



PLAASLIKE NUUS | LOCAL NEWS

Communal advisors now qualified predation instructors

NWGA production advisors Willem Goosen, Khanyiso Mzayifani, Lusanda Mteta, Luvuyo Nyamela, Asandile Rasmeni, Ndwanya Sibusiso, along with Gcinikhaya Xantibe of the Red Meat Industry Services (RMIS), have officially qualified as instructors in the management of damage-causing animals (DCAs).

The intensive four-day AgriSETA-accredited course was presented by predation specialist Niel Viljoen, and hosted on the farm of PMSA chairperson, Niel du Preez, in Kareedouw.

According to Viljoen, all lethal control methods should be tied to formal accreditation to ensure ethical and effective implementation. The course content focussed on the accurate identification of problem animals through spoor tracking, trap placement, feeding patterns, and linking these to the most appropriate control method.

While the theoretical components covered both lethal and non-lethal management strategies, the practical training focussed on the correct use of cage traps and leg-hold devices.

These newly certified instructors will now play a critical role in empowering communal farmers with skills to manage predator pressure more effectively and sustainably.



Impakstudie van groot roofdiere – Karoo Nasionale Park

Predasiespesialis, Niel Viljoen is deur die Wes-Kaapse Departement van Landbou genader om aan 'n navorsingsstudie saam met Urban Econ Development Economists deel te neem. Niel het sy ondervinding in en om die park toegepas om 'n analise uit te voer van die ekonomiese, sosiale, en ekologiese impak van die bekendstelling van leeu en bruin hienas in die Karoo Nasionale Park asook die impak daarvan op die park en aangrensende plaasgebiede.

Baie inligting is reeds ingewin van produsente wat teenaan die park boer, en die proses is goed op dreef, volgens Viljoen. 'n Opvolgvergadering is vir vroeg in Augustus geskeduleer.

Predation management workshop

PMSA Secretariat is in the process of organising a predation management workshop with the intention to foster a shared understanding of ongoing and completed predation management research, or research on the predator itself.

Participants are encouraged to share insights into their research areas and experiences, and to explore potential ways to reduce predation. These contributions will inform the development of strategic research questions, which will be debated and refined through group discussions during the session.

For participation, please contact Bonita Francis at PMSA Secretariat on 041 365 5030 or email nwga@nwga.co.za

**Wednesday**
20 August 2025

**Start At**
8:00AM - 15:00

**Address**
University of Free State -
Agricultural building

**Learn More**



PMSA Secretariat (041) 3655030



You Are Invited To:

Predation Research workshop

PMSA annual general meeting

The 5th annual general meeting of PMSA is scheduled for 20 August, and will be followed by the annual meeting of the Predation Management Forum (PMF).

During the AGM, PMSA chairperson Niel du Preez will present his chairman's report, highlighting the activities of the non-profit organisation for the past financial year.



INTERNASIONALE NUUS | INTERNATIONAL NEWS

How does the presence of wolves affect Oregon's livestock producers?

Since their return to Oregon in 2009, gray wolves have spread across much of the state. Their population now exceeds 200. As their numbers have grown, so has the threat of conflict with livestock operations.

A new survey of livestock producers examines their experiences with economic damages related to wolf depredation. This report also includes conversations with individual Oregon cattle and sheep producers to add to our understanding of how wolf presence affects the financial sustainability of livestock production throughout the state.

[Read more](#)

The costs of coexisting with predators

In the forests and valleys of Kashmir, a quiet struggle plays out daily between local communities and two of the region's most elusive predators — the Asiatic black bear and the leopard. In recent years, incidences of these carnivores attacking livestock for prey has become a growing concern. This poses a dual threat: It undermines rural livelihoods and jeopardises the long-term survival of these wild animals.

A new study examined livestock predation in three protected areas of southern Kashmir, to assess the economic toll of these losses and map the spatial patterns of such attacks.

[Read more](#)

CSI Wildlife: DNA unmasks livestock predators

When a big cat like a tiger attacks a farmer's cow or goat, it's a serious problem, not just for the farmer who has lost a valuable animal but also for conservation efforts. Figuring out which predator is responsible has always been tricky, often relying on clues like paw prints or claw marks. However, these signs can be misleading; sometimes, the wrong animal is blamed, which doesn't solve the conflict and can even harm the local predator population.

In a new study, researchers from the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS), Bengaluru, Panthera, USA, Sastra University, Thanjavur, Nature Conservation Foundation, and officials of the Madhya Pradesh Forest Department have shown that tiny traces of DNA from saliva, shed hair, or even scat (animal droppings) collected where livestock have been killed can successfully identify the individual predator involved.

[Read more](#)

The \$56,000 payoff from better predator control

No stone was left unturned during a recent Producer Demonstration Site (PDS) in north-east Victoria, where producers turned their attention to improved predator management to improve lamb survival.

'Less predators, more lambs' PDS coordinator Dr Matt Mahoney from Agridome Consultancy said varied land ownership meant that predator management made it a challenge to coordinate between neighbours.

[Read more](#)