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**GEBRUIK VAN GIF ONAANVAARBAAR**

Die Nasionale Predasiebestuursforum (PMF) is op rekord dat die gebruik van gif om predasie van lewendehawe te voorkom geensins ondersteun word nie! Die impak op die omgewing en dierelewe wat nie geteiken word nie is eenvoudig te groot, al is dit nie die beweegrede waarom gif gebruik word nie. Die onlangse gebeure waar die gebruik van gif tot vrektes van aasvoels in die Oos Kaap gelei het, asook die vrektes van jakkalse en ander wildspesies in die Addo Olifantpark is voorbeeld van die ongewensde impak wat die gebruik van gif mag he!

Die PMF, verteenwoordigend van die Rooivleis-, Wol-, Bokhaar- en Wildprodusente, is bekommern dat produsente steeds gif gebruik ondanks verskeie beroepe om dit nie te doen nie. Aan die anderkant is die gebruik van gif ook 'n bewys van die desperaatheid van lewendehawe produsente om hul vee te beskerm teen predatore en rondloperhonde.

Die Regering van SA moet kennis neem van hierdie desperaatheid en word versoek om met produsenteorganisasies en PMF saam te werk om die problem op nasionalevlak aan te spreek. Plaaslike Regering is ook instrumenteel om te help om die probleem van rondloperhonde en onwettige jag van wild met honde aan te spreek.

**USE OF POISON UNACCEPTABLE**

The National Predation Management Forum (PMF) is on record that the use of poison as a control method to prevent predation of livestock is not supported at all! The impact on the environment and non-targeted animals is simply too big, even though that is not the rationale why poison is used. Recent incidents where the use of poison resulted in the death of vultures in the Eastern Cape, as well as deaths of jackal and other game species in the Addo Elephant Park, is examples of the undesirable impact that the use of poison could have!

The PMF, represented by producers of the Red Meat-, Wool-, Mohair- and Wildlife Industries, is concerned that producers are still using poison, despite various appeals not to. On the other hand, the use of poison by livestock producers is proof of their desperation to protect their livestock against predators and feral dogs.

The South African Government needs to take cognisance of the state of disparity of producers and is requested to co-operate with producer organisations as well as the PMF, in order to address the predation problem on a national level. Local government is also instrumental in assisting the problem of feral dogs and addressing the illegal hunting of game with dogs.

The End

