



Nuusbrief / Newsletter

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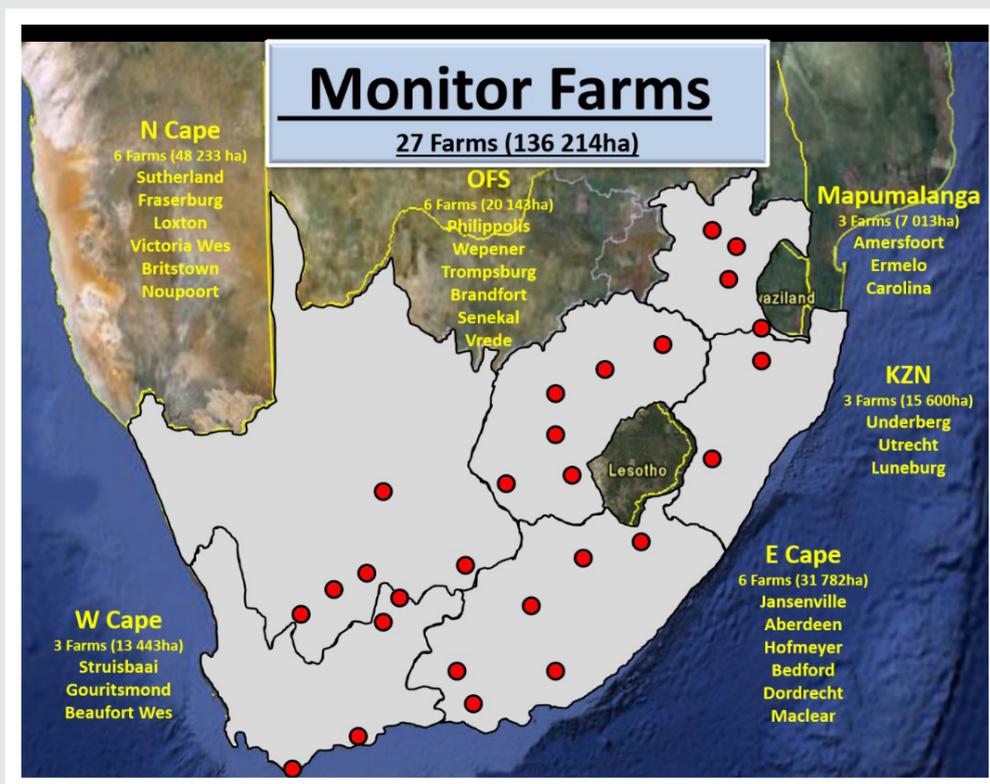
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Long-term investment in predation

According to predation specialist Niël Viljoen, monitor farms are perfectly positioned to gain more experience and to update farmers on new and workable livestock predation management strategies.

In Viljoen's latest report, the results from 27 different monitor farms over the past 16 years provide the foundation of the report. Twenty-seven different ecosystems are managed by 27 different livestock producers with 27 different mindsets. [Click here to read the full report.](#)



Viljoen's Livestock and Predation Management Programme involves the monitoring of farms to evaluate control methods to support predation management training in South Africa.

The diagram reflects the results of the past 16 years of intensive livestock predation management, which has helped to drastically reduce livestock losses due to predators. In 2008 the total number of losses on all the monitor farms was 3 311. Over the research period, these losses were reduced to 1 004 in the last year recorded, showing a decline of 2 307 – 70% less compared to 2008.

Stray dogs main cause for losses in communal areas

Predation specialist Niël Viljoen has been assisting, supporting, monitoring, and providing training on a communal farm in the Mount Fletcher district, Eastern Cape for the past two years. According to available information, wild predators are not the main cause of losses among livestock – domestic and stray dogs are the main culprits.

To become financially independent, communal producers need more lambs to raise and sell successfully. To spend millions of rands to improve wool quality and production without preventing predation on their lambs is of no use.

[Read the full report in the link above in article 1](#)



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New leadership at the centre for predation management



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UFS
NATURAL AND
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
PREDATION MANAGEMENT
CENTRE (PMC)



The Predation Management Centre (PMC) is excited to announce a new chapter for the centre at the University of the Free State. Starting in March 2024, Dr Beanelri Janecke will lead the centre, following after Dr Quinette Kruger, who managed it for seven years under Prof HO de Waal's supervision.

Functioning inside the Department of Animal Science, the PMC is renowned for its role in predator management. Beanelri's leadership will ensure the continuation of essential services:

- **Pioneering research:** Our commitment to valuable research remains unwavering. Beanelri will continue to drive investigation into predators and their management strategies. Through the application of data-driven approaches, we aim to alleviate conflict situations and foster coexistence.

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- **Collaboration:** Recognising the complexity of predator management issues, the PMC stands ready to actively engage with conservation authorities, stakeholders, NGOs, farmers, and wildlife ranchers. By fostering robust partnerships and sharing knowledge, we aim to address complex challenges collectively.
- **Information hub:** Drawing upon its vast database, the PMC is positioned to offer guidance on predators, predation management, and related topics to all interested parties. Whether you seek insight or support, our doors are open to facilitate learning and collaboration.

As a dedicated lecturer and wildlife ecologist, Beanelri's research delves into various aspects of animal behaviour and habitat dynamics, including diet, social activities, and animal interactions of herbivores and carnivores. She is deeply committed to upholding the PMC's legacy of excellence in predation and predator management.

Dr Janecke expressed enthusiasm about her new leadership role, saying, "It is an exciting new chapter in my career, and I am eager to lead the centre to greater heights. I am grateful for Quinette's continued expertise, which will certainly enrich our endeavours. Please don't hesitate to reach out for assistance or to explore collaborative opportunities. My door is always open – even if I do work with predators ..."

As we embark on this journey together, we invite you to join us in welcoming Dr Beanelri Janecke to the helm of the PMC. Together, we will continue to advance our mission of fostering harmony between humans and wildlife, and managing conflict situations as they arise.

More information on the PMC and information leaflets on specific predators can be found on the website: <https://www.ufs.ac.za/pmc>, or contact Beanelri Janecke at PredationMC@ufs.ac.za or 051 401 9030 (office hours).





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