiable disease by the World Organisation of Animal Health (WOAH) and incidences must be reported to veterinary authorities.

Arthropod-transmitted viral diseases are challenging to the livestock industry due to the complex epidemiological interplay between the insect vector, the virus, and the host.

Bovipox: for lumpy skin disease



Bovipox Reg. No. G3861 (Act 36/1947)

For the prophylactic immunisation of cattle against lumpy skin disease (LSDV Neethling-type).

REGISTRATION HOLDER & MANUFACTURER: Design Biologix CC, Reg. No. 1992/028856/23

ANIMAL VACCINES MANUFACTURER

www.designbio.co.za



of commitment to enforce restrictions of animal movement. Successful disease control requires 80-100% vaccination coverage, consistency in vaccinating naive animals and annual revaccination of adult stock to break the chain of virus transmission.

Active immunisation of calves is recommended at the age of 3 to 4 months when born from vaccinated or naturally infected mothers, the time when maternal antibodies have declined or are absent. In the face of an outbreak, calves born from unvaccinated dams may be vaccinated at any age. In general, live attenuated LSD vaccines are safe for use in pregnant, healthy cows or heifers and breeding bulls. Clinically infected and recovered animals will be naturally immunised. It is recommended that recovering animals receive an annual vaccination booster irrespective of natural immunity.

Vaccination during an outbreak or periods of high infection risk carries the potential risk that cattle already incubating the virus may develop clinical disease despite vaccination, due to concurrent infection with the field virus. Vaccination should thus be timely to allow for development of protective immunity which may take approximately two to three weeks.

Bovipox vaccination induces a protective antibody and cellular immunity against viral challenge and prevents clinical signs related to infection with LSDV.

Bovipox, is presented in pack sizes of 10 and 100 doses and administered as a 1 ml dose subcutaneously in the side of the neck. A single dose of vaccine should confer good and long-term protection to the vaccinated animals three weeks after vaccination.

For more than 30 years of vaccine manufacturing excellence, Design Biologix boast with established processes of good manufacturing practices (GMP) following international guidelines for the production and control of immunological veterinary medicinal product. Processes include maintaining quality management systems, proper documentation, and regular audits to verify compliance. Product quality and consistency, safety and efficacy are of major importance to the farmer and guarantees the health and well-being of livestock. It is also the end-user's responsibility to obtain knowledge on disease dynamics and good vaccination practices (GVP) which summarises the entire procedure from Co-op to on-farm vaccine receipt until the administration of the vaccine to the target animals, comprising vaccine storage, vaccine preparation for administration and the vaccine administration equipment.

Conclusion

Vaccination against LSD ensures herd health and productivity, sustainability, safe trade and minimises economic losses. LSD vaccination must receive high priority in cattle-directed vaccination programs which should be designed on herd-specific needs and regional disease reporting in consultation with a production animal veterinarian.



Insect transmittable Lumpy Skin Disease



Insect transmittable Lumpy Skin Disease

"Thin-skinned, high milk-producing breeds and young calves are most severely affected by LSD and the prevalence of insects worsens it."

"Successful disease control requires 80-100% vaccination coverage, consistency in vaccinating young and annual revaccination of adults."



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“When the index falls below or exceeds an agreed threshold - for example, insufficient rainfall during a critical growing phase - an automatic payout is triggered.”

WEATHER-PROOFING THE BREADBASKET



AI-powered tools in agri-insurance are now shifting the focus from indemnity to building resilience and prevention. Here's how Index Insurance is building resilience for our farmers.

Farmers are conservative by nature; they rely on the predictability of the seasons, the certainty of crop cycles, and weather patterns. It would be reasonable to assume they would be wary of the hype around artificial intelligence (AI).

But farmers today operate in an increasingly unpredictable environment—from severe droughts and erratic rainfall to damaging wildfires—raising questions as to how to manage these risks. It's not just their livelihoods at stake, but the nation's food security and economic stability as well.

In 2024, to address and improve agricultural risk management, South Africa's regulators approved index insurance products for weather related risks. AI-powered tools in agri-insurance are now shifting the focus from indemnity to building resilience and prevention.

Supported by the South African Insurance Association (SAIA) and its members, farmers can now utilise innovative insurance tools to help them weather the storms.

Changes are afoot

Using the Internet of Things (IoT), insurers aim to move beyond blunt monthly rainfall indices by tapping real-time environmental and soil moisture sensors—embedding field-level nodes, soil probes, weather stations, and satellite feeds—to calibrate the parametric triggers more granularly, reducing the gap between the index and actual loss (basis risk).

Pamela Ramagaga, General Manager of Insurance Risks at SAIA, stated that transformative risk management tools like index-based (parametric) insurance are gaining momentum as progressive solutions to build resilience among vulnerable farmers.

"Index insurance can be a very powerful tool in empowering small-scale farmers to increase their resilience to weather shocks such as droughts or floods, while also encouraging investments in productivity that, in good years, create a pathway to prosperity," she said.

And although adoption has been slow, there is a clear appetite within the market: "We believe that with scaled government partnership, this product can achieve the scale needed to truly transform agricultural insurance and unlock its full potential for South African farmers."

"The regulatory green light is a landmark step, enabling insurers to offer targeted, transparent, and timely responses to climate risks faced by our farmers," stated Ramagaga.

The benefits of parametric insurance

Almost three years ago, Santam was SAIA's representative to test soil moisture deficit (drought) grain crop index-based insurance through the Regulatory Sandbox (RSB), which is an Intergovernmental Fintech Working Group (IFWG) at the Financial Sector Conduct Authority (FSCA) offices.

Since then, Santam has been one of the insurers who has been successful in its application to the Prudential Authority (PA) to underwrite weather-based index insurance.

Traditional indemnity insurance requires complex and costly individual loss assessments that are often delayed when farmers need support the most.

But parametric (index-based) insurance provides a streamlined solution with payment based on the occurrence of specific, predefined events, like objective

weather parameters (e.g. rainfall measured at specific stations over a set period) rather than individual farm losses.

When the index falls below or exceeds an agreed threshold (e.g., insufficient rainfall during a critical growing phase), an automatic payout is triggered. This simplicity translates into benefits such as rapid payouts, lower and flexible premiums, and transparent, indexed reporting in risk assessments.

A response to climate risks

In the face of increasing climate uncertainty, SAIA has supported bringing these products to market, piloting solutions and advocating for the necessary framework that would protect agricultural productivity.

De-risking agriculture encourages investment, supports emerging smallholder farmers as they enter commercial markets, and fosters financial inclusion by introducing formal financial risk management tools to previously underserved rural communities.

This initiative represents a new frontier in agricultural resilience and risk management through a groundbreaking public-private partnership that aims to shield farmers from climate and biosecurity risks.

"The escalating climate risks facing our agricultural sector demand innovative and accessible risk transfer mechanisms," said Ramagaga.

"Index-based insurance represents a breakthrough for building resilience among smallholder and emerging farmers. SAIA is committed to fostering the partnerships and enabling environment needed to scale these solutions effectively."

To foster inclusion and economic stability in rural communities, SAIA has engaged with the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform, and Rural Development (DALRRD) to pilot broader implementation of scaling insurance products and advocating for essential premium subsidies for small-scale farmers.

The government subsidy of insurance premiums—up to 75% for small-scale farmers and 25% for commercial farmers—enhances the sustainable uptake of drought insurance, facilitating broader coverage across various agricultural segments. Subsidies enhance resilience, safeguard livelihoods, and reinforce long-term food security.

The path forward is built on partnership and innovation. As John Steenhuisen, Minister of Agriculture, said in a recent address to the Black Business Council: "The future of agriculture in South Africa will not be built on large-scale estates alone.

"It will be built on thousands of smaller farms, cooperatives, and family enterprises that, with the proper support, can feed our nation and create a more just and sustainable economy.

"We intend to provide that support by weather-proofing all our farmers, ultimately investing in the stability, security, and sustainability of South Africa's food system for generations to come."

Further Information, email saia@fticonsulting.com or contact Angela Karnein, 072 560 8700 📞



HOW TO AVOID

SMASH-AND-GRABS IN SOUTH AFRICA

By Safire Insurance

Follow these tips to reduce your risk of facing a smash-and-grab in South Africa.

A smash-and-grab is a harrowing experience that no motorists should go through, but the unfortunate reality is that they are a daily occurrence in South Africa.

According to the South African Police Services (SAPS) latest crime data report, a total of 19,032 “theft out of or from motor vehicle” incidents were reported in the fourth quarter of the 2024/2025 period.

This means that approximately 211 cars were broken into between January and March 2025.

In light of this, road users are urged to adopt good habits and take proactive measures to avoid becoming the victim of a smash-and-grab attack.

Even if you find yourself in this situation, there are still actions you can take to protect yourself and ensure that the perpetrators are brought to justice.

Safe practices

The private security and vehicle recovery company Tracker has provided helpful advice for motorists to avoid smash-and-grabs.

The advice is summarised in an easy-to-remember acronym: SMASH, which stands for the following:

- **Surprise**
- **Microns**
- **Avoid**
- **Safe driving**
- **Help**

We'll break them down here.

Make it difficult for thieves

Firstly, criminals typically rely on the element of surprise to execute their plans.

Once they've identified a target, they will often rush at the car, break the window, grab whatever they can, and

sprint away, all within a matter of seconds.

For this reason, perpetrators choose areas that can mask their approach and yet still provide an easy escape route.

At other times, they may rely on accomplices to distract the driver while they approach the car from another direction.

Consequently, it's best to avoid quiet and unlit streets, as well as slow-moving traffic in high-risk areas.

'Microns' refers to the protective film that vehicle owners can install on their window.

While this film doesn't stop the window from being shattered by a thief, it can hold the fragments together to prevent glass from spilling all over the occupants.

“The industry recommendation for your window glass is a 200-micron two-ply system.”

It also creates an obstacle for the thief, buying you a few extra seconds that can make all the difference for you to get away.

The industry recommendation is a 200-micron two-ply system.

Lock your valuables away

'Avoid' means that in addition to avoiding dangerous areas, you should get into the habit of not leaving valuables in plain sight in your car.

Phones, wallets, purses, laptops, bags, jewellery and other high-value items should not be left on the seat or even on the car floor.

Instead, they should be hidden in the boot or in another vehicle storage compartment.

This applies to when you are driving, as well as when the car is parked in a public area.

This even applies to items like jackets, as thieves may still try their luck in the hope that something like a wallet has been left in one of the pockets.

When leaving your car, it's best to leave it in a secure area, preferably somewhere that is enclosed, well-lit, and has security guards on duty.

Keep your eyes on the road

'Safe driving' is an extension of the first step. It urges motorists to be more vigilant on the roads.

Pay attention to your surroundings, and avoid behaviour that makes it look like you are distracted, such as talking, texting, and looking away from the road.

Tracker advises that you don't engage with street vendors, and time your approaches to red lights so you ideally see the light turn green before coming

to a complete stop.

Broken glass on the road is a tell-tale sign that the area is a smash-and-grab hotspot, but you should also pay attention to the SAPS database and community alerts to avoid certain areas.

Don't stop to remove obstacles in the road. Rather drive around them or immediately turn your car around and drive in the other direction.

Report a crime to the police

The last point, Help, means that you should urgently report the crime to the nearest police station, as this information needs to be delivered promptly for the authorities to identify and catch the perpetrators.

You can anonymously report criminal activities on 08600 10111, or send an anonymous SMS to Crime Line at 32211

"Remain vigilant at all times, thieves are most likely to strike when you have dropped your guard," said Duma Ngcobo, Chief Operating Officer at Tracker.

"The perpetrators are becoming brazen," he said. "Smash-and-grabs can happen anywhere and at any time. Follow the above tips to reduce the risk of a smash-and-grab situation."

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Outeur: Pauline Swanepoel, Protek

Onkruid ding mee met tuinplante vir spasie, water, voedingstowwe en lig, wat plantgesondheid en -produktiwiteit kan beïnvloed. Onkruid kan ook plaas en siektes lok, wat tuinonderhoud net nog meer veeleisend maak. Gereelde en geteikende onkruidbeheer is belangrik vir effektiewe tuinonderhoud en Protek se nuutste toevoegings tot hulle reeks, maak ligte werk van daarvan.

Protek Weed Destroyer is 'n sistemiese, nie-selektiewe onkruidodder wat ontwikkel is om onkruid en grasse te beheer. Dit moet op groen blare en bas van aktiefgroeiende onkruid toegedien word om sodoende van verskeie ongewenste plantegroei ontslae te raak. Die produk is beskikbaar in twee opsies om by verskillende tuingroottes te pas. Die nuwe battery-aangedrewe 5-liter-houer sluit batterye in en maak toediening maklik en doeltreffend, mik en spuit eenvoudig. Dit kan toegedien word op sypaadjies, tuinpaadjies, patio's, opritte, heiningslyndrade en geïsoleerde onkruid weg van waardevolle plante. Vir die beste resultate moet breëblaaronkruid en ongewenste grasse gespuut word tot by die punt van afloop.

Protek Weed Destroyer is geformuleer vir die beheer van hardnekkige onkruid in en om tuine. Die sistemiese werking en gereed-vir-gebruik formulering sorg vir maklike en gerieflike toediening met betroubare resultate.

Breëblaaronkruid wat met gras meeding vir sonlig, water en voedingstowwe, kan lei tot onversorgde en ongesonde grasperke. Algemene grasperkonkruid sluit in klawer, amarant, kakiebos, knapse kêrel, dubbeltjies en nog baie ander.

Protek Lawn Defender is 'n selektiewe onkruidodder wat geformuleer is om breëblaaronkruid te teiken sonder om skade aan grasperke te rig. Dit moet toegedien word sodra onkruid

opgekom het en aktief groei. Vir die beste resultate, moet Lawn & Foliage Fertilizer 7:1:3 twee tot drie weke voor die onkruidbehandeling toegedien word. Indien daar enige verkleuring van gras voorkom, is tydelik van aard. Die produk is beskikbaar in 'n 375 ml RTU-spuitspuit.

Protek Lawn Defender bied doeltreffende, geteikende onkruidbeheer vir 'n moeitevrye, onkruidvrye en gesonde grasperk.

Chemiese onkruidodders bied effektiewe onkruidbeheer wanneer dit korrek gebruik word. Dit is noodsaaklik om etiketinstruksies deeglik te lees en te volg, en die gepaste onkruidodder vir die spesifieke omstandighede te gebruik. 'n Geïntegreerde benadering – insluitende die korrekte produkteuse, optimale tydsberekening en nakoming van etiketinstruksies – sal suksesvolle onkruidbeheer verseker.

Geregistreer ingevolge Wet 36 van 1947

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Weed Destroyer Ready-to-Use: L11701, Glifosaat (glisien) 16,4 g/l, glifosaat isopropylamien sout 18,1 g/l, WAARSKUWING, H302 – skadelik wanneer ingesluk, H330 – dalk skadelik wanneer ingesam, H319 – veroorsaak oogirritasie, H410 – baie giftig vir waterlewe met langdurige effekte, registrasiehouer: PE-BEE Agri (Edms) Bpk, maatskappyregistrasienommer 2008/036308/07, Posbus 72, Heidelberg, 1438, telefoonnommer: 011 812 9800

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Quietly Taking Centre Stage

The switch to greener energy has reached the forestry plantations where electric chainsaws are proving to offer a host of benefits above their petrol-fuelled counterparts.



"The electric chainsaws are more powerful, and make far less noise than petrol chainsaws."

"Power is critical for chainsaw operators, and electric chainsaw technology is leaps ahead of petrol in providing it."

By Lindi Botha

More power, less noise, lower costs - this is how Gavin Simms, a harvesting contractor from Sable Mechanised Harvesting in Mpumalanga, describes today's electric chainsaws.

Simms started using electric chainsaws in March. He notes that while it brought an initial capital outlay that is more than that of petrol chainsaws, the savings over the long term make the electric chainsaw a far more attractive option.

"The saws run on batteries that are solar powered, so there are no fuel costs," he said. "Maintenance costs are also lower, especially because there is no carburettor."

"The electric saws are more powerful, but create far less noise, so operators don't even need to wear ear muffs."

Bonuses of battery power

The electric saws are fitted with batteries that can run for around 45 minutes before they need to be recharged. Since the batteries need to be charged infield, labour carrier trucks are fitted with charging stations, which use solar power.

The batteries and the charging system are connected to a phone app, which means energy levels in the solar system can be monitored. In the event that there is not enough

sunshine, an inverter system on the trucks can be used to charge the batteries.

Operators are provided with two batteries, so that work can continue, while the other battery charges. Charging a battery takes 45 minutes.

Simms notes that although operators need to switch batteries every 45 minutes, disruptions to production are minimal. "These breaks also give the operator an opportunity to fill up on oil, and ensure the saw is being maintained."

Batteries come with a two-year warranty, and provide on average 2000 cycles before they need to be replaced.

Dave Greathead, owner of Maxigro, and the agent for Greenworks in the Lowveld, which manufactures electric chainsaws, has conducted numerous trials using electric chainsaws in South Africa's plantations.

He says that power is critical for chainsaw operators, and electric chainsaw technology is leaps ahead of petrol in providing it.

"The batteries are standard, but the chainsaws come in two different models - a 5kW and 3,6kW," he said. "The former is

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The Greenworks 82V, 5kW HOG chainsaw is powered by batteries that are charged through solar power.

ideal for felling as it has a lot of power, and can get through a plantation much faster than the standard petrol chainsaw."

"The 3,6kW model is ideal for cross-cutting, where a little less power is required. In the case of the smaller model, the battery will last longer before needing recharging."

Outpacing tool thieves

One of the biggest advantages of the electric chainsaws is that they offer little attraction for thieves. With chainsaw theft becoming increasingly rampant, this presents not only a capital saving, but reduces downtime.

"It might get stolen the first time, but thieves are unlikely to make the same mistake twice," said Greathead. "The batteries that power the electric chainsaws are not only connected to the app to monitor energy levels, but can be switched off and rendered unusable by the app."

In addition, batteries can be tracked by the app using satellite technology, so the owner will always know where the batteries are.

"Then there is the unique serial number on the batteries and chainsaws, which is kept in a database by Greenworks," Greathead added.

"To outpace tool thieves, batteries can be switched off and rendered unusable - they can also be tracked."

"Since parts can only be bought in-person, not online, and serial numbers must be provided to the salesmen, identifying stolen equipment is easy."

Greathead stated that this feature has been explained to insurance brokers, which should reduce insurance premiums for chainsaws.

Simms notes that the specialised charger needed to charge the batteries is a further deterrent to thieves, since they are unable to be able to charge batteries without the units fitted onto the labour carriers.

Things to consider

Implementing electric chainsaws has however not come without challenges. Although Simms and Greathead have solved initial teething problems, they caution prospective electric chainsaw

operators to take note of changes to the status quo.

"We've had to upgrade our chainsaw pants because the petrol chainsaws run at 20 metres per second, whereas the electric chainsaws are much faster at 28 metres per second," Simms explained.

"We needed to find stronger pants to ensure we met the PPE [personal protective equipment] regulations,"

He noted that, while he would prefer to make a complete switch away from petrol chainsaws, it is not practical: "We'll always need one petrol chainsaw that can work in a different compartment, away from the labour carrier's charging points."

"Ideally you'd have all the operators in one compartment, but often, there is still one operator needed to do clean up work in a compartment, and it's not always close enough to the charging station."

But the fact remains that while electric chainsaws require a greater initial capital investment to equip the labour carriers with solar and inverter systems, the return on investment is still more favourable.

Greathead estimated that the payback period for the electric saws are 18 months, when taking savings on fuel and maintenance costs into consideration. 🌱



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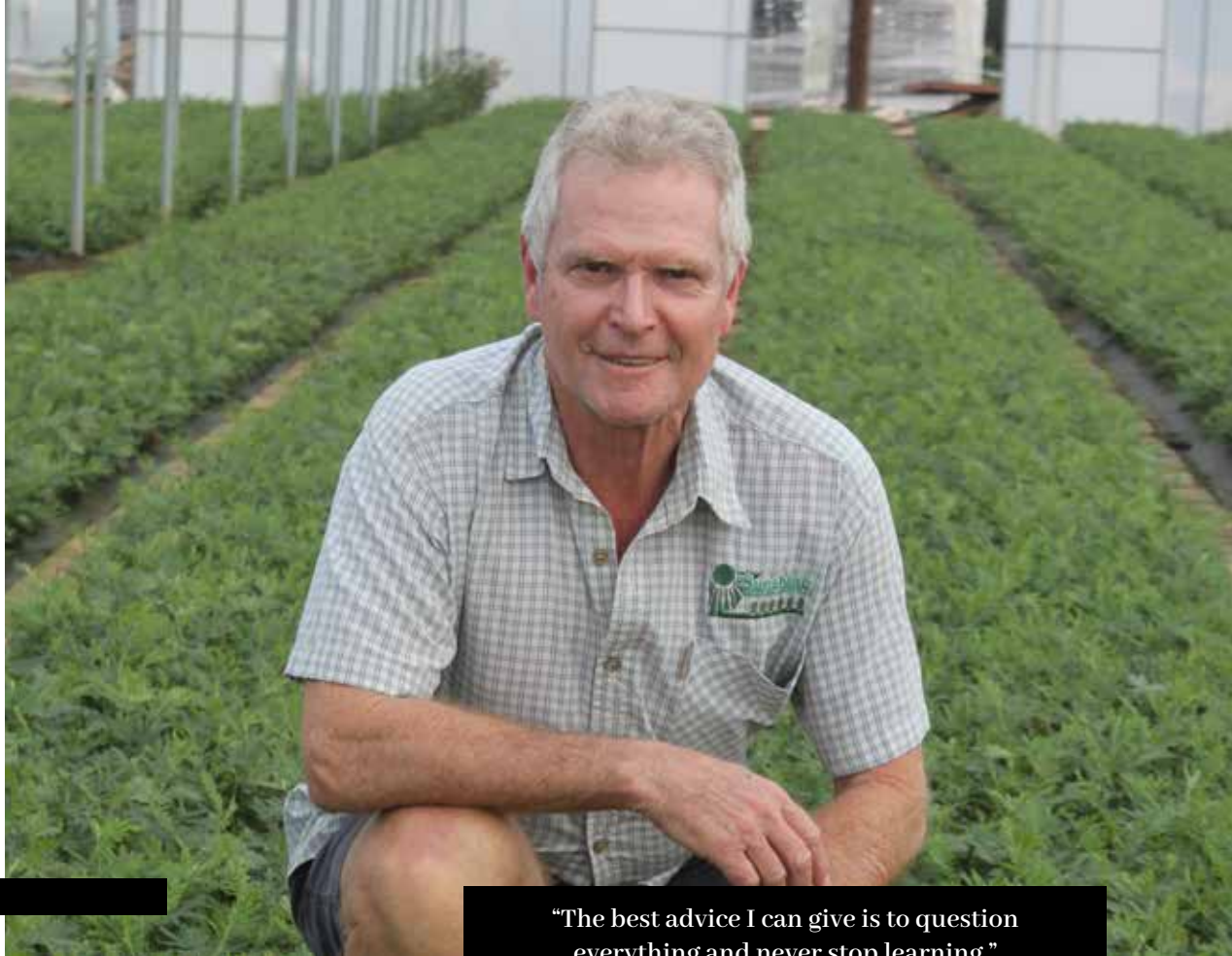
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SOWING SUCCESS



"The best advice I can give is to question everything and never stop learning."

By Julz Cassim

➔ After more than four decades of dedication, innovation and leadership, Ken Leisegang has officially retired from Sunshine Seedling Services - we caught up with him to bid him a fond farewell.

From humble beginnings to millions of seedlings produced annually, Ken's journey has been rooted in a deep commitment to quality, sustainability and people.

Following a farewell held in his honour, I had the opportunity to sit down with Ken to reflect on his years working with Sunshine Seedlings Services (SSS), and to share his learnings.

Let's start at the beginning—what first inspired your journey into agriculture, and what twists led you to Sunshine Seedlings?

My agriculture journey began when my father was a farm manager on a sugarcane farm. Sunshine Seedlings in Pietermaritzburg was established in 1982 by myself and my brothers. We diversified by growing different types of seedlings such as forestry, vegetables and flowers.

Were there colleagues in your career who were pivotal to your success at Sunshine Seedlings?

Yes. A colleague I mentioned earlier, Julian Pybus, who was representing Bayer Chemicals, got me involved in the seedling business.

After that, Professor Mark Lang from the University of KwaZulu-Natal played a big role. As a plant pathologist, in the early days he helped us identify and fix many diseases, both in vegetables and forestry seedlings.

What is one surprising or misunderstood aspect of being a director that people assume?

People often think you know everything about the business. But for me, being a leader means delegating as much as possible to people who know more than I do in their specialist areas.

What is the best piece of advice you have ever received?

I did a course through Action Coach, and the best advice came from our leader there. He introduced me to the book, People Before Profits. That has become the foundation of my business as your people are the backbone of your business and you have to look after them and keep them happy.

How did this advice shape your leadership style?

If you want long-term growth, your people are your most important asset.

What advice would you give to young leaders stepping into the agricultural space?

When I started, I had no nursery industry experience. The best advice I can give is to question everything and never stop learning.

How would you describe the culture at Sunshine Seedlings?

We work as a team to achieve a common goal. Without teamwork, the business would never succeed.

Can you share a funny moment in your career that still makes you chuckle?

In the early days, we were known as "Onder die Boom Kwekery" because we started our nursery on a small tennis court we had. We always said we would make those people quiet by achieving bigger goals and yes, we managed to do just that - and pretty quickly too.

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“What began as a bold experiment has evolved into a legacy for generations to come.”

Looking back, what achievement are you most proud of?

I achieved the turnover I aimed for before retirement.

Fun Fact

Ken has travelled to more than 30 countries. Seychelles is his favourite destination.

As you close this chapter, what will you miss most at Sunshine Seedlings?

In the nursery industry, every day is different. One is constantly solving problems and making spur-of-the-moment decisions. I am going to miss that challenge.

What legacy do you hope to leave behind at Sunshine Seedlings?

Sunshine Seedlings is a successful business that supports many families and the local community, and it is very much part of the community around us.

Looking forward, can you give guidance on TWK and Sunshine Seedlings working together as a collective?

In the past five years, TWK has taken over the main shareholding in Sunshine Seedlings. It is important that Sunshine Seedlings remains independent and maintains its identity.

Now that retirement is here, what are your plans for the future? Any passions or hobbies you're finally making time for?

I am involved in other businesses besides the nursery. I will be taking on bigger roles there. We have a farm here at the nursery too. As for hobbies, I enjoy travelling. I also like fly fishing, mountain biking, and I play squash. I will be spending more time on those activities now.

On behalf of the entire TWK Agri and SSS teams, we wish Ken a well deserved retirement, filled with continued success and happiness. His influence will remain an integral part of TWK Agri and Sunshine Seedling Services as we continue our journey forward.

“I'll be spending more time fly fishing, mountain biking, and playing squash.”

Goodbye, Ken

Since he has left behind a remarkable legacy, Ken's colleagues shared some heartfelt words of appreciation and well wishes:

Tinus von Wielligh (Nursery Manager at SSS)

During the past 18 months, I have come to know Ken as an honest, hard-working individual with a kind heart. He set the example to us all: to build strong, trusting relationships with employees and customers alike, which made Sunshine Seedlings feel like a welcoming family. He led the company to bloom and grow (pun intended), instilling a commitment in us all to uphold quality at all costs. His retirement will undoubtedly leave a void in terms of experience, wisdom, and knowledge.

Psalm 92:12-14 (NIV): “The righteous will flourish like a palm tree, they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon; planted in the house of the Lord, they will flourish in the courts of our God. They will still bear fruit in old age, they will stay fresh and green.”

Bryn Pollard (Manager: Timber Research)

Celebrating a Visionary in Clonal Forestry

When I joined the forestry sector in the early 1990s, clonal forestry was still in its infancy. It was a new, largely untested concept that required not only technical innovation but also the courage to take risks when few others would. At Sunshine, it was Ken who had the foresight and determination to invest in this pioneering path.

In those early days, we started with fewer than 300,000 saleable plants per year. The development and infrastructure required came at immense cost, but the vision was clear: to build a sustainable, efficient, and future-focused forestry programme. Each step forward was hard-earned, yet each success proved the value of perseverance and innovation.

Over the last 25 years, Ken has remained at the forefront of clonal forestry, most recently championing the development of wattle clones. His willingness to explore new projects and embrace untested ideas has not only advanced the industry but has also created an environment where people are encouraged to challenge the norm and push the boundaries of what is possible.

For me, and for many others at Sunshine, this has been more than just professional progress. It has been an opportunity to grow, to innovate, and to be part of something transformative. On behalf of the Sunshine team, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Ken for his flexibility, his trust, and the opportunities he has afforded us.

What began as a bold experiment has evolved into a legacy — one that continues to shape forestry today and will do so for generations to come.

We wish him all the best with this new season in his life, with the knowledge that he will still bear much fruit for the Lord. 🌱



Lewe vir die vroeë oggende op die plaas. Nie vir slapelose nagte van skape tel nie.

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Birds OF A FEATHER

By: Sekgwari Mpho Malematja, DITSONG: National Museum of Natural History

Spring brings out our best and most beautiful birds, further enhanced by migratory species. A simple walk or a peek into your garden can reveal local beauties, writes Sekgwari Mpho Malematja from DITSONG: National Museum of Natural History.

Spring in Southern Africa, generally spanning from September to November, is a season of profound ecological transformation and renewal. The dull tones of autumn give way to an earth bursting into bloom, characterised by warmer days and frequent rainfall across most of the country.

These conditions are synonymous with increased bird breeding activity and a significant influx of migrant bird populations. Understanding this ecological dynamic is crucial for implementing effective conservation measures.

Colours for courtship

The abundance of food, marked by escalating insect populations and blossoming flowers, is a critical factor for birds to breed and raise their young successfully. The breeding process involves intricate courtship rituals, the establishment of territories, and diverse nesting and parental care strategies.

One of the most iconic sights of the spring is the appearance of bright yellow male Southern Masked Weavers (*Ploceus velatus*) meticulously weaving their nests in gardens and national parks.

Their vibrant plumage is a prime example of a courtship display, where males moult their dull brownish winter feathers to assume a brighter plumage, aiming to impress potential female partners.

This phenomenon extends beyond Southern Masked Weavers; the Southern Red Bishop (*Euplectes orix*), for instance, moults into striking red and black feathers, and the Pin-Tailed Whydah (*Vidua macroura*) grows central tail feathers up to three times its body length in breeding season.



Intricate weave: The nest of a Southern Masked Weaver kept at DNMNH ornithology collection Skin Disease



Costume change: Museum specimens illustrating the striking transition of plumage from non-breeding brown to breeding, yellow for the Southern Masked Weaver (left) and red for the Southern Red Bishop (right).





Opposites attract: Southern Red Bishop Male and Female Museum specimens, male caught and preserved during breeding season



Muted tones: Southern Red Bishop Male and Female museum specimens, male caught and preserved before breeding season

Other courtship rituals involve song or dance by the male to attract females. The male Red-Chested Cuckoo (*Cuculus solitarius*) signals the start of the breeding season with its infamous "Piet-my-vrou" call, luring unsuspecting cuckoo females.

Red-Chested Cuckoos are migrant species and known brood parasites; despite ideal spring conditions for nesting, they lay their eggs in the nests of other bird species to avoid the costs of raising their own young.

Male Flamingos engage in synchronised group dance displays, marching while twisting their heads and flapping their wings. The iconic male Ostrich (*Struthio camelus*) also courts its potential mates by dropping to its knees, swaying side to side with wings stretched open, and twisting its neck.

Building a home

Territorial establishment is a process by which individual birds defend a specific area from others. This is essential for creating safe and comfortable homes, guaranteeing a successful breeding season where eggs and nestlings are sheltered from predators and harsh environmental conditions, and ensuring a consistent food supply.

Males typically lead this effort, and females often perceive a male's ability to establish territory as an indicator of a desirable mating partner.

Examples of territorial behaviours include visual displays such as feather puffing and posturing, strong vocalisations to intimidate other birds, and the establishment of nest sites to mark prime breeding grounds.

Welcoming newcomers

Spring marks the height of the annual migratory bird influx. Birds arrive from diverse regions, including Europe, Asia, and other parts of Africa, migrating to South Africa to escape the harsh winter conditions of their breeding grounds.

They typically begin arriving from August to December and depart at the onset of the Southern African autumn, generally between March and April.

Some common sightings among these region-specific migrants include the European Bee-eater (*Merops apiaster*) and the European Roller (*Coracias garrulus*).



Visiting varieties: Migrant bird museum specimens caught in South Africa during the breeding season, European Roller female and male (left image) and European bee-eaters female and male (Right image)

How to Sight Birds in Spring

The Southern African spring is undoubtedly the best time for birdwatching. Birds are vibrant, active, and often difficult to miss.

A rewarding challenge would be not only to spot the birds but also to observe the unique behaviours exclusive to this season, such as nest building, courtship dances, and territorial establishment.

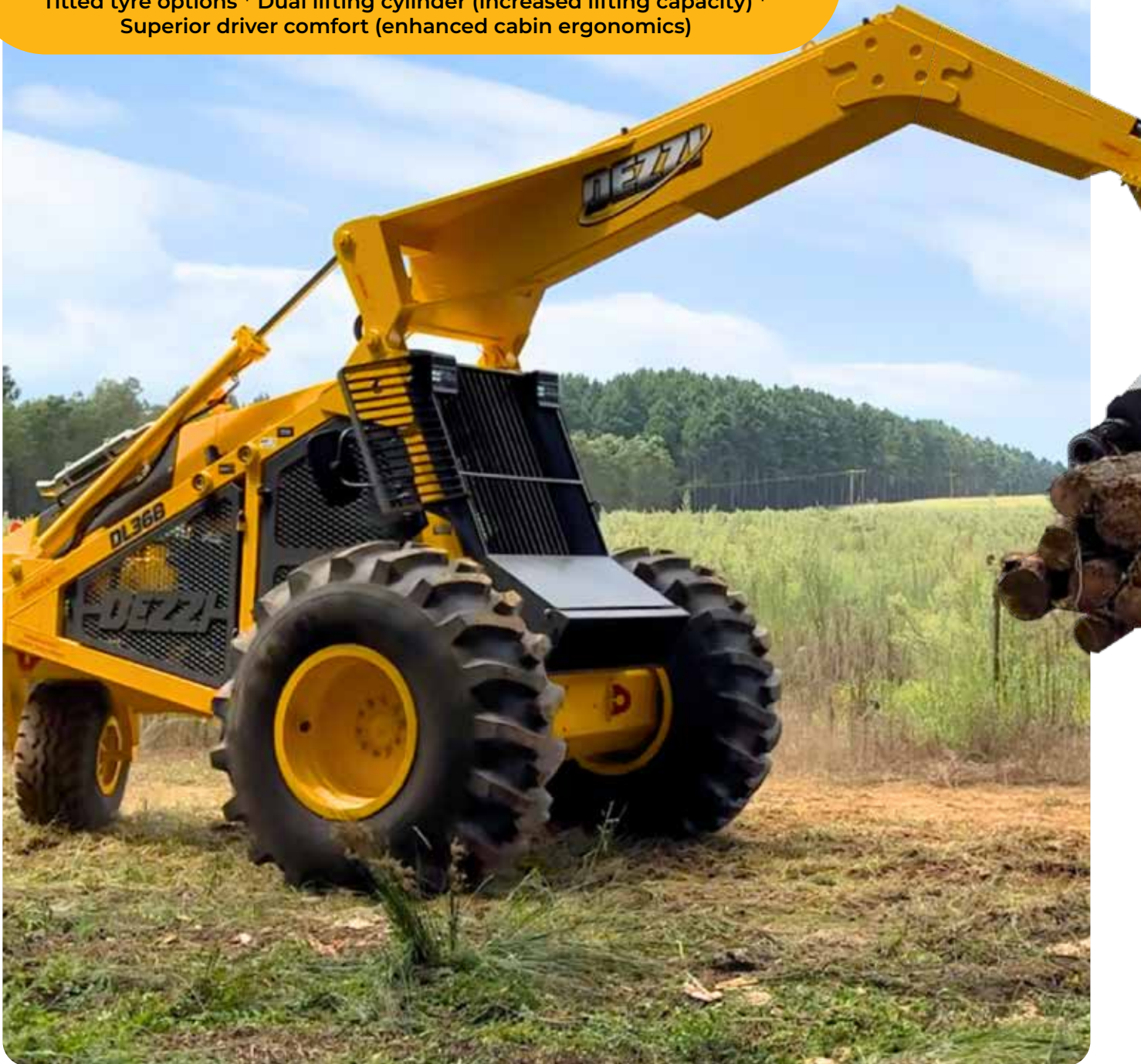
The Ditsong National Museum of Natural History, located in Pretoria Central, offers an exceptional opportunity to view these birds up close.

Its ornithology collection boasts a large array of preserved local and migratory birds in various phases, including before and after molting, as well as a collection of bird eggs.

It's an excellent place to study and appreciate the ecological dynamics of Southern African birds in spring. 🌱

The Dezzi DL36B 3 Wheel Logger has a proven record of reliability and efficiency in the timber and forestry sectors. Key advantages include:

- * Reliable and durable 4-cylinder air-cooled engine
- * Custom factory-fitted tyre options
- * Dual lifting cylinder (increased lifting capacity)
- * Superior driver comfort (enhanced cabin ergonomics)



TWK AGRI SECURES EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS TO **DEZZI AGENCY**



TWK Agri is proud to announce that it has entered into a strategic business agreement with Dezzi, acquiring exclusive rights to act as an agency for their products in key regions. This partnership marks an important milestone in TWK's ongoing commitment to expanding its footprint and strengthening its offering to clients across multiple industries.

A Strategic Partnership

The agreement gives TWK Agri exclusive agency rights in Northern KwaZulu-Natal — including Pongola, Vryheid, Newcastle, and Dundee — as well as across Mpumalanga, covering Piet Retief, Ermelo, Bethal, Standerton, and Nelspruit. These areas represent critical hubs for agriculture, forestry, mining, and land development, aligning perfectly with both TWK's service scope and Dezzi's product range.

About Dezzi

Dezzi is a proudly South African brand, renowned for its wide range of locally manufactured equipment tailored to the unique demands of the sugar industry, forestry operations, mining, and earthmoving sectors. With a reputation for durability, innovation, and support, Dezzi machinery has become a trusted name in industries that require reliable and efficient equipment to handle challenging environments.

Benefits for Clients

Through this agency, TWK Agri customers in the designated regions will have direct access to Dezzi's full suite of equipment as well as TWK's trusted after-sales support. This ensures not only greater convenience and product availability but also peace of mind with the knowledge that both sales and servicing are backed by two established South African brands.

Clients can expect:

- Access to a comprehensive range of Dezzi equipment
- Reliable after-sales service and support through TWK's extensive network.
- Industry-specific solutions designed for agriculture, forestry, mining, and construction.

A streamlined procurement process within their local region.

Strengthening TWK's Commitment

The acquisition of the Dezzi agency further strengthens TWK's mission to provide clients with value-driven solutions, premium service, and industry-leading products. By partnering with Dezzi, TWK ensures that it continues to offer innovative solutions that support growth, efficiency, and sustainability across multiple industries.

"This partnership represents another step forward for TWK in delivering top-quality products and service to our clients. We are excited to represent Dezzi in these regions and confident that this collaboration will benefit our customers and the industries we serve."



The Dezzi range of Articulated Timber Trucks are designed to fulfill the dual purpose operations of infield loading (up to 25% slope) and short-haul to depot. This allows customers to utilise one self-loading machine, with a single operator, as opposed to three machines with three operators to fulfill the same operation. The Dezzi Articulated Timber Trucks are available in 20-tonne and 30-tonne models.



Rugged and reliable! Our Dezzi rigid haulage tractors have made a name for themselves across Africa. These machines put in the hard yards hauling loads in the agriculture, forestry, mining and construction industries. Our proven range includes various power options as well as 4x2, 4x4 and forestry-spec options: Dezzi H80T (4x2 | 4x4), Dezzi H120T (4x2 | 4x4), Dezzi H140T (4x2 | 4x4) and Dezzi H180T (4x4).



Our proven Dezzi MG80T Maintenance Grader is ideal for maintaining roads up to 6m in width in various applications such as construction sites, smaller-scale municipal roads, game farms, sugar estates, farms and timber plantations.

Schools Competition



Congratulations to Tzaneen Primary School!

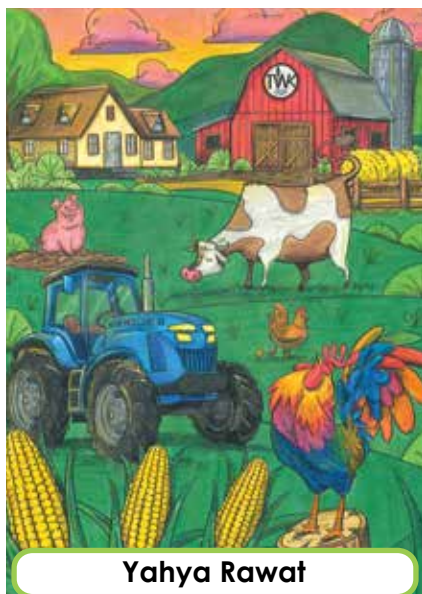
We are happy to announce that Tzaneen Primary School has won the TWK Schools Competition!

Thank you to all learners and teachers who took part. Your creativity and participation made this competition a great success!

Congratulations to the JP Scholars!!

We are delighted to announce the winners of the TWK Colouring-in Competition in the Junior Primary category. A big well done to these talented young artists for their creativity and effort. Thank you to all our JP scholars who took part — your colourful entries made this competition truly special!

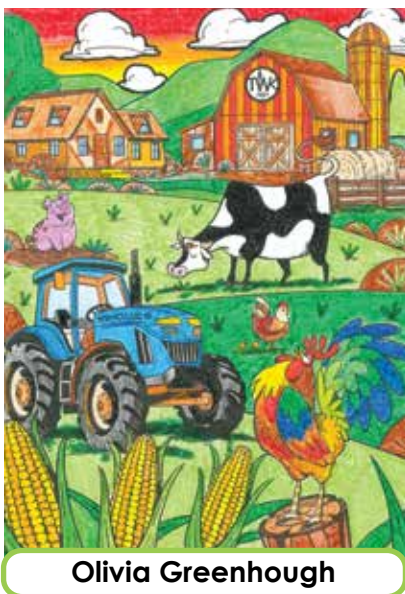
1st Place: R5,000



Yahya Rawat

Uelzen Primary School

2nd Place: R3,000



Olivia Greenhough

Uelzen Primary School

3rd Place: R2,000



Johandre de Meyer

Kanonkop Primary School

Congratulations to the SP and HS Scholars!!

We are delighted to announce the winners of the TWK Photography Competition in the Senior Phase and High School category. A big well done to these talented scholars for their creativity and effort.

Thank you to all who took part — your impactful entries made this competition truly special!

ONE IMAGE CAN CHANGE THE WORLD



1st Place: R5,000

2nd Place: R3,000

3rd Place: R2,000



Lily Carr

Howick Primary School



Faith Mandiya

Ixopo Primary School



Petrus Eybers

Lucas Meyer Primary School

BASJAN SE BOOMHUIS

Pret met poetse

*Kinderstorie deur Jaco Jacobs
Illustrasies deur Johann Strauss*

Op Basjan-hulle se plaas is 'n boom.

'n Groot ou boom met digte blare.

Dis die perfekte boom om kaalvoet in rond te klouter.

En in hierdie boom is Basjan se boomhuis.

Basjan se boomhuis is die beste plek op aarde om te speel, skatte weg te steek, te dagdroom, planne te maak ... of weg te kruip as Ma jou roep om huiswerk te kom doen! Gelukkig is vandag Saterdag. Basjan het gistermiddag al sy huiswerk klaar gedoen. Hy lê op 'n kussing op die vloer van die boomhuis en blaai deur sy boek met dinosourusse.

"Kyk, Strepies," sê hy. "Hierdie dino se naam was Patagotitan – hy was so lank soos drie skoolbusse wat in 'n ry staan!"

Die muishond snuffel-snuffel aan die prent wat Basjan vir hom wys, asof hy nuuskierig is om meer oor die dinosourus uit te vind.

"En dié een was weer piepklein," beduie Basjan. "Amper net so groot soos jy."

"Basjan!" roep 'n stem. "Is jy in die boomhuis?"

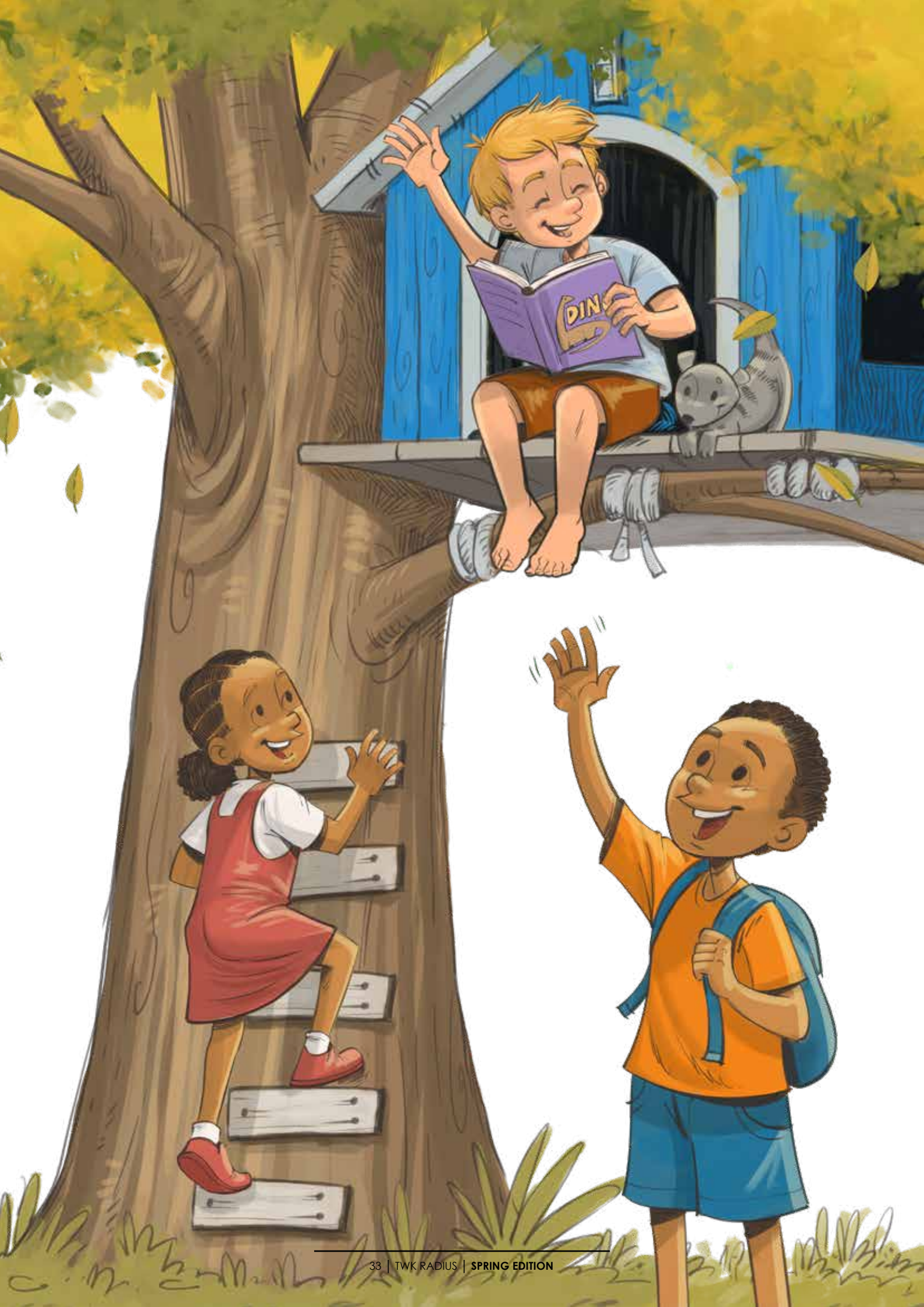
Basjan sit opgewonde regop. Hy loer by die boomhuis se deur uit. Die tweeling, Nandi en Neville, staan onder die boom. Hulle pa boer op die buurplaas. Dis naby genoeg dat hulle sommer kan oorstep wanneer hulle by Basjan kom speel.

"Hallo, julle!" sê Basjan. "Wat staan julle nog daar onder? Kom op!"

Die tweeling klim by die boomhuis se leer op.

"Môre, Basjan," sê Neville en steek sy hand na Basjan uit.

Basjan frons. Dis vreemd – van wanneer af groet Neville hom met die hand?





Basjan steek sy hand uit en ...

Bzzzzzzzz

Daar is 'n gegons en iets skud woes in Basjan se hand. Hy wip van die skrik en pluk vinnig sy hand weg.

Neville bars uit van die lag.

“Wat was dit?” vra Basjan verbaas.

Nandi rol haar oë. “Glo my, jy wil nie weet nie,” brom sy.

“Dis 'n gonser!” sê Neville. Hy wys vir Basjan die ronde toestelletjie wat hy in die palm van sy hand versteek het.

“Waar kry jy dit?” vra Basjan.

Neville haal sy rugsak af en maak dit oop. Hy bring 'n rooi-en-geel boks daaruit te voorskyn. Voorop staan geskryf:

Pret met poetse

Alles wat jy nodig het om 'n bobaas-poetsbakker te word!

“My ma se suster, tannie Reeve, het by ons kom kuier. Sy het dit vir my saamgebring,” sê Neville.

“Gmf,” snork Nandi. “En raai wat het ék gekry. 'n Stel hekelnaalde en gare en 'n boek wat jou leer hoe om te hekel.”

Basjan lag. “Dis cool, Nandi,” sê hy. “Jy kan vir my bababoetie kousies hekel, vir wanneer hy gebore word.”

Basjan het ’n paar weke terug die nuus gekry dat hy een van die dae ’n bababoetie kry. Hy kan nie meer wag vir die groot dag nie! Binnekort hoef hy nie meer vir Strepies sy dino-boek te lees nie – hy sal vir sy boetie alles oor dinosourusse kan vertel.

“Urgh,” sê Nandi, “ek het probeer hekel, maar ek kry dit nie reg nie. Alles wat ek hekel, lyk soos iets wat ’n spinnekop binne-in ’n tornado probeer doen het. Teen die tyd dat ek ’n paar kousies klaar gehekel het, gaan jou boetie al op hoërskool wees.”

“Basjan!” roep Mamma van die voorstoep af. “O, haai, Nandi en Neville!” sê sy toe sy die tweeling sien. “Is julle drie lus vir koeldrank?”

“Hallo, Tannie!” roep Neville.

“Koeldrank sal lekker wees, dankie, Tannie,” sê Nandi.

“Kom kry gou vir julle,” sê Mamma.



Basjan en die tweeling klouter af en stap saam kombuis toe. 'n Rukkie later is hulle terug in die boomhuis – elkeen met 'n glas koeldrank. Mamma het vir hulle 'n bord met koekies ook gegee. Strepies loer hongerig na die koekies. “Nee, Strepies!” sê Basjan. “Jy moet maar vir jou 'n gogga vang. Mamma sê koekies is sleg vir jou.”

Dit lyk of Strepies verstaan wat Basjan sê, want hy draai om en begin tussen die takke rondsnuif, op soek na 'n lekker goggahappie. Daar is altyd hope goggas wat tussen die blare wegkruip.

Basjan gaan sit op sy gunsteling-kussing. Skielik is daar 'n nare geluid...

Prrrrrt

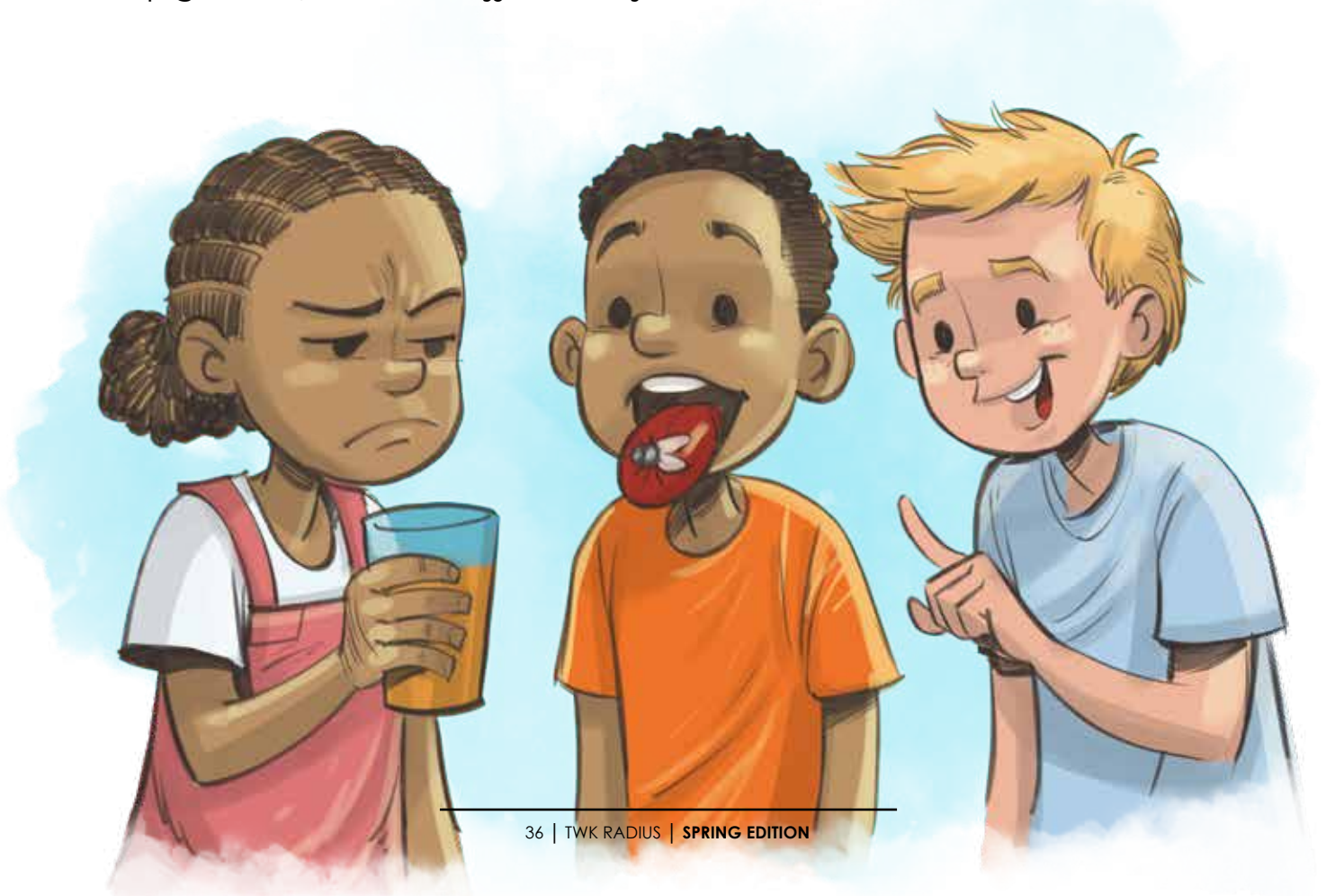
Dit kom onder Basjan se sitvlak uit!

Hy voel hoe sy gesig warm word. Nandi staar geskok na hom. Selfs Strepies kyk hom skewekop aan.

“Dit was nie ek nie!” sê Basjan.

Neville rol op die boomhuis se vloer rond soos hy lag. Basjan lig sy kussing op. Onder die kussing is 'n vaalpienk ding wat soos 'n afgeblaasde ballon lyk.

“Dis 'n knorkussing!” verduidelik Neville so tussen sy gelag deur. “As 'n mens daarop gaan sit, klink dit of jy 'n windjie los.”





“Baie snaaks,” brom Basjan, maar dan begin hy ook lag. Neville het hom lekker uitgevang!

“Eeeuw!” roep Nandi skielik hard uit. Sy staar na haar glas. “Hier dryf ’n groot groen brommer in my koeldrank. En ek het al daarvan gedrink!” Dit lyk of haar gesig sommer so ’n groen skynsel kry – dieselfde kleur as die brommer.

Neville begin weer skater van die lag.

Nandi frons en gluur hom vies aan. “Laat ek raai,” sê sy. “Dis nog een van jou simpel poetse?”

Neville vat die glas en haal die brommer uit. “Dis plastiek,” sê hy. “Kyk.” Hy sit die “brommer” op sy tong om te wys hy gril nie daarvoor nie.

Basjan grinnik. “Dis briljant,” sê hy. “Dit lyk asof jy ’n regte, egte brommer op jou tong het.”

“Seuns!” sê Nandi en rol haar oë.

Neville se oë glinster. Hy haal weer die boks met poetsbakgoed uit sy sak.

“Basjan,” sê hy, “waar is Karlien? Is jy lus om ’n paar lekker poetse op haar te bak?”

Basjan glimlag breed. Dit klink na ’n fantastiese idee! Sy ouer suster word altyd vreeslik vies as Basjan poetse op haar bak.

“Wys my wat het jy alles in daai boks,” sê Basjan.

Neville maak die boks oop. “Kyk, hier is plastiekpoeffie, onsigbare ink, ’n plakker wat dit laat lyk of jou selfoon se skerm gekraak is ...”

“Perfek!” sê Basjan. “Karlien is naweke vasgegom aan haar selfoon. Sy sal iets oorkom as sy dink die skerm is gekraak.”

“Julle twee soek vir moeilikheid,” waarsku Nandi.



“Ag, hoekom gaan hekel jy nie eerder ’n kombersie nie,” koggel Neville. Basjan kan nie help om te lag nie. Nandi en Neville is nou wel ’n tweeling, maar hulle stry gedurig oor alles. “Kom ons gaan soek jou suster, Basjan,” sê Neville. “Wag, ek drink net gou my _”

Hy hou in die middel van sy sin op met praat en staar met ’n frons na die glas koeldrank in sy hand.

“Haha,” sê hy. “Wie van julle twee het die plastiekbrommer in my koeldrank gesit?”

Basjan kyk verbaas na Nandi. Sy trek haar skouers op.

Neville grinnik. “Julle het seker gedink ek sou vir my eie poets val, nè? Vergeet dit, ek is ’n bobaas-poetsbakker!”

Hy druk sy vinger in die glas en vis die brommer daaruit. Hy steek vir Basjan en Nandi tong uit en sit dan sommer die brommer op sy tong.

Skielik vries hy.

BZZZZZ

Die brommer beweeg!

Neville se oë word so groot soos pierings.

“Aaaa!” skree hy.

Die brommer kriewel op sy tong rond en vlieg dan dronkerig in die lug op.

“Jigggg! Jig-jig-jig!” gril Neville en vee met sy vinger oor sy tong. “Dit was ’n regte brommer! Daar was ’n regte brommer in my koeldrank – en op my tong!”

Nandi en Basjan lê soos hulle lag.

“Daai brommer is ’n bobaas-poetsbakker, Neville!” sê Basjan. “Van al die poetse het hy die heel snaaksste een gebak!”

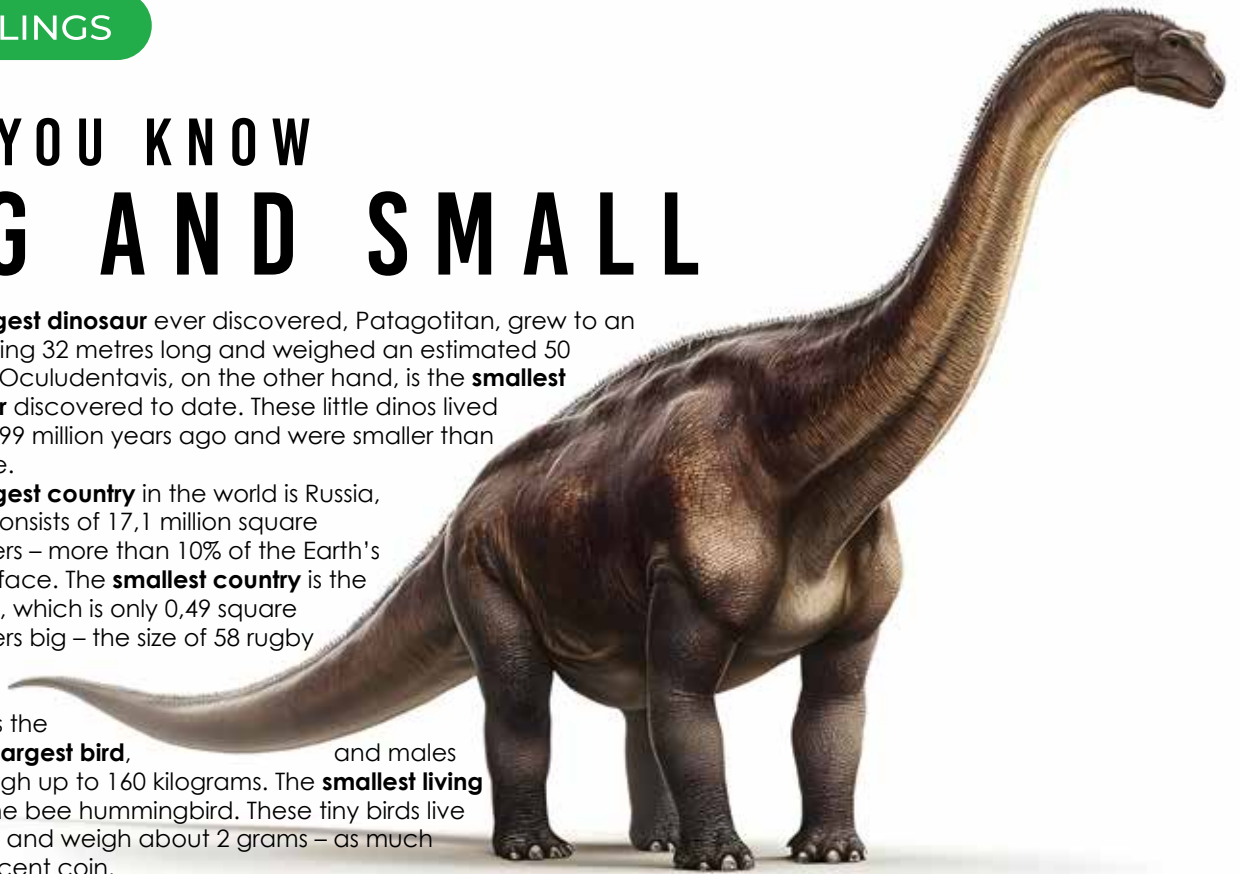


LET'S COLOUR

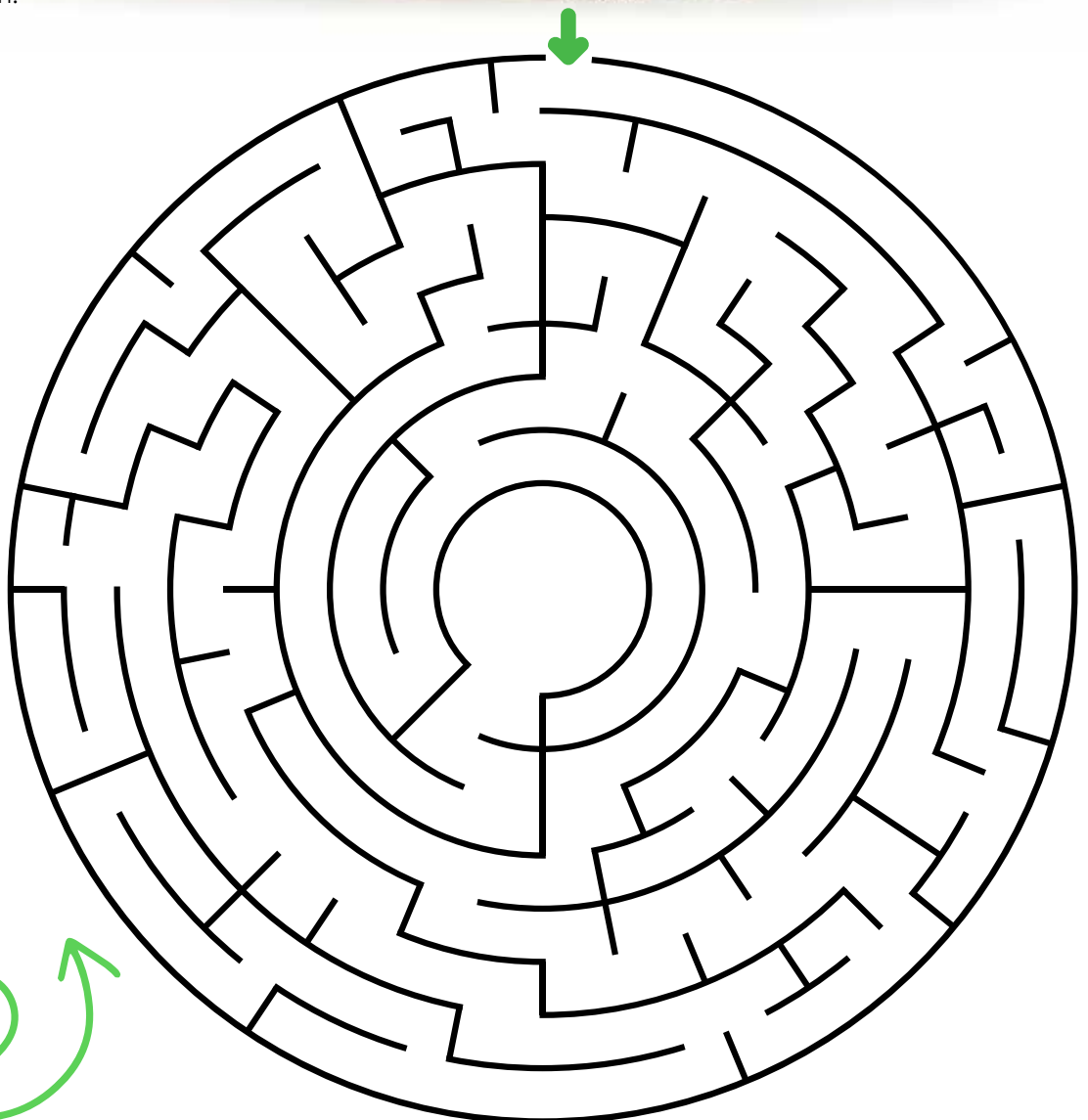


DID YOU KNOW BIG AND SMALL

- The **biggest dinosaur** ever discovered, Patagotitan, grew to an astonishing 32 metres long and weighed an estimated 50 tonnes. Oculudentavis, on the other hand, is the **smallest dinosaur** discovered to date. These little dinos lived around 99 million years ago and were smaller than a mouse.
- The **biggest country** in the world is Russia, which consists of 17,1 million square kilometers – more than 10% of the Earth's land surface. The **smallest country** is the Vatican, which is only 0,49 square kilometers big – the size of 58 rugby fields.
- The ostrich is the **world's largest bird**, and males can weigh up to 160 kilograms. The **smallest living bird** is the bee hummingbird. These tiny birds live in Cuba and weigh about 2 grams – as much as a 10-cent coin.



FIND YOUR WAY THROUGH
THE MAZE



WORD SEARCH



AFRICAN BLACK SHREW
ANGOLAN MARCH RAT
BLANFORD'S FOX
BLUE-EYED BLACK LEMUR
CAPE COBRA
DROUHARD'S SHREW TENREC
DRYAD SHREW TENREC

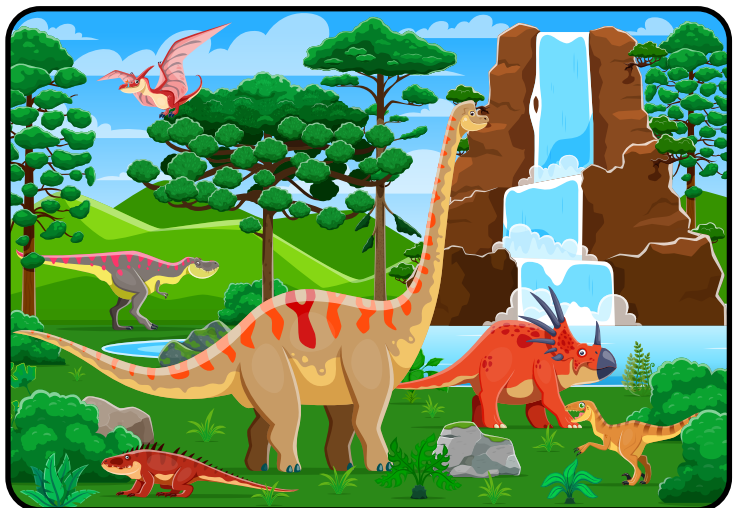
DUSKY DOLPHIN
DUSKY ELEPHANT SHREW
GHANA RUFOUS-NOSED RAT
GREY WHALE
GREATER NOCTULE BAT
HYEMOSCHUS AQUATICUS
MANTLED GUEREZA

RUPP'S MOUSE
SAND GERBILL
SIDE-STRIPED JACKAL
WESTERN GREEN MAMBA
WESTERN ROCK SENGI
XANTHIPPE'S SHREW

FIND 12 OBJECTS IN THE PICTURE



SPOT 10 DIFFERENCES



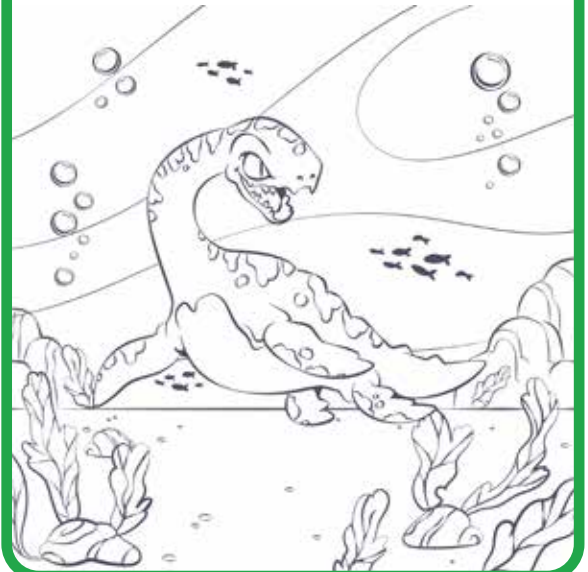
Soek die goggas

- ❑ SPRINKAAN
- ❑ KRIEK
- ❑ MIER
- ❑ SKOENLAPPER
- ❑ SKILPADBESIE
- ❑ BOSLUIS
- ❑ BROMMER
- ❑ MISKRUIER
- ❑ MUSKIET



K	R	I	B	R	O	M	M	E	R	T	H
R	O	G	O	B	R	O	M	O	R	O	W
I	M	U	S	K	I	E	T	T	I	M	G
E	E	W	L	U	U	R	S	T	E	I	S
K	E	W	U	T	U	A	B	N	N	S	X
S	R	R	I	N	K	A	A	N	I	K	A
S	P	R	S	A	A	A	W	M	O	R	E
A	S	G	B	I	E	V	I	I	B	U	L
S	K	I	L	P	A	D	B	E	S	I	E
A	W	V	S	O	A	C	V	R	O	E	F
S	K	O	E	N	L	A	P	P	E	R	T
M	I	E	M	I	R	E	R	P	E	S	G

LET'S COLOUR
SOME MORE



What do you get if you cross a dinosaur and a pig?

Jurassic Pork

How can you tell when there's a dinosaur under your bed?

Your nose is touching the ceiling.

How can you tell when there's a dinosaur in your fridge?

The door won't close.

What do you call a sleeping triceratops?

A dino-snore.

What kind of dinosaur never drinks coffee?

A Tea-Rex.

Waarom het die dinosourus oor die pad gestap?

Die hoender het nog nie bestaan nie.

Wat is so groot soos 'n T-rex, maar weeg niks?

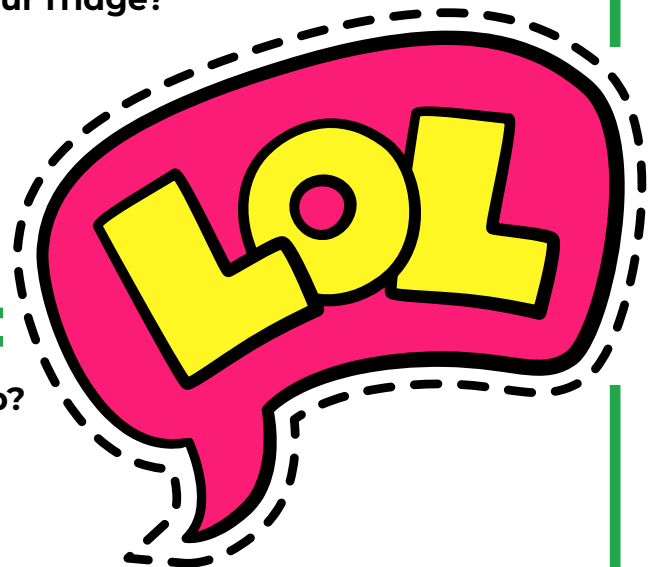
'n T-rex se skaduwee.

Hoeveel hamburgers kan 'n T-rex op 'n leë maag eet?

Net een – dan is sy maag nie meer leeg nie.

Wat is gevaarliker as 'n Velociraptor?

Twee Velociraptors.



BLOKKIES- RAAISEL

Twee lande ná 1992	Lip-geluide	Onop-regte geloof	Gevoe-ligheid	Gesigte	Twaalf dosyn		Oorarm-aflewe-ring afstuur	Apteker se werk-plek		Far-masie				
										Kaolien				
Oordeel-kundig							Lesotho-hoofstad							
							Hartlike							
							Voor-uitsigte		Holte					Saam
									Blaasin-strument					Uitstrek
							Reg vir gaar-maak							
Gee					Beddings	Erbium			Laer as kapt.			Stad in Jordanië		
Brie en Gouda					Onder-kas	Maagont-steking			Dandy			Neon		
													Baan	
													Spook	
Volgens baie ou tegniek gedruk	See-eier													Uiterste armoede
	Een-voudig													
			See-inham	Ibid.	Skerts					Damp		Radon		
					Stil maak							Afloop		
Naald-werkster									In die plek van		Vermoë			
											Afgeleë			
			Land in Wes-Afrika											
Huisdier					Gaipe								Ligging	
Getal in oktet					Outoppie									
Aan-spoor						Houtwerk ver-vaardig						Ondui-delike		
												Best. dir.		
Kronkels in pad								Houers met hingsels						
Buurland v. Egipt.				Teenoor NNO				Snel agtervolg		Mislik				
										Myself				
Swelsels							Same-spel							
							Millitesla							
Nikkel			Moriz of Turner				Atmos-feer		Nieu-See-landse papegaai				Ge-raamde lense	
							Egge							
H ² O in 'n voor									On-stuimig	No.			Twee of 2	
										Wees				
Skryf-stof				Met ander wde.		Harmo-niese beweging								
Nadruk														
						Asyn-suur-ester	Dit grens aan die see				Uit-spansel	Ontferm		
												Slimheid		

— TWK's News & Co. Culture —

Our TWK branches recently took part in a Yara Animal Nutrition display competition – and what a fun and creative experience it turned out to be!



It's more than just a job - it's a CULTURE

We believe great companies are built on strong values, real people, and a shared purpose. From the fields to the boardroom, our culture is rooted in respect, growth, and teamwork. It's the way we show up for each other. The way we serve our clients. And the pride we take in everything we do. Here, you're not just part of a team — you're part of something bigger.





TWK Culture



TWK Schools League, Piet Retief



Piet Retief High School in conjunction with TWK Agri will host the Cycle Lab MTB Nationals on 4 October 2025.



TWK Agri at the UP Career Fair

On 12 August 2025, the HR team represented TWK Agri at the Career Fair held at the Aula Theatre on the UP Hatfield campus. This event provided an excellent opportunity to engage with students from various academic fields and highlight TWK Agri as the Employer of Choice, showcasing our graduate programmes and exciting career opportunities.



Celebrating Spring at Sunshine Seedling Services!

A new season is here, and with it comes fresh growth, new beginnings, and endless possibilities. TWK Agri as the Employer of Choice, showcasing our graduate programmes and exciting career opportunities.



TWK Agri, TWK Versekering en TWK Handel was trots om deel te wees van die Avo Simposium by Allebeste Plaas – saam vir 'n sterker landbou toekoms!



TWK Schools League, Lydenburg





Mandela Day at the Beauty Grootboom Foundation

In the spirit of Madiba, we joined hands with the Beauty Grootboom Foundation to deliver much-needed mattresses and blankets, bringing warmth and comfort to both hearts and bodies this winter.



Mandela Day at Khanyisani Crèche

Spreading smiles, sharing moments, and making memories — that's how we celebrated Mandela Day at Khanyisani Crèche. From playtime to giving back, it was a day filled with laughter, love, and the spirit of Ubuntu.





Mandeladag in aksie by Nelspruit

Die spanne van TWK Versekering en TWK Handel – Nelspruit het hulle hande diep in die grond gaan inslaan by Chimp Eden om 'n verskil te maak – nie net vir mense nie, maar ook vir ons naaste dierbare familie in die natuur.

Met harde werk en oop harte het ons saam gewys dat elke minuut van gee saak maak.



Nelson Mandela Day

Mandela Day at Middelburg Care Village

In the spirit of giving, our TWK Agri - Middelburg team spent Nelson Mandela Day with the incredible children of Middelburg Care Village. Because every child deserves to feel seen, supported, and special.



Nelson Mandela Day



Mandela Day with Heart

In honour of Nelson Mandela Day, the TWK Insurance team spent the day giving back — this time, to some four-legged friends in need. We visited Rustplaas Dog Shelter, delivering essential food supplies and spending time with the wonderful dogs they care for.

It was a day filled with wagging tails, muddy paws, and meaningful moments.



Proudly Supporting the Future of Sport, Coromandel Farm

TWK Women's Day



Proud to Support Oosterland High School Rugby



Terbodore Coffee Launch – A Brew-tiful Story!



Partnership in Bloom! Our friends at the Msunduzi Hospice Association hosted another successful Winter Fair, and TWK Agri was proud to play a part through our donation of assorted plants.



We joined Missio Dei Education in handing over school desks to Nqobile Primary School. It's a small but meaningful step towards improving education in our community. Thanks to everyone involved for making this possible!



Proud Monnas rugby boys with their awesome shirts!

High School Monument rugby team is beyond happy with their new jerseys, kindly sponsored by Executive Underwriting Managers - EUM .
We're super proud to support the team on their journey to success!



Trots op ons jong kampioene, Hoërskool Piet Retief



TWK Agri en TWK Versekering is trots om hierdie dinamiese Oostransvaal rugbyspan te ondersteun



TWK Agri is proud to sponsor brand-new Shenao brushcutters to Lowveld High School in Nelspruit!



Empowering through knowledge

At TWK Agri, we take training and development seriously — because informed teams deliver better service. We recently had the privilege of partnering with Agrinet for a 2.5-day Irrigation Training session, held in Piet Retief and Pietermaritzburg, where 22 TWK employees deepened their knowledge of irrigation products, systems, and solutions. Thank you to Agrinet for investing in our people and strengthening our ability to serve our clients with expertise and confidence!



Raising the bar on Service Excellence

The TWK Client Service Excellence Project is about more than just good service — it's about setting a consistent, high standard across all our branches. We're equipping our teams with the tools, training, and support they need to deliver memorable client experiences every day.



Raising the bar on Service Excellence Continued



Prioritising Eye Care at TWK

We recently partnered with Spec-Savers to offer complimentary eye screenings to our dedicated staff at the TWK Richards Bay Chipping Mill. Healthy vision is key to workplace safety and productivity – and we're proud to support our team's wellbeing through initiatives like these.



Protecting Crops, Empowering Farmers

TWK recently donated barbed wire and Roundup herbicide to a group of 15 farmers working land through a government initiative. With support from the Ministry of Agriculture's Mrs Phumelele Dlamini, this contribution helps protect their maize and bean crops from livestock damage. We're proud to support them on their journey.



EUM Roadshow, Gqeberha



EUM Roadshow, Kimberley



TWK Schools League, Ligbron



GWII/IIG Women's Day

What an amazing afternoon at The Polo Room at Inanda Club, celebrating the Depth of Her Power with keynote speaker, Zandile Ndhlovu! Her inspiring journey as an ocean conservationist and trailblazer left us all motivated.



In Loving Memory of

Falakhe Ngulube



Dear Valued Client,

It is with deep sadness that we inform you of the passing of our colleague, Falakhe Ngulube. Falakhe was a valued member of our team at Executive Underwriting Managers (EUM), where he worked closely with you and many of our clients on profiles and administration matters. Following a serious fall, Falakhe was in a long coma and sadly passed away.

He will be greatly missed by all of us who had the privilege of working alongside him. His professionalism, dedication, and kindness left a lasting impact both within our team and in his service to our clients.

We kindly ask for your understanding during this time. Should you require any assistance or have matters that Falakhe previously handled, please be assured that our team is ready to support you. You may contact our office directly at 012 546 9977 for any administration needs going forward.

For Management you can contact Pieter Pieterse at 072 155 1218.

We thank you for keeping Falakhe's family, colleagues, and loved ones in your thoughts during this time of loss.

Yours Sincerely,

Claudine Klingenberg.
CLIENT AND EMPLOYEE RELATIONS SPECIALIST




Braai Toasties

The Braai Toasties – South Africa's version of a grilled cheese sandwich, cooked over the coals. There are many variations of braaibroodjie: this particular recipe uses sharp white cheddar, tomatoes, mayo, and Robertsons Braai & Grill All-In-One Spice.

Ingredients:

125 ml (½ cup)
½ tbsp
4
½
½
4
30 ml

Yields 2

mayo
Robertsons braai & grill all-in-one spice
slices tomato
onion sliced
cup cheddar cheese grated
slices white bread
soft margarine



Method:

1. In a small bowl mix together the mayo and the Robertsons Braai & Grill All in One Spice.
2. Place 2 slices of bread on a bread board and spread the insides with the spiced mayo.
3. Layer the cheese, tomato and onion on one slice then place the other slice on top.
4. Flatten slightly with your hand to make it easier to handle.
5. Spread both sides with a small amount of the softened margarine.
6. Toast on a warm fire until golden brown on the outside and the cheese is melted on the inside.

Source: www.whatsfordinner.co.za

Lemon Garlic Prawns on the Braai

A quick and easy decadent snack or dinner party starter, perfect in a salad or on its own, it's bound to be a succulent crowd pleaser.

Ingredients:

1 kg
250 ml
3
15 ml

Yields 4

prawns, deveined with shell and head intact
Knorr Creamy Garlic and Herb Salad Dressing
lemons, halved
fresh parsley, chopped
Robertsons paprika

Method:

1. In a bowl mix together the Knorr Creamy Garlic & Herb Salad Dressing, juice of two lemons, parsley and a sprinkling of Robertsons Paprika.
2. Pour the sauce over the prawns then season with salt and black pepper and leave to marinate in the fridge.
3. Grill the prawns over hot coals turning over occasionally until the prawns turn pink (this indicates that they are cooked through).
4. Remember to continue basting the prawns with the remaining marinade and squeeze the juice of the remaining lemon over the prawns as they are cooking



Source: www.whatsfordinner.co.za

Sweet Chilli Braai Chicken

For a braai'd chicken recipe everyone will love, try our mouth-watering sweet chilli recipe.

Ingredients:	Yields 4
1	whole spatchcock chicken
15 ml	vegetable oil
1 tbsp	Robertsons barbecue spice
2 tsp	Robertsons crushed chilli
60 ml	chutney
10	chicken pieces
2 tsp	Robertsons coarsely ground black peppercorns
1 tbsp	Robertsons steak and chops
	juice of 1 lemon

Method:

1. Combine the Robertsons Barbecue Spice, Robertsons Crushed Chillies and chutney. Baste the spatchcock chicken with this and leave to stand for a few minutes.
2. Combine the Coarsely Ground Black Pepper, Robertsons Steak and Chops Spice and lemon juice with a little oil. Rub this over the chicken pieces.
3. Braai the spatchcock chicken over medium coals for about 25 - 35 minutes, turning often and basting during cooking.
4. Braai the chicken pieces over medium coals for about 10 to 15 minutes, turning often until cooked to your liking.
5. Serve with Braai pap or Portuguese rolls.

Source: www.whatsfordinner.co.za



Braai Baked Sweet Potatoes

New Robertsons Braai & Grill Spicy BBQ adds distinctive flavours to veggies! This recipe couldn't be easier: simply wrap your sweet potatoes in foil after dousing them with spiced-up margarine, then braai them over hot coals until they're soft and fluffy inside.

Ingredients:	Yields 4
1 kg	medium-sized sweet potatoes
125 grams or 1/2 cup	margarine (or vegan option) as replacement
10 ml or 2 Tbsp	chilli flakes
22.5 ml or 1.5 Tbsp	Robertsons Braai & Grill Spicy BBQ

Method:

1. Wash the sweet potatoes and then cut a cross into the top of the potato, going about halfway through the potato.
2. Melt the margarine in a small pot and then add the chilli flakes and Robertsons Braai & Grill Spicy BBQ spice.
3. Wrap the potatoes in some foil and spoon in about 20 ml of the seasoned margarine over the potato before closing with foil.
4. Place over the fire and allow to cook until soft.

Source: www.whatsfordinner.co.za





The Blood

Early this morning, while having my quiet time, the Lord gave me a beautiful scripture, found in Zachariah 13:1 In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness.

And then we go to Hebrews 9:14 how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

What a beautiful, beautiful thought that Jesus paid the ultimate price for us when He died on that cross, shedding all of his blood so that we could have eternal life. The ultimate sacrifice. The blood of Christ cleanses us from all our iniquity and sin.

Today, let us remember that there is no sin the Lord cannot forgive and no stain that He cannot cleanse. We must take time out to sit quietly and contemplate the incredible sacrifice and price the Lord paid for us once and for all! For that, we thank Him.

Have a wonderful day.
God bless you.

Angus & Jill Buchan

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Die Slimste Manier om Jou Pomp te Beheer.

Gevorderde tegnologie.
Eenvoudige gebruik.



Beskikbaar vir beide
elektriese en sonkragpompe.

Elektriese pompe

- Sonkragaaangedrewe sender op jou tenk
- Ontvanger by jou pomp (vereis elektrisiteit)

Sonkragpompe

- Sonkragaaangedrewe sender op jou tenk
- Sonkragaaangedrewe ontvanger by jou pomp

Wat dit uniek maak

- Outomatiese aanskakeling/afskakeling gebaseer op tenkvlakke
- Draadlose beheer tot 4 km reeks
- Intydse monitering vir gemoedsrus
- Veiligheidsinstellings soos droogloopbeskerming en geforseerde afskakeling
- Ideaal vir hupstootpompe, boorgatpompe en solenoïedkleppe

Perfek vir plase, af-netwerke of enigiemand wat moeiteloos,
“stel-en-vergeet” waterbestuur wil hê.

Besoek jojo.co.za vir meer inligting.

JoJo
FOR WATER FOR LIFE