

BenguFarm™



ADVANCED LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE
BEEF • GAME • SHEEP • GOATS • PIGS • GENETICS

Newsletter 1/2018

21 September 2018

In this Newsletter:

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To view previous newsletters, go to www.bengufarm.co.za > Downloads > Newsletter.

New Update

We are VERY excited about new features and reports that have recently been developed. See **What's New?** below for more information.

Please install the update (v21 Sep 2018) to ensure you will be able to use all the new and improved functionalities and reports in BenguFarm in order to get the most value from your program.

- **If your BenguFarm version is currently v16 Jul 2018** (the version date is displayed at the top of the BenguFarm main window), you can update BenguFarm through the web-update utility in BenguFarm. Go, while your computer is online, in BenguFarm to File > Update from Web.
- **If your BenguFarm version is currently before v16 Jul 2018**, follow the steps below to download and install the newest update. **Please contact your BenguFarm agent for help, if needed.** After updating BenguFarm in this manner, the web-update functionality in BenguFarm [File > Update from Web] will work again for future updates.
 - Make a backup of your BenguFarm database(s).
 - Close the BenguFarm programme on the computer.
 - Go to www.bengufarm.co.za > Downloads > Updates.
 - Download the file **BenguFarm Update v21-09-2018.exe** as usual to your computer, i.e.: right click on the update link and select "Save link/target as...". A small window will open where the user can select where the update file must be saved to. Once the save to location is selected, click on "Save" to start downloading the file. Please note where the file is saved.
 - Once the download has completed, the self-extracting zip file must be run. Select "Run" from the "Download Complete" dialog. (The "Download Complete" dialog is displayed by the web browser once the file download has completed). Windows may give a security warning and ask the user whether the file must be run or not. Select to "More Info" and/or "Run" / "Run anyway" to run the update file.

- The update file will automatically search for the BenguFarm installation folder and update all the necessary files. Wait until the "Update Installed" message is displayed and click OK. Remember to re-activate your anti-virus software again if you have temporarily de-activated it.
- Open BenguFarm and check if the new version is indeed installed. (The version info is displayed at the top of the main window. It should be **BenguFarm™ [Module] v21 Sep 2018**).

What's New in the 21 Sep 2018 update?

All modules:

- **Important:** General Herd Costs recording screen: Record costs such as labour, diesel, Stud Book fees, breeders' society fees [Other Data> General Herd Prices]
- **Important:** Herd Income and Expenditure Summary report: Calculate the income and expenditures for the herd concerned per item for a specific period (e.g. for a certain year) [Reports > Herd Analysis > Herd Income and Expenditure Summary]
- **Important:** Herd Production Summary report: Calculate the total and average production of the herd concerned for a specific period (e.g. for a certain year) for a number of parameters, e.g. total and average weaning weight, and compare it with a long-term period [Reports – Herd Analysis > Herd Production Summary]
- **Important:** Pasture Utilisation per Camp report: Calculate the number of days, animals and -LSU (livestock units) per camp for a chosen period. This report is very useful for grazing management. [Reports > Camps and Herds > Pasture Utilisation per Camp]
- **Important:** Main Screen> Herd Layout:
 - Various fields and sections added
 - Can hide/display *individual* columns. Click on Display Options, select the fields you want to display and click Save)
 - Can set up criteria to mark animals and can allocate ranking values, e.g. animals that calved/lambled more than 400 days ago, and to set up rankings. See Main Screen > Help > Herd Display > Step 6 – Setup Herd Layout Highlighting
 - Can save layout options [Display Options > Save/Load Layout]
 - Show Groups of Category option added. [Display Options > Herd View Options > Display Groups of Category > Select category]
- **Important:** Import DNA Verified Parentages from Clinomics lab [Data Send/Receive > Receive > Clinomics DNA Results]
- **Important:** Matings and Pregnancies Report: Summary Added with Number of Animals Mated, Number of Animals Pregnancy Tested, Number of Animals Pregnant, % Animals Pregnant [Reports > Matings, Pregnancies and Calvings/Lambings > Matings and Pregnancies]
- **Important:** List of animals in a specific camp that has *not* been vaccinated [Reports > Diseases, Prevention and Treatment > Vaccinations, Dosings and Supplements > Select Camp and "Not Vaccinated/Received Remedy or Supplement"]
- Animal Numbers and Values report: Animal Numbers per Camp Layout option added to see the number of animals per category per camp
- Camp Activities screen: Total cost is automatically calculated when activity is linked to an item in Miscellaneous Stock
- Display options: Option to hide reports in the Reports menu that are not used
- Option added to use Herd Layout as default main screen layout (Display > Use Herd Layout as Default Main Screen Layout)
- Losses value (animals died, stolen):
 - Record at Sales, Deaths and Culls screen
 - Added to Sales, Deaths and Culls report
 - Added to Animal Numbers Reconciliation report
- Can (download and) open the latest manual from BenguFarm (Main Screen > Help > English/Afrikaans Manual)
- Can import historical rainfall data from Excel (csv)

- Animal genomic tested – record at Other Data > Procedures
- Pedigree and Progeny Photo Browser report [Main Screen > Animal Layout > Photos > Pedigree and Progeny Photo Browser]
- Calving screen > After Birth Remarks: Can now record remarks for all breeds
- Veterinary Network integration [Add-Ins > Veterinary Network]
- FAN Meat No changed to Traceability No
- Potential Problems with Matings: Multi-edit features added for Accept, Remove and Retain
- Remove EIDs from non-active animals: List of animals is given to check before EIDs are finally removed.
- Pregnancy Tests screen: Remarks field added
- Tru-Test XR5000 Integration: Option to remove non-active animals from the scale
- Can mark embryo donors as Ova Donor

BEEF and SHEEP & GOATS Modules:

- **Important:** Breeding Herd Selection report: [Reports > Inspection and Selection > Breeding Herd Selection]
 - Can choose which breeding values to mark
 - Can choose breeding values or breeding values indexes
- **Important:** Herd List report: Commercial layout option added [Reports > Animal Lists and Numbers> Herd List]
- RFID Experts APR500 Reader:
 - Users can now edit tasks
 - Provision has been made to import additional tasks

BEEF Module:

- Ankole breed – Can record horn measurements
- Unistel DNA Service Request Form: Wagyu-specific form
- "Reproficiency" report – only available for Hereford & Tuli breeds
- Default Minimum Period Pregnant and Maximum Period Pregnant changed to 269 days and 297 days respectively.

SHEEP & GOATS Module:

- **Important:** Import Döhne Merino Society data [Data Send/Receive > Receive > Database > Döhne Merino Society]
- **Important:** Import Mutton Merino data (dbf file) – can now import new animals without changing the status of existing animals. Please note: The file received from the SA Mutton Merino Breeders Society must first be renamed to "SP1hoof.dbf" (Dbase Data File). [Data Send / Record> Record> Database> Sheep DBF Data]
- **Important:** Breedable Ewes Report: Option "Exclude Animals Mated but not Pregnancy Tested (yet)" added
- **Important:** Screen to import wool test results received from the WTB added [Data Send/Receive > Receive > WTB Wool Results]
- Screen to import Mobile Sheep (Livestock) software data added (Data Send/Receive > Receive > Database > Mobile Livestock Data)
- Can import shearing data from Excel (csv)
- Scoring of traits added for Van Rooy sheep breed
- Breeding Herd Selection report: Option Breeding Value Symbol is an Index added [Reports > Inspection and Selection> Breeding Herd Selection]
- Ewe Productivity Selection report: New Options Added [Reports > Inspection and Selection > Ewe Productivity Selection]

GAME Module:

- **Important:** Rhinos (visible only if the species is white or black rhino):
 - Front Horn Length *Back* and Rear Horn Length *Back* measurements added [Settings > Traits per Species]
 - Horn Register: Various fields added and changed [Other Data > Rhino Horn Register]
- NRF/NZG DNA lab Service Request form added [Data Send/Receive > Send > DNA Profiling Service Forms > NRF/NZG DNA Services]

Training Courses

Do you and your staff know the BenguFarm program well enough to use it fully for general management, selection, breeding and marketing? If not, consider it to attend one of the following BenguFarm training courses:

BEEF module:

- Introductory course 20-21 November 2018, Pretoria. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Advanced course 22-23 November 2018, Pretoria. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Introductory course 27-28 November 2018, Pretoria 2018. Presentation in English.
- Advanced course 29-30 November 2018, Pretoria 2018. Presentation in English.
- Introductory course 12-13 February 2018, Bloemfontein. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Advanced course 14-15 February 2018, Bloemfontein. Presentation in Afrikaans.

SHEEP & GOATS module:

- Introductory course 25-26 September 2018, Pretoria. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Advanced course 27-28 September 2018, Pretoria. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Introductory course 5-6 February 2018, Bloemfontein. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Advanced course 7-8 February 2018, Bloemfontein. Presentation in Afrikaans.

GAME module:

- Busy planning courses in the Limpopo province.

If you are interested to attend one of these courses yourself or to send some of your staff, please contact Mr. Leslie Bergh at 082 801 2026 or e-mail him at leslie.bergh@vodamail.co.za and indicate in which course you are interested. He will send you the booking form for the applicable course with the details of the course. The booking forms are also available at www.bengufarm.co.za > Training.

New manuals

The manuals of the BEEF, SHEEP & GOATS and GAME modules were updated to include all new and improved functionalities and reports. To download the latest version of the applicable BenguFarm manual, go in BenguFarm on the main screen to Help > English/Afrikaans Manual OR go to www.bengufarm.co.za > Downloads > Manuals.

Did you know?

The Bengufarm main screen has two options, namely the Herd View and the Animal View. To switch between the two options, click on the left side of the screen on Herd View or Animal View.

The Herd View is a VERY popular option, not only to display certain important data of a group of animals in table format, but many other very useful features.

- **To view the new/updated data**, click on Refresh Screen.
- **To fully display data in columns**, click on Auto Width.
- **To select which data should be displayed**, click Display Options at the bottom of the screen and select the relevant sections or fields.
 - Click on Save Settings as Herd Default to save the options as default for the applicable herd.

- Under the heading Save/Load Layout, click on Save Layout As to save a layout or on Load Saved Layout to load a layout.
- **To view a specific animal's (or sire or dam) data in the Animal View main screen layout**, click on the relevant animal's ID number. To return to the relevant animal in the Herd View, click on the Herd View link.
- **To group records**, click on the column heading and hold the mouse button. Now move the mouse to the open section at the top of the report where there is written "Drag a column header here to group by that column" and release the mouse button. The column name will now be displayed in this open section. To remove the group, right click on the column heading and select "UnGroup".
- **To sort records**, click on the appropriate column heading. To sort in the reverse order, click a second time on the column heading. To sort by multiple columns at once, hold the SHIFT key on the keyboard and click on the column headings.
- **To filter records**, click on the right of a column heading on the filter button. A list of all the values that appear in that column will be displayed. To display only records that have a specific value, click on that value. You can also click on "(Custom)". A screen will open where, for example, you can select to display all records with a value greater than a certain value. Note that more than one column can be filtered at a time. To remove a specific column's filter, click "(All)" at the filter options of that column.
- **To highlight certain animal data** (e.g. cows with an average intercalving period of more than 400 days), click View Options at the bottom of the screen and then click at the top of the View Options screen on Setup Herd Layout Highlighting (button with small squares with different colours).
- **To record certain data** (e.g. Natural Matings, Artificial Inseminations, Edit Animals (Table Format) or Sales, Deaths and Culls) **for a group of animals**, mark the animals in the "S" column and select the appropriate recording screen from the top menu or click on the corresponding icon.
- **To link animals to a group**, mark the animals in the "S" column and click Link Animals to Group.
- **To display animals in the My Reports screen**, mark the animals in the "S" column and click Display in My Reports.
- For step-by-step help, go in the main menu to **Help** > Help with Main Window > Herd View.

Tip: To select the Herd View (instead of the Animal View) **as the default layout for the main window**, go to Display and click the Use Herd View as Default Main Window Layout option.

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