

BenguFarm™



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

Newsletter 1/2019

4 January 2019

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

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 12-13 February 2019, Bloemfontein. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Advanced course 14-15 February 20189 Bloemfontein. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Introductory course 19-20 February 2019, Pretoria. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Advanced course 21-22 February 2019, Pretoria. Presentation in Afrikaans.

SHEEP & GOATS module:

- Introductory course 5-6 February 2018, Bloemfontein. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Advanced course 7-8 February 2018, Bloemfontein. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Introductory course 5-6 March 2019, Pretoria. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Advanced course 7-8 March 2019, Pretoria. Presentation in Afrikaans.

GAME module:

- Busy with planning of courses for 2019.

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.

Is your BenguFarm software up to date?

If you haven't updated your BenguFarm program to the newest (v21 Sep 2018ak) version yet, follow the following steps to do it now.

- If your BenguFarm version (the version date is displayed at the top of the BenguFarm main window) is currently v16 Jul 2018 or newer, 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 normal 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 ak.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 2018p**).

Is your BenguFarm data safe?

VERY IMPORTANT!!!

- **Please remember to make a backup of your BenguFarm database(s), saved report layouts, photos & documents, etc. on a regular basis.**
- **Save the backup on a cloud-based place like Dropbox, GoogleDrive or OneDrive and/or on an external hard drive or a memory stick. Keep this external hard drive or memory stick in a safe place separate from your computer to prevent it being stolen with your computer.** Do *not* save the backup on the computer's hard disk (e.g. C:\BenguFarm\Beef\Backups\ [Herd]), since it will be lost if the computer is stolen or the hard disk is damaged or a virus damage the computer files.
- To set up a default folder where your backup files will be saved, go to Settings > Herds > Default Folders for Files > Default Folder where Backup Files will be Saved.
- **To make a backup**, go to File > Backup and Restore. Under the heading Create a Backup, select the type of data (Database(s), Saved Report Layouts, Photos & Documents) of which you want to make a backup. Under the heading Make Backup To, select the location where you want to make the backup file. Click to the right on Backup to make the backup. Use the **Help** function if necessary.
- At Settings > Herds > Reminders you can set up a reminder to make backups on a regular basis.

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.
 - To save the column selections and highlighting options as default for the particular herd, click on Save Options as Herd Default under the heading Save/Load Layout. The saved options will automatically load the next time the herd is opened.
 - To save a layout for re-use, give it a name at Save Layout As under the heading Save/Load Layout and click on the Save icon.
 - To load a saved layout, select the particular layout at Load Saved Layout and click on the Load icon.
- **To create a report of the data displayed in the Herd View**, click on Display Report. **Please note:** All columns and all animals will be included in the report. Click on View Options to select and deselect columns you wish to include in the report. Use the filters at the top of the window to change the selection of animals which should be included in the report.
- **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 Layout) 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.
- **To copy the data to your "Clipboard"**, click Copy to Clipboard.
- 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.

Follow BenguFarm on Facebook

Please visit the Facebook page BenguFarm for the latest news, tips, pictures, etc. Go to the BenguFarm website www.bengufarm.co.za and click on the Facebook link or go to www.facebook.com/bengufarm.

Tip

If a **bull/ram is used in more than one herd** (e.g. stud and commercial) **on the same database** in BenguFarm, go to Animals > Add and Edit Animals (Single Animal Layout) > General Data, mark the field "Visible for reproduction in All Herds" and Save. A bull/ram marked as such will be visible in the other herd(s) on the Matings screen in the list of bulls/rams to select as the bull/ram and on the on the Calving/Lambing screen to select as the sire of a calf/lamb. However, the bull/ram will not be listed in the other herd(s) as an active animal in the herd list.

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