



### **The HPSA Jozini Agricultural Model Project is funded by the European Union**

HPSA's Jozini Agricultural Model Project covers four areas in the Umkhanyakhude District and the Zululand District - Jozini, Nongoma, Hlabisa and UMhlabuyalingana. The project, funded by the European Union, started in May 2015. The project aims to help 2400 farmers increase their livestock production. Part of the project activities are focused on helping goat farmers increase their productivity and assist with formalising the indigenous goat market by linking stakeholders throughout the value chain and organising goat sales at pension points and regular auctions. Project partners are Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, Mdukatshani Rural Development Project and the KZN Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.



**Chicken production training during EU delegation visit in October 2017**

One of the strengths of the Jozini Project is the training component. By the end of the project, 2400 farmers will have the skills to produce food and raise livestock for home consumption and sale using improved farming methods. To this end, an emphasis is put both in developing high quality materials and then delivery trainings. In the final year of the Jozini Project, over 3,000 farmers, Livestock Association members, Community Animal Health Workers (CAHWs) and leather workers will be trained in a variety of topics such as goat and chicken management, basic veterinary skills, census taking and leather processing.



**AgriSETA Training Modules used for training farmers and CAHWs**



**Group of women farmers being trained on goat production**

Training materials that have been developed over a period of 10 years with Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and Mdukatshani are being re-written and revised to incorporate new knowledge, new ideas and the commercialisation aspect of goats and chickens that this project is supporting. The starting point of this process was to re-write the training calendars which frame a lot of the theory and principles of the livestock trainings that HPSA does. They were reduced from four calendars to three. The general management calendar was not reprinted but rather incorporated into each of the livestock types. Those being goats, chickens and cattle. The knowledge gained through the experience of the project, veterinary companies, extension and veterinary staff was incorporated both in the flow of information as well as which areas to prioritise in training. These sets of calendars were revised, checked by departmental officials for correctness and have been printed in Zulu and English. They are being made available to project and departmental staff.



**Revised training calendars and Indigenous Goat Production Handbook**

The next priority was a revised goat book that would support the Jozini Project and farmers across the country most directly. This book was extensively rewritten and many of the sections have been expanded so as to assist farmers in their commercialisation efforts. This book is now being printed and these books will also be made available to project and departmental staff. The pdf version of this book has already been extensively distributed both nationally and internationally and through the International Goat Association network and is available on [www.gapkzn.co.za](http://www.gapkzn.co.za). HPSA expects to

launch at the South African Animal Science Association as the previous edition had already received favourable mention in the newsletter from the association. The Zulu version of this book is yet to be translated but then will be distributed accordingly although in the past our experience has shown that both farmers and extension officials prefer the English version.

In 2017, HPSA and its partner Mdukatshani recently received AgriSETA accreditation for a 120-credit certificate in Livestock Production, with a focus on goat production. The organisations are the only ones in South Africa to be accredited in indigenous goat production. As a part of this accreditation, 15 training modules have been developed finalised and are now in a format that is being used to train the current generation of CAHWs. These materials continue to be developed so that they can be eventually used without support from HPSA staff. These editions will include extensive model questions and model answer themes so that they can be used to accumulate certificate credits towards levels 3 AgriSETA and upwards. In February 2018, SETA auditors came to the HPSA offices and went through the training venue, systems and materials and have agreed to give a further 3 years accreditation. For more information, please visit [www.hpsa.org.za](http://www.hpsa.org.za) or [www.gapkzn.co.za](http://www.gapkzn.co.za).



**Women farmers being training in the Jozini Project**