

NEWS IN FOCUS

State land for new farmers

MORE than 500 000 ha of State land is available for establishing new farmers, said Dr Kraai van Niekerk, the Minister of Agriculture, in the National Assembly.

"No economic units of this land have yet been allocated. The possibility of it being used to recompense people who are owed land in the land restitution process and the requirements of the land reform pilot project has hindered the process," he says.

He says more than 90% of the land previously belonged to the SA Development Trust. Most of it (206 558 ha) was in the Northern Province and the least was in the Western Cape (1023 ha).

There was 35 786 ha available in Gauteng, 45 143 ha in Mpumalanga, 50 059 ha in North West, 44 143 ha in Free State, 94 179 ha in KwaZulu/Natal, 51 673 ha in Northern Cape and 26 154 ha in Eastern Cape. ■

Citrus Board nominees wanted

FOLLOWING the resignation of Dave Lotter, who represented producers of citrus fruit for export, the Minister of Agriculture has called for nominations for the appointment of someone else to the position.

Nominations must be accompanied by appropriate curricula vitae and should reach the office of the Director-General of Agriculture not later than October 13, 1995.

Send nominations to: The Director-General: Agriculture (att: Laura Botha), Dirk Uys Building, Hamilton Street,

Pretoria, or Private Bag X250, Pretoria, 0001 or fax it to the number below.

For further details contact Johan Venter Tel: (012) 319-6155 Fax: (012) 326-3454. ■

No roses!

NORTHERN Province Premier, Ngoako Ramatlhodi, has cancelled a visit to Scotland to promote the export of roses.

President Nelson Mandela requested him to remain in the province until after the local government elections. ■

First Huguenots registered

Animals of the new cattle Abreed, the Huguenot, have been registered with the SA Stud Book and Livestock Improvement Association, reports Johan Campher, GM of Stud Book.

Crocodile Vally Estates in the lowveld has been breeding the Huguenot for 30 years. The breed was developed from male Charolais and performance-tested Afrikaner cows.

To begin with, Charolais bulls were crossed with Afrikaner cows to obtain a 50/50 progeny. Then Charolais bulls were bred to the 50/50 cross cows to obtain a 75/25 Charolais/Afrikaner progeny.

The best 75/25 bulls were then bred to 50/50 cross cows to develop a 5/8:3/8 Charolais progeny. The product of this cross was named the Huguenot.

All stud book data concerning the Huguenot reached the Stud Book on August 30, 1995. The 1031 animals were placed on the main computer in two weeks.

The first officially recognized Huguenot animals will be auctioned at the 6th Production Sale on Rivulets Farm, Schagen near Nelspruit

on October 2, 1995 at 11 am. Registration certificates of every animal on sale will be available. Campher has invited producers of other breeds to become involved with the association. ■

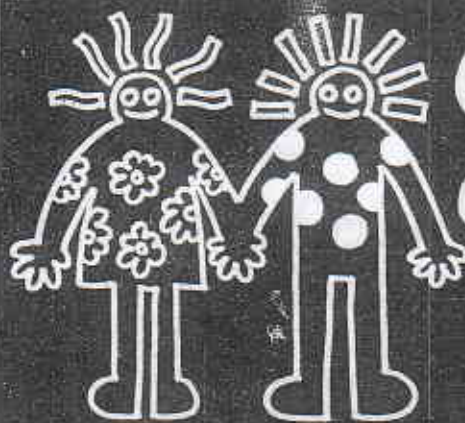
Bamboo farming venture

A BELGIAN company is to set up a bamboo farming project in Northern Province at a cost of R11 million, says Great North marketing spokesman Andre Venter.

Oprins Plant plans to divide 2 500 ha of the drought resistant plant into economically viable units for around 500 small scale farmers.

Venter says the company expects the project to generate R6 million a year for the province within two years. ■

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