



FMD UPDATE

Representatives from both Cape Wools SA and SAWAMBA attended a meeting with senior DAFF officials in Pretoria on the 15th of August.

The frustrations regarding the requirements of current export certification of greasy wool to China was conveyed and the financial implications to Buyers and the whole wool value chain explained in detail. The financial losses to farmers, both commercial and communal, and the dire impact on the agricultural sector was clearly communicated.

DAFF agreed that it was of critical importance to obtain approval from the GACC for export certification to resume, without having to adhere to the FMD inactivation requirements as stipulated in the agreed health certificate and that urgent priority would be given to the situation to obtain an answer from the GACC.

The lack of direct and clear communication between DAFF and the wool industry was highlighted, with an undertaking from DAFF that a wool value chain round table would be set up between the two parties to ensure future issues could be addressed accurately and swiftly.

SAWAMBA has indicated that auctions will resume as soon as clarity is obtained regarding export certification requirements of greasy wool to China.

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