



MEDIA ADVISORY

GAME AUCTION 2011

The Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs will be hosting the 26th Annual Game Auction on the 08th and 09th April 2011 at the 12 000 ha nature reserve, Willem Pretorius at 14H00.

A total of 703 live game, 405 carcass and 69 hunting packages including 10 buffalo hunts will be sold to the highest bidder on both days. The game will range from Buffalos, Black Wildebeest, Eland, Kudu, Zebra, Blesbok, Impala, Ostrich, etc. Buyers include private nature reserves, professional hunters and outfitters, game farmers and game dealers. Currently the department has got the livestock of 28000 animals in the reserves which are estimated to a total of 85 million.

The Game Auction remains the most effective game management plan which manages game population. The department hopes that more and more black people can be attracted to game farming. The auction gives the previously disadvantaged an opportunity to realise what this industry has to offer.

In the past 3 years, 13 emerging black game farmers have benefited from the game donation programme as part of bringing transformation to the lucrative game industry. The Department had donated 10 Blue Wildebeest, 6 Zebra, 20 Springbok, 20 Blesbok and 5 Gemsbok and currently the donated species have grown to 100 Springbok, 17 Wildebeest, 80 Blesbok, 11 Zebra and 7 Gemsbok. In February 2011, DETEA loaned 7 healthy buffalos to Mr. Sipho Dube, one of the black emerging game farmers who owns the Three Sisters Game Ranch in Smithfield.

The two day event will include mountain bike race, marathon, food stalls, beer tent and crafters. The marathon which is expected to draw 300 runners will start at 06H00 am on the 09th and the 74 km bicycle race will follow at 08H00 am and is expected to attract 150 bikers.

In 2010, game auction generated R11 million rand with the highest bid paid for 5 buffalos and hunting packages for R3000 000 .00.

Ends

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