

GLS besprekings vir Rustenburg venue Nou oop!

Rustenburg – Die Global Leadership Summit word elke jaar wêreldwyd aangebied as 'n leierskap ontwikkelingsprogram vir alle leiers (geestelik en in die sekulêre bedryf), opkomende leiers, skool- en Sondagskool personeel, werkneemers asook skoliere.

Tydens die tweede dae van die GLS konferensie word daar verskeie sessies aangebied deur bekende leiers uit verskillende sektore van regoor die wêreld.

Hierdie jaar is dit Agapé Gemeente se voorreg om vir die tweede keer een van die GLS-venues te wees op Vrydag 27 en Saterdag 28 Oktober.

Graag wil ons hiermee 'n spesiale uitnodiging rig aan ons gemeenskapsleiers om hierdie geleentheid, op jou drumpel, te benut en vir jou leierskorps (en opkomende leiers!) te bespreek.

Kostes van slegs R420 vir die volle 2 dae sluit ook alle verversings, etes en kursusmateriaal in. Studente betaal slegs R380, en skoliere R330!

Om te bespreek, gaan na www.willowsaonline.co.za. Vir meer inligting kan die kerkkantoor gekontak word op 014-537 2337 of sien meer oor die Global Leadership Summit op www.agape.za.org.



Bird flu hits chicken layer flock; import of eggs considered

South Africa – The outbreak of bird flu has already wiped out more than 15% of South Africa's layer hens with the prospect of hefty price increases due to the resultant shortage in table eggs.

According to Dr Charlotte Nkuna, interim CEO of the South African Poultry Association (SAPA), the estimate is that more than 4 million chickens have been or are in the process of being culled. "This includes almost 4 million layers, 360 000 broiler breeders and just over 31 000 layer breeders," she said. The layer flock stood at about 24 million before the outbreak of the bird flu. Nkuna added that more than 23 commercial farms have already been affected.

According to agricultural economist, Prof Johan Willemse, the shortage of table eggs could lift prices by 15% to 20%. "Furthermore, as things stand, it can take anything from one to two years for the layer flock to return to levels they were before the bird flu outbreak, which means a prolonged shortage of eggs," Willemse said. Nkuna said the recovery depends on how quickly the chicken farmers are willing to risk repopulating. "We anticipate that it will take an average of six months for the farms to be repopulated, some maybe sooner and others preferring to wait a bit longer. This also depends on the available funds to be able to buy the replacement stocks," she added.

The highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) H5N8 in chickens was detected in South Africa

for the first time in late June in Mpumalanga, but has since spread to other provinces including the Western Cape, Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, the Free State and the Eastern Cape.

Liana Steenkamp from agricultural group Laeveld Agrochem said the H5N8 strain, which is usually spread by wild birds, does not pose a direct threat to humans.

According to Steenkamp, the virus will also have a negative impact on the animal feed sector. Based on figures from the Animal Feed Manufacturers Association, almost 65% of last year's animal feed sales went to the poultry industry. The mass culling of laying hens will also affect South Africa's export of table eggs to neighbouring countries like Botswana, Namibia, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

Direct job losses due to the bird flu have already risen above 1 000, with further losses expected in secondary sectors. The Western Cape Government said last week that the outbreak in the province has already led to the culling of 2.4 million layers and 73 000 breeder birds.

According to SAPA,

South Africa's broiler and egg producers, in rand terms, make up the largest segment of South Africa's agricultural sector, contributing 18% of all agricultural production and 39% of all animal products in 2016. The beef sector is the nearest competitor, contributing 12.7% to the turnover of all agricultural production and 27.5% of all animal products.

Approximately 76% of the birds in the South African poultry industry are used for meat production, while the remaining 24% are used in the egg industry.

Strategy et al press release: 18 October 2017



Municipality declares war on illegal dumping

Rustenburg – To ensure the safety and cleanliness of our city, Rustenburg Local Municipality (RLM) has adopted a radical approach to end dumping by declaring war on illegal dumping.

To date approximately 300 vehicles, including construction vehicles have been impounded after being caught in the act of illegal dumping. Vehicle owners were fined no less than R2 500, in terms of the provisions of Municipal By-laws. The illegal dumping campaign has moved beyond the city, into townships and villages

around Rustenburg.

Rustenburg is the fastest growing city in Southern Africa and the economic hub of the North West province. RLM has intensified its efforts through their Law Enforcement unit to patrol all hot spots for illegal dumping and issue spot fines.

Said Cllr Mpho Khunou, executive mayor of RLM: "We will continue with this hardcore approach until Rustenburg is litter free, thus making it conducive for investment."

RLM press release: 17 October 2017



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