

AFMA MEMBER UPDATE

For further details regarding the projects and actions mentioned in the AFMA Member Update, please reach out to the AFMA office at +27 (0)12 663 9097 or admin@afma.co.za

INTRODUCTION

Quarter two of 2024 in review

Dear AFMA Members,

As we reflect on the second quarter of 2024, we bring you highlights that marked the AFMA calendar and share with you the actions and ongoing projects that impact the industry. Armed with a revised action plan for the year, each AFMA Committee started this quarter by measuring its progress against the strategic outcomes identified during the joint committee strategic session in March.

In this edition, you will find updates on the main focus areas and projects including the Feeds and pet food bill; soya oilcake imports duty and the listing thereof by JSE; the implementation of a grains passport system; AMR awareness and the prohibition of substances used in animal feed that are carcinogenic, mutagenic and reproductive toxic. This quarter was also jam-packed with workshops, training courses, and a student outreach at the University of KZN, demonstrating AFMA's continued commitment to skills development and continuous learning opportunities.

With the national and provincial elections concluded in May, and with President Cyril Ramaphosa having taken his Oath of Office on 19 June, marking the start of the seventh administration, the country is now firmly in the fold of the creation of a Government of National Unity. The new extra-size Cabinet can bring change, but the efficiency of decision-making is likely to be affected going forward.

DALLRD will once again undergo changes due to the separation of the Department of Agriculture from Land reform and rural development, and though this may cause some initial disruptions, AFMA fully supports the move and is looking forward to a renewed journey with the Department of Agriculture and John Steenhuisen in the driver seat. *"It is the beginning of a new era."* as spoken by our President Cyril Ramaphosa during his address at the Union Buildings in Pretoria.

Organised agriculture must now, more than ever before, strengthen its unity and engage with the government with renewed vigour and commitment to see improvement in infrastructure and service delivery in support of a sector that provides food for the nation.

During this quarter, AFMA appointed a specialist contractor to drive the Feeds Bill project to ensure continuity and welcomed our first technical intern to the team. The additional capacity will improve the productivity of the team and enable AFMA to achieve more of its strategic objectives. We are looking forward to another productive quarter as the representative body of the animal feed industry.

Liesl

Liesl Breytenbach
Executive Director: AFMA

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Technical intern started at AFMA

We are excited to welcome **Elri du Toit**, our first intern, to the AFMA team. She adds a unique blend of academic rigor and heartfelt passion for agriculture to the office team, and we are looking forward to taking part in shaping her future in agriculture.

Elri recently graduated from the University of Pretoria with a BSc in Agriculture, specialising in Animal Science, and is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Production Physiology and Product Quality from the same university.

In her role, Elri will support the Technical and Regulatory Advisor, Bonita Cilliers, and contribute to various committees and initiatives, focusing on technical and regulatory aspects. The position provides a comprehensive learning experience in the animal feed industry, and exposure to all role players including feed mills, supplier companies, laboratories, government, and stakeholders in the livestock production value chain.

Elri's journey into agriculture began against the backdrop of the bushveld near the Waterberg mountains, where she grew up on a game farm. It was there that her fascination with livestock production and physiology first took root. Her early experiences,

from hunting wildlife to exploring the intricacies of the slaughterhouse, sparked a deep-seated passion for understanding and improving livestock production systems.

Elri is committed to not only advancing her knowledge but also sharing her insights to educate others about the origins of their food and the importance of sustainable agricultural practices.

Beyond her academic pursuits, Elri finds joy in staying active through triathlons and mountain biking, often sharing these adventures with her husband. Her dedication to pushing her limits in sports mirrors her drive to innovate and excel in the agricultural sector.



Elri du Toit

AFMA REGULATORY COMMITTEE

Compliance with the prohibition of CMR substances in farm feed

Starting **1 June 2024**, agricultural businesses must comply with the prohibition of active ingredients and formulations that harm humans, animals, or the environment. These substances are classified as Carcinogenic, Mutagenic, or Reproductive toxic (CMR) and resort under categories 1A or 1B of the Globally Harmonised System (GHS). The prohibition intends to protect the health of workers exposed to high concentrations of these substances.

On **18 April 2024**, the Technical and Regulatory Exco Committees convened with industry experts to discuss the matter, and to formulate an industry response for a guideline that was proposed by the registrar's office. The guideline describes the process and application for a derogation of a *farm feed* identified as a substance of concern, i.e., formaldehyde. The Exco also consulted with a legal advisor about due process and noted the following regulatory gaps and uncertainties in a letter to the Registrar:

- ❗ **Guidelines as prohibitions:** Guidelines cannot replace official prohibitions, which must be issued by the Minister through regulation or by notice under Act 36, section 7bis. The Registrar's reliance on guidelines for prohibitions is inappropriate and lacks legal standing.
- ❗ **Derogations:** The use of derogations from guidelines is flawed because guidelines are not absolute, and derogations from laws are not permitted under Act 36.
- ❗ **Updated regulations needed:** The 2006 Farm Feed

regulations must be updated to define the term '*substances of concern*' clearly, and to ensure its alignment with modern safety standards, and proper classification, labeling, and packaging consistent with the Globally Harmonized System.

- ❗ **Due process:** Proper procedures under the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 must be followed before imposing any bans through regulations, ensuring legal clarity and industry compliance.

AFMA, therefore, commented that it supports the regulation of CMR substances in principle, but that the guideline and derogation process does not provide for a sound legal process and may cause confusion and panic amongst industry role players. It was suggested to either develop a new regulation or update the existing farm feed regulation to effectively regulate substances of concern used in the manufacturing of animal feed and ingredients, although the latter may cause a further delay in the publication of the regulation. Furthermore, without the formal publication of a prohibition notice in the Government Gazette and a regulation to support its requirements, the intended prohibition is not known to the public, and enforcement across the country without a regulation will be difficult.

AFMA will continue engaging with the Registrar on this matter and encourage all members to ensure compliance with general worker health and safety regulations. Further committee actions include advocacy on CMR substances, and a workshop is planned to address this.

AFMA Advisory Committee discuss the Feeds and Pet Food bill

The AFMA Advisory Committee on the Feeds and Pet Food bill made good progress during their meeting on 26 June and under the new expert guidance of **Mr Siyabonga Mbambo**. AFMA appointed Mr Mbambo, a previous Senior Technical Advisor at Act 36, to drive the feed bill project on its behalf and to coordinate the industry response to the registrars' outstanding matters. Mr Mbambo has more than 20 years of experience in agriculture and was pivotal in the drafting of the South African policy on animal feed. It is expected that he will add valuable insight and expertise to the committee and AFMA's capacity in driving the Feeds and Pet Food Bill project.

Committee discussions focussed on definitions and the broader scope of the bill in terms of licensing of facilities versus product registrations. Other topics included imports vs exports, the designation of the registrar, the appointment of an advisory committee, and inspectors vs assignees. A follow-up work session

is planned for July when the ADCOM will finalise input to a discussion paper that will be presented to the Registrar. The discussion paper will include a proposed model (fee structure) for facility licensing, assignee audits, and product registration.

During the last progress meeting between AFMA, PFI, and the Department, Mr Mudzunga noted that the new parliamentary portfolio committee on Agriculture should be formed by August and supported that new legislation should not introduce excessive costs to the sector. The PFI concluded its member consultation and submitted comments to the registrar. Final inputs are expected by August before it is handed over to DALRRD legal for processing.



Siyabonga Mbambo



The advisory committee consist of expert representatives from feed-, premix- and additive manufacturers, traders, auditors, and legal to encourage robust discussions and proposals for the way forward.

Left to right: Les Kugel (Kugel Consulting), André de Vries (DSM), Tebogo Banda (Kemin), Liesl Breytenbach (AFMA), Siyabonga Mbambo (AFMA), Mannie Taljaard (Cargill), Christie Naude (Afgri), Liza Burger (Epol), Hanaa Solomon (Allied Nutrition), Isane & Liezl Swartz (Animix), Bonita Cilliers (AFMA), Elri du Toit (AFMA), Wimpie Groenewald (AFMA), Nikki Moodley (Astral), and Herman van Zyl (Afri Compliance).

Virtual: Desmare van Zyl (NutritionHub), and Suretha van Breda (Trouw Nutrition).

Farm feed registration: Recent trends and updates

We are pleased to share the latest **Farm Feeds Status Report**, covering the period from 1 February 2024 to 30 April 2024, highlighting significant developments and trends in the farm feed sector.

Cumulative Registration Summary

As of 30 April 2024, a total of 32,445 applications have been received since January 2013, with 30,534 completed. Currently, 1,244 applications (2% of the total) remain outstanding.

Application Overview

During this period, a total of 883 applications (45%) were received, including 187 new registrations (21%) and 696 amendments or minor applications (79%). Additionally, 1,098 applications

(55%) were completed, with 360 applications (33%) being new registrations and 738 applications (67%) being amendments or minor applications. Despite the progress, 1256 applications remain outstanding. These include 399 on hold, 173 awaiting technical evaluation, and an alarming 684 waiting for approval at Outbound.

Outbound Backlog

The imbalance between the technical team's output and the administrative team's capacity is delaying certificate issuance, affecting the industry's ability to market products promptly. AFMA and PFI are working with AIC to clarify processing times and explore possible improvements.

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Farm feed registration: Recent trends and updates

(From previous page)

Submission Trends

Amendments and minor applications consistently outnumber new registrations, with a noticeable increase in submissions, highlighting the industry's need for streamlined processes. Updated regulations should help ease these burdens. Pet food leads in application volume, followed by feed additives, raw materials, and livestock feed.

Completion Trends

The completion of 1,098 applications this period surpasses last year's 719, demonstrating improved efficiency due to the increased capacity of the technical evaluation team for farm feed applications.

Current Assessment Period

The technical team is now evaluating new registrations from March 2024 and amendments from February 2024. This marks the second consecutive period with assessments within expected service delivery timeframes.

Renewal Delays

As of 30 April 2024, there are 190 outstanding renewal

applications, with no late renewals received. The rendering sector has experienced significant delays, with some applications pending since 2019. Efforts are underway to address these issues and ensure timely renewals.

Operational Challenges

All funded positions in the farm feed division are filled, with no new interns assigned and a moratorium on filling other vacant AIC posts. Additional staff is urgently needed in the administrative sections across various AIC departments, including Stock Remedies, Agric Remedies, and Inspection Services.

The moratorium on new appointments has worsened capacity constraints, especially in administrative departments. AFMA has raised concerns about significant administrative challenges and the impact on future operations. The timeline for lifting the moratorium remains uncertain.

Conclusion

Despite some improvements, the farm feed registration process still faces challenges. Collaborating with the farm feeds division remains a priority to address these issues and streamline the registration process. Your feedback and cooperation are invaluable as we navigate these challenges together.

AFMA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Ensuring feed safety: Wheat bran quality concerns addressed at Technical Committee meeting

During AFMA's second Technical Committee meeting on 28 May 2024, members addressed the quality of wheat bran supplied to the animal feed sector.

The matter was brought to AFMA's attention due to perceived high levels of *sweepings* with infestation included in the grain by-product delivered to feed mills.

The committee reiterated that the wheat bran fraction offered on the market must comply with Act 36 quality standards and that only registered ingredients (and suppliers) should be used in animal feeding, underscoring our commitment to feed safety.

Feed ingredients not meeting the quality standards should be resolved directly between supplier and client as part of a preferred supplier verification procedure.

Feed ingredients contaminated with harmful substances should, however, be reported under AFMA's Early Warning System to mitigate the risk to the broader industry.



Addressing antibiotic resistance in the livestock industry

Antibiotics are crucial in the livestock industry for controlling bacterial diseases and are typically delivered via feed or water to ensure all livestock receive the required dose.

The livestock sector must ensure this practice is done responsibly so as not to exacerbate antibiotic resistance in livestock and humans.

As one of AFMA's key focus areas for 2024, the Technical Committee is focusing on advocating for the responsible use of antimicrobials to combat antimicrobial resistance (AMR) while protecting both animal and human health, as well as animal welfare.

AFMA and SAAHA co-hosted an AMR workshop on April 23-24, 2024, at the Willows Boutique Hotel & Conference Centre in Pretoria. The workshop aimed to create coherence and clarity in antimicrobial control and surveillance programs across various industry sectors.

Approximately 120 delegates attended, including representatives from the animal health and feed sectors, livestock producer organisations (SAPPO, MPO, GameSA, SAOBC, SAPA, RMIS, SAEVA), academia, and policymakers from the National Department of Health, Food Safety/Public Health Protection & Trade Assurance, SAHPRA, and diagnostic laboratories.

The workshop successfully initiated important discussions on AMR surveillance and resistance, highlighting the need for continuous collaboration.

One of the highlights was a panel discussion featuring 13 panelists from various sectors, emphasising the importance of collaboration in tackling AMR. Dr Shabbs from Elanco highlighted the critical need to preserve current antibiotic resources due to the lack of new antibiotic classes entering the market since 1986.

The developing cost of a new antibiotic is approximately \$1 billion and takes about 20 years, making pharmaceutical companies reluctant to invest.

Overuse and misuse of antibiotics accelerate resistance development, reducing the effectiveness of existing antibiotics and posing a significant threat to both animal and human health.



There is a critical need for responsible antibiotic use in food-producing animals. This includes limiting the use of medically important antibiotics and focusing on vaccines and alternative nutritional strategies to mitigate the need for antibiotics. While resistance in veterinary medicine is not as high as in human medicine, it is steadily increasing.

In light of the upcoming One Health conference on AMR to be held in September in Cape Town, AFMA and SAAHA aim to build on the success of the first workshop and host a follow-up one to boost momentum and enhance dialogue on the matter between industry, government, and academia and amongst role players within the various livestock sectors.

Copper sulphate import duty

The International Trade Administration Commission of South Africa (ITAC) engaged with AFMA recently regarding their investigation into a proposed increase in import duty on copper sulphate, a critical ingredient in animal feeding.

A 10% increase in imported copper sulphate is being investigated, based on a request from local manufacturers that must compete against cheaper copper sulphate imports from Russia, China, and South America (Peru, Chile).

Most of the imported copper sulphate is destined for the mining sector

and does not have to meet a quality specification.

Should an increase be awarded across the board, it will have an unintentional negative impact on the cost of raw materials in the manufacturing of animal feed, resulting in higher compound feed prices and overall feed input costs in the animal production value chain.

AFMA continues to engage with ITAC on the matter and intends to apply for a rebate to counter the application for an increase in import duty on copper sulphate.

Storage capacity commitment for soymeal SAFEX trading is still needed

The JSE listing of the soymeal SAFEX contract is one of the key strategic objectives that the AFMA Trade Committee is supporting.

Soymeal SAFEX trading is important for the animal feed industry as it will allow traders of the raw materials to provide a price structure and transparency and manage expectations.

As we continue to witness the growing demand for soymeal on the SAFEX platform, it will become critical

to ensure sufficient storage capacity for this commodity. Separate storage facilities are essential not only for ensuring the availability of soymeal for trading but also for differentiating its quality and value.

This remains a fundamental challenge for the JSE, tasked to drive and implement the project. Members are encouraged to pledge storage capacity towards this project and secure the successful implementation thereof.

Grains passport system

The procurement of grains plays a crucial role in ensuring food security and economic stability for South Africa and countries around the world.

As the demand for grains continues to rise, it is essential to have an efficient and transparent traceability system in place that can provide quality and safety assurances to the end user.

Traditionally, the bulk of the quality and safety assurance of grains for the consumer of agricultural products, fell on the shoulders of millers as evidenced by their rigorous testing and verification procedures that form part of the manufacturing process.

The grain passport system is proposed as a measure to spread the responsibility of food safety across the value chain, and to make each seller, buyer, receiver, and handler of grains jointly responsible for its safety.

The matter was previously driven by the Maize Forum Steering Committee, but due to consensus not being achieved amongst all members, the matter was referred to the respective representative member organisations for implementation.

AFMA recognises the importance of a grain passport system and will collaborate with NCM on the way forward for implementation.

A task team will be established to facilitate and drive the implementation in the feed sector and a meeting with Agbiz Grain is planned as the next step in the process, as well as a review of the draft document to be used in the passport system for maize.

General information and update

AFMA has a total of **155 members**, comprising **63 Full members**; **77 Associate members**; and **15 Affiliate members**. Compliance to the AFMA Code of Conduct is mandatory for full and associate membership and verification of compliance is done by independent auditors. Since June 2023 the following membership actions have been conducted:

- ✓ **75 facility audits** conducted
- ✓ **56 COC certificates** were issued
- ✓ **30 new membership applications** received
- ✓ **77 renewal applications** have been received

The main non-compliance recorded during this period includes:

- Labels not in line with approved labels
- Legal entity investigation, two legal entities involved in sales and manufacturing.
- V-numbers not printed on labels, OHS Health & Safety meetings are not held every three months. Fire equipment is not accessible all the time. PPE is not worn by all the staff. High-risk doors and gates are not closed.
- Labels in use do not correspond with approved labels.

It was found that 10.6% of the non-conformances reported resulted from personnel changes and a loss in continuity within the Quality Management team.

An updated status of compliance for all AFMA members is available on the [AFMA website](#).

New member companies joining AFMA

Agri Space



Analytical & Diagnostic Products CC



WAM South Africa Bulk Handling (Pty) Ltd



AFMA Code of Conduct (COC) process

All AFMA members subscribe to an industry code of conduct as part of a self-regulation initiative by the AFMA Board. Full and Associate members of AFMA show commitment to producing safe feed for safe food by agreeing to verify conformance to the COC through independent audits conducted every second year. AFMA membership is assigned per facility upon compliance with the AFMA Code of Conduct.

The following procedure can be followed to apply for a COC audit:

- 1 Applicants start the process by applying via the AFMA website:
<https://www.afma.co.za/application-form>
- 2 AFMA receives the electronic application, and the Membership Liaison officer confirms a screening appointment with the applicant. The CIPC registration of the company is also verified against the registration holder info of the registered farm feed to eliminate risks related to unregistered farm feed.
- 3 A telephonic pre-screening interview is then conducted with the Quality Manager to verify the applicant's activities as per the application and to capture critical information regarding the legal entity, business practices, physical location, activities at the facility, traceability procedures, SOPs, and the registration of professional animal scientists at SACNASP.
- 4 If the applicant meets all pre-screening criteria, they are assigned

a unique AFMA Membership number based on their facility's activities. Applicants who do not meet the requirements are informed that their application cannot proceed.

- 5 Successful applicants are notified in writing to contact the independent audit service provider to book an audit date. Applicants are responsible for the audit costs, payable directly to the service provider. Audit bookings will only be accommodated by the service provider upon confirmation of the unique AFMA membership number.
- 6 An audit must be conducted within 3 months of the membership letter issued by AFMA, and non-conformances will be reported. The auditors may determine due dates for addressing and rectifying non-conformances before a final audit report can be submitted to AFMA.
- 7 Once all findings have been cleared and signed off by the member representative in conjunction with the auditor, a new membership certificate and letter are issued by AFMA.
- 8 The certificate is valid for two years, after which an application for a renewal audit must be submitted online at:
<https://www.afma.co.za/membership-renewal-application>
- 9 To view the AFMA Membership Lists and the Code of Conduct audit status of Full and Associate members, visit www.afma.co.za.

TRAINING & SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

AFMA Livestock Feed Milling Operator E-learning Programme

The AFMA Livestock Feed Milling Operator e-learning programme was initiated in 2020 and is designed to equip learners with the knowledge and practical experience needed to function effectively as an operator in the livestock feed milling environment. A full course is comprised of 7 modules that will take approximately 6 months to complete as a work-based integrated learning programme. Learners can also register for individual modules to accommodate a more flexible learning programme. The learning material is endorsed by AFMA and is tailored to improve feed mill efficiencies due to the improved knowledge and skill of the operators. Management modules offer further development to operators and encourage continuous learning opportunities. Manufacturers are encouraged to make use of this training opportunity. For more information, please contact Wimpie Groenewald at admin@afma.co.za.



UKZN Animal Science students visit the De Heus feed mill



On 16 April 2024, 45 enthusiastic Animal Science students from the University of KwaZulu-Natal visited the De Heus feed mill as part of AFMA's Student Outreach action. Third-year, fourth-year, and postgraduate students were invited on a tour through an operational feed mill to learn more about animal feed manufacturing and the opportunities within the animal feed sector.

Students engaged with animal feed specialists at De Heus who shared their career journeys and offered students valuable insights into the feed milling industry. They answered questions, provided guidance, and shared practical tips, making the visit both educational and inspiring.

Representatives from Agrijob and SACNASP (South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions) also participated in the programme and shared important information about career opportunities and professional development with the students. They highlighted the significance of professional registration at SACNASP and its continuous learning requirements, giving the students a broader perspective on their future career paths.

The student outreach once again proved to be a very successful event to showcase the animal feed industry and its career opportunities. Students left with a deeper understanding of feed milling, and the role of AFMA in the industry, feeling inspired by the possibilities that lie ahead.

Intervarsity Writer's Cup

Congratulations to the Round 3 winners of the competition.

Read these winning articles in the [July edition](#) of the AFMA Matrix.

2024 AFMA INTERVARSITY WRITER'S CUP COMPETITION

WINNER ROUND 3 LITERATURE REVIEW

Student name: Danielle van der Merwe
University: Stellenbosch University
Article title: Fulvic acid in broiler production

2024 AFMA INTERVARSITY WRITER'S CUP COMPETITION

WINNER ROUND 3 OWN RESEARCH

Student name: Brandon Sutherland
University: Stellenbosch University
Article title: The palatability of a green seaweed, *Ulva lactuca*, for sheep (*Ovis aries*)

SAVE THE DATE

Launch of FARM@UP Partnership Opportunities



FARM@UP
Unlocking the future of agriculture

Dear AFMA Member,

Save the date for the launch of the **UP Research and Training Feed Mill Partnership Opportunities**, a groundbreaking initiative at the University of Pretoria's Miertjie Le Roux Experimental Farm.

Through the dedicated efforts of the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences (NAS), **FARM@UP** has been established to pioneer future-fit, climate-smart agricultural research, training, and skills development.

Join us as we embark on this transformative journey to redefine future farming and sustainability.

Your participation will help shape the future landscape of research and development of agriculture.

Date: Wednesday, 24 July 2024
Time: 14h00
Venue: FABI Auditorium, UP Main Campus

ENQUIRIES
PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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AFMA 2024 Feed Miller Short Course



The AFMA 2024 Feed Miller Short Course, held at The Conclave Country Lodge, brought together a diverse group of 52 delegates from South Africa, Zimbabwe, Cameroon, and Saudi Arabia.



The top three scorers in the final test examination, from left to right: Marius Aspeling (Nutri Feeds), Ernst Nef (Presenter), Stuart Taylor (Nutroteq), Cameron Noland (Nutri Feeds), and Liesl Breytenbach (AFMA).

We are thrilled to report on the recent 9-day course held at The Conclave Country Lodge, which brought together a diverse group of 52 delegates from South Africa, Zimbabwe, Cameroon, and Saudi Arabia. This intensive program, facilitated by Mr Erns Nef, featured a comprehensive agenda aimed at fostering knowledge exchange and professional development in feed milling technology.

An unexpected highlight of this year's course was the achievement of a perfect score (100%) by Mr Marius Aspeling

(Nutri Feeds, Bloemfontein) in the final test. This remarkable achievement underscores the dedication and commitment to excellence demonstrated throughout the course and an overall improvement of industry skills since 2010 when it was first presented in South Africa.

AFMA extends our sincere gratitude to Mr Erns Nef for his expertise and mentorship in teaching feed milling technology with such passion and precision, contributing towards making this event a huge success. The connections

made and knowledge shared during these nine days will undoubtedly have a lasting impact on the professional journeys of all participants.

A sincere thank you to the sponsors, Bühler, Automill, and R-Biopharm, for their contribution towards making this training opportunity more accessible for all in South Africa. Please visit the AFMA website to view photos taken during the course: <https://www.afma.co.za/feed-miller-short-course>

Insights from the AFMA 2024 Technical Writing Skills Workshop

On 12 June 2024, AFMA hosted its annual Technical Writing Skills Workshop in Pretoria with Dr Pieter Henning providing invaluable insights on drafting technical articles for agricultural magazines. His expertise helped demystify the process, making it more accessible for aspiring writers.

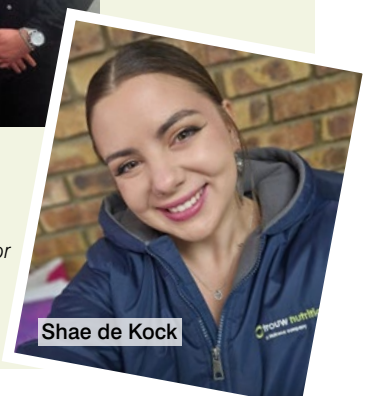
As part of the programme, Plaas Media also shared their insight on What Editors Want (Lynette Louw), Writing for Online Platforms (Renate Louw), the Do's and Don'ts of Social Media (Philip Crafford), and writing for Social Media (Deidre Louw).

This event continues to offer a fantastic opportunity to learn first-hand from journalists, editors, and industry experts how to make an impact with your technical writing and put animal science and nutrition at the forefront of knowledge sharing in agriculture.



Presenters at the AFMA Technical Writing Skills Workshop: Front: Renate Louw. Back: Deidre Louw, Lynette Louw, Dr Pieter Henning and Phillip Crafford.

Congratulations to Shae de Kock, the Marketing Coordinator of Trouw Nutrition, for winning the Exclusive Books voucher for her assignment article titled: "Harmonious Herds: Music Boosts Livestock Performance."



Shae de Kock

AFMA highlights feed safety as part of food safety in celebration of **World Food Safety Day**



The world celebrated **Food Safety Day** on 7 June and AFMA commemorated the event by participating as a speaker at the local Food Safety Summit held in Johannesburg on 4 & 5 June in support of the global initiative. The local event is the brainchild of Dr Lucia Anelich, and this year's aptly named theme was *'Every link in the food chain matters'*. A food incident can happen due to accidents, inadequate controls, food fraud, or natural events, and requires dedicated, and collaborative efforts from policymakers, food safety authorities, farmers, and food and feed business operators. These food safety incidents have caused consumers around the world to be increasingly concerned about the safety of their food supply and they are looking for assurances that safety measures are in place throughout the food chain.

Liesl shared insights from the feed industry and highlighted that feed safety is a prerequisite for food safety. She elaborated that each stakeholder in the agri-food value chain is responsible for ensuring that their link is not a particular source of contamination, and cooperation between these organisations and individuals through the use of industry-specific codes



of conduct and food safety management systems to address hazard control must be encouraged. In doing so, consumer confidence in agri-foods will be enhanced with the knowledge that the agri-food value chain understands the importance of sharing the responsibility of product safety and meeting the requirements of products supplied to the subsequent step in the food chain.

Food safety is a shared responsibility

between governments, producers, and processors, and specific focus is needed on how these assurances are communicated to the consumer to encourage their trust and understanding of the provision of safe food. Misinformation about animal-derived foods is rife in the media, and it will take a collective effort between all stakeholders to combat this with accurate information and nurture consumer confidence in milk, meat, and egg products.



Get ready for the annual AFMA Golf Day!

Mark your calendars for the annual **AFMA Golf Day**, taking place on **7 August 2024**, at the beautiful Centurion Country Club. This exciting event will feature

34 teams competing for the top spot.

In addition, a Spirit Award is up for grabs for the most enthusiastic hole sponsor, along with coveted bragging rights and

a floating trophy. We are looking forward to joining our members for a day of fun, networking, and friendly competition on the greens!

Join us for the 77th AFMA Annual General Meeting!

We are delighted to extend an invitation to **AFMA's 77th Annual General Meeting**, which will be held at the picturesque **Cathedral Peak Hotel** in KwaZulu-Natal. The event will start with a welcoming cocktail dinner on **5 September**, followed by a closed-session AGM for members only on **6 September**, and closing with an open-session discussion with invited speakers for all guests.

Members are invited to mark their calendars and ensure that your accommodation is booked in advance to avoid disappointment. Inquiries about the AGM can be directed to Mrs. Wimpie Groenewald at the AFMA office at +27 (0)12 663 9097 or via e-mail at admin@afma.co.za.

RSVP before
15 August 2024

Book accommodation
and golf



Cathedral Peak Hotel, KwaZulu-Natal



AFMA Symposium 2024 planning underway

The AFMA Technical Programme Committee (TPC) has begun planning the AFMA Symposium, set for 31 October 2024, and announced the theme as **"Innovate for Success in Disruptive Times"**. The committee aims to focus on practical approaches to navigate and thrive in today's rapidly changing landscape.

During their meeting in April to discuss a draft programme, the committee considered member inputs (survey) regarding key challenges that the industry

faces. The results included: animal disease and health; raw materials and technological and operational challenges. Favourite topics were identified as Animal Nutrition; Innovation and Technology; and Animal Health and Welfare. Mr Kyle Westergaard (Epol) was the winner of a lucky draw for his participation in the member survey on key challenges, and he will receive a complimentary registration to the AFMA Symposium 2024.

A call for papers was launched and submissions are due by 8 July 2024.

The program committee will review and consider all submissions thereafter, and compile a draft programme based on pre-determined criteria.

The programme will also include special presentations by the winner of the AFMA Student Award and the Intervarsity Writers Cup Champion. Keep an eye on AFMA'S social media platforms for further updates and details on the Symposium. For inquiries and submissions, please contact Ms Bee Oelofsen at events@afma.co.za.



Other Industry Events

DIARISE LOCAL EVENTS

Kragdag	8-10 August 2024 (Rayton – East of Pretoria)
Nampo Cape	11-14 September 2024 (Bredasdorp – Western Cape)
Nampo ALFA	17-19 October 2024 (Bothaville – North West)

DIARISE INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

AKEFEMA Exhibition & Conference	17-18 July 2024 (Kenya)
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AFMA Student of the Year award

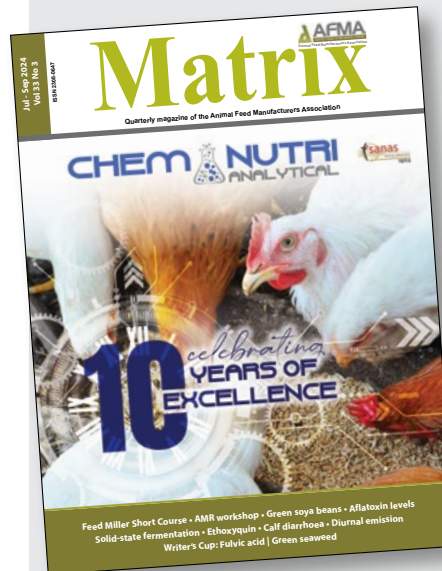
The **AFMA Student of the Year award** commemorates the legacy of Dr Koos van der Merwe, a trailblazer in South Africa's animal feed industry. This esteemed accolade aims to recognise exceptional graduate or postgraduate students in Animal Nutrition, inspiring them to uphold Dr van der Merwe's impactful contributions.

The award invites nominations for any graduate or postgraduate student in Animal Science, specialising in Animal Nutrition and committed to advancing their studies.

All nominations must be submitted to AFMA by 2 August 2024.

For more details on the prize money and evaluation criteria, please visit: <https://www.afma.co.za/afma-student-prize-koos-van-der-merwe>

The AFMA Matrix



Read the latest edition of the AFMA Matrix here:

Dimag:

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Online PDF:

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AFMA Technical Person of the Year award update

The **AFMA Technical Person of the Year award** is presented annually to honour the memory of the late Dr Barney van Niekerk and recognise an animal scientist who has demonstrated exceptional dedication, hard work, and significant contributions to the field of animal nutrition.

Nominations for this year's award close on Friday, 5 July 2024, whereafter the committee will assess the nominations received and the winner will be announced at the AGM on 6 September 2024.

About AFMA

The Animal Feed Manufacturers Association (AFMA) is the official representative body of the South African feed industry in the livestock sector and plays a pivotal role in the larger agricultural environment.

AFMA members consist of animal feed and -ingredient manufacturers as well as suppliers of feed ingredients and related services such as consultants, laboratories, and feed-system installations. AFMA members feed 100% of the broilers in South Africa and represent 60% of the total animal feed produced in South Africa.

AFMA provides a unified voice and promotes the animal feed industry as an integral part of the food chain to deliver safe, nutritious, and affordable food for all. For more information on AFMA please visit www.afma.co.za.

AFMA Person of the Year award update

The **AFMA Person of the Year award** is an esteemed recognition given annually to an individual who has made an exceptional and noteworthy contribution to the animal feed or feed-related industry over the past two years. This prestigious honour is presented at the AFMA AGM, celebrating the recipient's remarkable achievements and significant impact on the industry.

Nominations for this year's award close on Friday, 5 July 2024, whereafter the committee will assess the nominations received and the winner will be announced at the AGM on 6 September 2024.

Thank you to the contributors of this AFMA Member Update

- Liesl Breytenbach, Executive Director (*Pr.Sci.Nat*)
- Wimpe Groenewald, Membership Liaison Officer
- Lucius Phaleng, Trade Advisor
- Bonita Cilliers, Technical & Regulatory Advisor (*Can.Sci.Nat*)
- Bee Oelofsen, Marketing, and Events Coordinator
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* If you are not yet following AFMA's online platforms, we invite you to stay updated on relevant news and events, with a quick click on these links!