Cooperative rangeland management of neighboring resettled farms

Bertus Kruger
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Namibia is an arid country.

Evaporation exceeds rainfall by a factor of 5 times.

Source: Namibia Nature Foundation
Okatana long-term rainfall record
(Northern Namibia)

Deviation of mean annual rainfall (mm) from long term annual mean at Okatana. The large deviations indicate the high degree of variability that is normal for this climate.
Critical Question 1

How can livestock farmers in Namibia reduce their vulnerability to extreme seasonal rainfall variation and fodder shortages?...

... in other words how can they prevent OVERSTOCKING?
Critical Question 2

How can livestock farmers in Namibia maintain and/or improve the productivity of their rangelands?

... in other words how can they prevent OVERGRAZING?
With only 1 camp it is impossible to apply any form of rangeland management.

This farmer has only 2 camps and can not apply proper rangeland management.

This farmer has 7 camps and can as individual apply some form of rangeland management.

With only 1 camp it is impossible to apply any form of rangeland management.
Interventions

• MoU signed between participating farmers
## Interventions

- Monthly work plans as M&E&A tool

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Responsible</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Remarks / Assessment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address water issues with M.L.R.</td>
<td>Bertus</td>
<td>M.L.R.</td>
<td>27-Apl.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Inform D.V.S. about permit issues</td>
<td>Bertus</td>
<td>D.V.S.</td>
<td>27-Apl.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provision of lick</td>
<td>Bertus</td>
<td>Voermeester</td>
<td>27-Apl.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Remove rams from herds</td>
<td>Owners</td>
<td></td>
<td>4-May</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Move cows to Ditto’s camp</td>
<td>Owners</td>
<td></td>
<td>4-May</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Move young animals to Alweendo’s camp</td>
<td>Owners</td>
<td></td>
<td>4-May</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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Interventions

- DVS: Test bulls for fertility and health
Interventions

• Agra: Donate ear tags
Interventions

- Intervet & Virbac: Vaccination
Interventions

• Brahman & Bonsmara breeders: Donate bulls
Interventions

- Voermeester: Support in Lick supplementation?
Achievements

- From no rangeland management system to some form of planned grazing system.
- From no breeding season to a summer breeding season of 3 months
- Introduction of vaccinations
- Bulls tested and sick and infertile once sold
- Lick supplementation???
- Husbandry practices e.g. castration, de-horning done
Challenges

- Water infrastructure – MLR???
- Supervision and management of joint herds
- Availability of rams
- Commitment
Stakeholders

- Blaauwberg Auctioneers CC
- AGRIBANK OF NAMIBIA
- FNB First National Bank Namibia
- USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE
- intervet
- Virbac Animal Health
- agra
- OVC Otjiwarongo Veterinary Clinic
- Bonsmara
- Blaauwberg Auctioneers CC