BenguFarm™

ADVANCED LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

BEEF · GAME · SHEEP · GOATS · PIGS · GENETICS

Newsletter 2/2023

27 Junie 2023

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To view the Afrikaans version and previous newsletters, go to www.bengufarm.co.za > Downloads > Newsletter.

New Update – BenguFarm BEEF, SHEEP & GOATS, GAME and PIGS

The past six months, many new features and reports have been developed. See What's New? below for more information.

Please install the new update (v27 June 2023) to ensure you will be able to use all the new and improved features and reports in BenguFarm and get the most value from your program.

- **To update your BenguFarm thought the web-update utility in BenguFarm**, go, while your computer is online, in BenguFarm to **File > Update from Web** and follow the instructions.
- If your BenguFarm version is still *before* v16 July 2018 (the version date is displayed at the top of the BenguFarm main window), please contact your BenguFarm agent for help to download and install the new version.

New Update – BenguFarm MOBILE app

Please install the new update (v27 June 2023) to ensure you will be able to use all the new and improved features and to ensure that it will synchronise with the main program.

- First ensure you have installed the newest version of the BEEF/SHEEP & GOATS/GAME module – see above.
- **BenguFarm MOBILE for Android:** At the top right of BenguFarm Mobile's main menu, press the three dots and select Check for Update / Kyk vir Opgradering **OR** go on the Android phone / tablet to

www.bengufarm.co.za > Downloads > Updates. Download and install the v27 June 2023 version of BenguFarm MOBILE for Android.

- **BenguFarm MOBILE for Apple:** An Apple phone or tablet will automatically download and install the newest update.

What's New in the newest update?

All modules:

- Important: Certain main menu items re-named and recording screens moved:
  - **Production** (was Weights, Measurements, Performance Testing and Breeding Values)
  - **Movements**
    - Purchases (was under Other Data)
    - Move Animals to Another Camp or Group (was under Other Data)
    - Move Animals to Another Place (was under Other Data)
    - Move Animals to Another Herd (was under Other Data)
    - Sales, Deaths and Culls (was under Other Data)
  - **Health** (Was Diseases, Prevention and Treatment)
  - **Feeding** (new category and new screens)
    - Feed and Lick Stock (was formerly part of Miscellaneous Stock)
    - Feed and Lick Pot Out per Camp (was previously part of Camp Activities)
- Important: Certain report category names and order were changed:
  - Animal, Pedigree and Progeny
  - **Reproduction** (was Matings, Pregnancy and Calving / Lambing
  - **Production** (was Weights, Measurements, Performance Testing and Breeding Values)
  - Camps, Groups and Herds (was Camps and Herds)
  - Animal Lists and Numbers
  - **Health** (Was Diseases, Prevention and Treatment)
  - **Feeding** (new category)
  - Inspection and Selection
  - Purchases, Sales, Deaths and Culls
  - Other Reports
  - My Reports
  - Administration
  - Herd Analysis
- Important: Unistel DNA lab's service request form changed to new layout.
- Important: Miscellaneous Stock screen: A "Change to Feed and Lick Stock" function has been added to move feed and lick stock originally recorded as Miscellaneous Stock to the new Feed and Lick Stock.
- Important: The internal parasite egg counts from manure sample analyzes can now be recorded at Health > Disease **and Parasite** Tests.
- Diseases, Injuries and Treatment screen: Option added to turn off the "Date Healthy" field, for cases where the animal is not healthy on date of treatment.
- Settings > Reasons for Sales, Deaths and Culls: An "In Use" column has been added so that items that do not apply can be turned off.
- Main Screen > Herd Layout:
  - Sales and Deaths: Reason and Loss columns added.
  - Sire *Name* and Dam *Name* can now also be displayed.
  - Notes can now also be displayed.
- Main screen > Animal Layout:
  - General view screen: Comments recorded at sales and deaths are now also displayed.
  - Photo Browser: The animals' names are now also displayed with all the photos.
- Existing Matings report:
  - Option added at criteria to filter records by Mating Type (Natural, AI, Embryo Implantation).
  - Summary of number of females mated per bull or bull group added.
  - The summary is now given per bull / ram and per Type of Mating.
- Reports > Purchases, Sales, Deaths and Culls > Purchases: A column Price/kg was added.

- Reports > Purchases, Sales, Deaths and Culls > Sales, Deaths and Culls report: Option added to sort animals by Reason Left Herd.
- Heifers and Cows for Pregnancy recording list: Option added to create the report without matings being recorded for the manually selected cows/ewes.
- Reports > Feeding: Feed and Lick Put Out per Camp report added.
- Animals > Search Animal: Can now search on part of a number and also on ID No.
- Choose Animals screen: If the Search Animal list opens, it now displays the animal's EID along with the ID No and Computer No.
- Settings > Reasons for Sales, Deaths and Culls: Column "In Use" added to be able to turn off reasons not in use.
- A Help function is now available on the Lick and Feed Put Out per Camp screen and the Help feature was updated on many screens.
- Link Animals to a Group feature: A "Preview Movements" option has been added to the bottom left of the screen to display which and how many animals will be moved.
- Data Send / Import > Import > Database > Open File Format (CSV): Generic import of traits added, e.g. to import Temperament, Body Length, etc. in relevant "Data Stored in This Column" select the "Body Measurements: Other Attribute" option and then specify in "Linked Attribute" for "Temperament", "Body Length" or whatever attribute.
- Animal Sightings report: A Select Animals ("S") column and Link Animals to Group feature has been added.
- Animal Summary report: The animal's Name is now displayed at the top of the report.
- My Reports > Report Columns (Layout) > Birth: A field "Mating Bulls" has been added. This makes it possible to create a report where, in the case of a multi-bull matings, it can be seen which bulls is the possible sire.

Beef and Sheep & Goats modules:

- Data Send / Import > Tru-Test XR5000 Integration > Import Data from Scale: The number of animals in the selected session to be imported and the average weight of all animals in the session is now displayed at the bottom of the screen. The number of animals selected is also displayed.
- Main screen > Animal Layout > Weights view screen: A function has been added to display columns for scores and measurements next to the weights. Click on the Spanner icon at the top right of the weights table. An option screen opens next to the weight table. Select the measurements you want to display. **Please note**: Only the measurements that fall on the relevant weighing dates will be displayed.
- Add-Ins > Feedlot Manager: A "Edit Animals" function has been added at the bottom of the screen to open the selected animals in the Edit Animals screen.

Beef module:

- Important: Main Screen > Herd Layout: Myostatin test results can now be displayed on the main screen's Herd Layout.
- Important: Data Send/Import > Logix Direct > Compare BenguFarm BEEF and Logix Herds Lists: An option "Exclude Animals in Future" added to select animals you do not want to see in the comparison in the future.
- Import DNA Parentage screen: A "Select" column and "Link Animals to a Group" function has been added to link animals where the sire is still unknown to a group, after data has been imported.

Sheep & Goats module:

- Important: Options added to be able to choose which shear number's data should be displayed on the main screen's Herd View [View Options > Display Specific Shear No] and on My Reports.

Game module:

- Main Screen > Display menu: The Horn Measurements view screen on the Animal View can now be turned off.

Mobile app:

- Important: Feed and Lick put Out recording screen added.
- Important: The "Notes" field is now available on the Calving and Lambing screens.

- General Appearance remarks can now be viewed on the General view screen. It can also be entered as part of the Notes input screen.
- The input for inspection remarks was changed to a multi-check field where an unlimited number of remarks can be selected. That is contrast with only five remark fields which were previously available.
- Lot number can now be viewed on the General view screen.

Genetics module:

- No GENETICS specific developments were done.

New manuals

The manuals of the BEEF, SHEEP & GOATS and GAME modules and the MOBILE app were updated to include all new and improved features 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.

Henriëtte Swanepoel (Labuschagne)

As everyone probably already knows, Naomi Havenga retired at the end of 2022 and Henriëtte Labuschagne was appointed in her place. On 22 April, Henriëtte married Theron Swanepoel who farms Merinos in the Southern Free State. However, she continues her work to do registrations of programs and handling inquiries regarding renewal invoices. She also gives support to BenguFarm clients of Leslie Bergh when he is not available. Henriëtte's email address is henriettelabuschagne1@gmail.com and her cell number 071 541 4736

Who to contact for support / help

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

Customers are kindly requested NOT to contact Tim Pauw directly for support / help with BenguFarm, as it takes up a lot of his time that he has to spend on developing the software and results in important development work being left behind. Please contact your assigned BenguFarm agent or, if it is urgent and your agent is not available, another BenguFarm agent. As already mentioned above, Henriëtte provides support to BenguFarm customers of Leslie Bergh when he is not available. Your agent will refer you to Tim if the agent is unable to solve your problem. Please also note that the info@benguelasoft.co.za address is intended for inquiries from prospective clients. Existing clients should contact their BenguFarm agent using the agent's personal email address. The agents' contact details are available on the BenguFarm website.

Is your BenguFarm data safe?

VERY IMPORTANT!

- **The BenguFarm database, photos, etc. are NOT kept in the cloud, in other words it is kept on the computer itself.** This means that if the BenguFarm database becomes corrupt (this often happens these days due to load shedding), the computer is stolen or the hard drive get damaged or a virus damages the computer files, the BenguFarm data, etc. will be lost.
- **Please make a backup of your BenguFarm database(s), etc. on a regular basis and save the backup in a safe place in the cloud** like Dropbox / GoogleDrive / 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 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. Feel free to contact your BenguFarm agent if you need help setting it up to store the backup in the cloud.

- **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 a backup on a regular basis.

Training Courses

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

BEEF and SHEEP & GOATS modules combined courses:

- Introductory course 11-12 July 2023, Cradock. Presentation in English / Afrikaans.
- Advanced course 13-14 July 2023, Cradock. Presentation in English / Afrikaans.
- Introductory course 25-26 July 2023, Paarl. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Advanced course 27-28 July 2023, Paarl. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Introductory course 15-16 August 2023, Pretoria. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Advanced course 17-18 August 2023, Pretoria. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Introductory course 19-20 September 2023, Pretoria. Presentation in English.
- Advanced course 21-22 September 2023, Pretoria. Presentation in English.
- Introductory course 17-18 October 2023, Bloemfontein. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Advanced course 19-20 October 2023, Bloemfontein. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Introductory course 21-22 November 2023, Pretoria. Presentation in Afrikaans.
- Advanced course 23-24 November 2023, Pretoria. Presentation in Afrikaans.

GAME module:

- Please contact Leslie Bergh at 082 801 2026 or bengufarm@gmail.com if you are interested in training.

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 email him at bengufarm@gmail.com 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 bengufarm.co.za > Training.

If you are interested in online training or individual training or a course in another region, please contact us so we can discuss which training option is the best for your needs.

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