



## Know Your Wildlife Quiz

*Identify This Calf...*

How well do you know the wildlife on the estate? Test your knowledge with this question...

Is this the calf of a red hartebeest, a blesbuck, a tsessebe, a black wildebeest or a blue wildebeest?

The answer can be found at the end of this newsletter...



## Second Annual Gardening Competition

*The second annual garden competition was held on 17 April 2012.*

The winning gardens were, as in 2011, marked with teardrop banners from 24 April until 26 April.

### **BEST FLOWER AND SHRUB PLANTED GARDEN**

1st place: Sandspruit 11 - Rian & Elsa



2nd place: Tamboti 8 - Nkosi Maseko



**BEST GRASS COVERED GARDEN**

1st place: Sandspruit 17 - Pieter & Margie Els



2nd place: Mamba str. 33 - Lionell & Leonie



The prize giving ceremony took place on 20 April at the overall winning garden. It was attended by the 1st and 2nd place winners of the different categories, the sponsors and the judges. The guests were welcomed by Mr. Hoffman Prinsloo, the CEO of Cranbrook Property Projects and the prizes were handed out by Mr. Willem Louw of Mamre Property Management. Mr. Willem Louw is also the chairperson of the Ledibeng Property Owners Association.

Mr. Frank Boucher from the "Tuin Tjommie Kwekery" has once again agreed to donate a plant to each and every household that entered the garden competition. Thank you Frank!

One of the rules of the 2012 Ledibeng Annual Garden Competition was that the last year's winners were not allowed to enter the competition – giving all other entrants a good chance of establishing a winning garden. However, the "Plaas Kombuis Teetuin" donated a voucher to last year's winners, so nobody lost out!



We thoroughly enjoyed seeing the efforts that so many of the residents go to in making their gardens a pleasure to view!



The Ledibeng Eco-Estate Management would like to thank our sponsors for their generous support by providing prizes in the form of cash and vouchers.

Without the support of these companies the Ledibeng Garden Competition would not be possible. A sincere thank you!!



"THE" Developer in Lephalale  
Tel: 071-483-0170



**BUILD-IT**  
Making home building simple.  
Call Ian on 082-825-7970



**LSS Security**  
For all your security needs.  
Call Emile 082-322-2435



**LEPHALALE XXX SECURITY, GARDEN AND CLEANING SERVICES**  
Contact Johannes at 0723529878



**Lephalale Skoonmaak & Algemene CC**  
for laundry, cleaning and garden services  
Call Deloris on 0823938748 / 0824955785



**LEPHALALE BRANCH**  
014-763-2115



**Mamre**  
Property Management  
Tel: 012-809-1777

## Is it a White Rhino or a Black Rhino?

*This question is often asked. The white and the black rhino have one thing in common, both are rhinos!! At the same time they are very different in many ways.*



Some of the differences between the white and the black rhino:

White Rhino	Black Rhino
	
Grass eating - Grazer	Leaves, twigs and fruit eating - Browser
Calf will usually run in front of the female.	Calf will usually run behind the female.
Prefer savannah and open grass plains.	Prefer thick brush and wooded areas.
The lips are wide and adapted for feeding on the ground.	The lips are pointed and adapted for selective feeding on fruits, leafs and twigs.
A male white rhino can weigh up to 2500 kg.	A male black rhino can weigh up to 1000 kg or 1 ton.
The white rhino is fairly calm, docile and will usually flee from danger.	The black rhino is short tempered and in general have a bad attitude, they are always eager to confront danger.



Few people know that the 'Big Five' consists of the elephant, buffalo, lion, leopard and the black rhino. Some tourist guides will refer to a white rhino as being a member of the 'Big Five' but in reality this honour goes to the black rhino. The black rhino is very unpredictable and in general just has a bad attitude. It is not afraid of danger and will take on just about anything and everyone. The black rhino numbers all over Africa are a lot less than that of the white rhino.

Rhinos usually give birth to a single calf. When you see a day old rhino calf for the first time it almost looks like a warthog. A rhino can live anywhere from 35 to 50 years. In 2011 a total number of 448 rhinos were poached for their horn (an average of 37,3 rhinos per month). So far the total number of rhinos poached in 2012 stands on 181 (an average of 45,2 rhinos per month).



## A Modern Solution to an Old Problem

*Osteophagia is the chewing or eating of bones by herbivorous animals.*



The daily requirement for calcium and phosphorous by giraffes to sustain growth and maintenance of their skeletons is significant. In comparison to the calcium and phosphorous requirements needed by a buffalo, that of a giraffe is 1.5-2.0 times more. Experiments have shown that although bones ingested will to a certain extent be softened by saliva and rumen fluid, the release of calcium and phosphorous deposited inside the bones is insignificant.

On the other hand the chewing of bones could result in a number of problematic issues. It has been documented where a giraffe that was chewing on a pelvic bone developed a problem when the lower jaw accidentally was pushed through one of the holes found in the pelvic bone. This resulted in the pelvic bone getting stuck on the lower jaw and the giraffe was unable to close his mouth. The animal had to be tranquilised to remove the pelvic bone from the lower jaw.

This occurrence could be an indication of a nutritional deficiency, especially phosphorous and calcium. This is seldom seen on game farms where active wildlife management is done and balanced supplements are provided. In areas such as large provincial game reserves and even Kruger Nation Park where very little or no effort is made to supplement the wildlife in terms of nutrition, osteophagia is a common occurrence. Giraffe and porcupines are two species that often practise osteophagia. Giraffe will stand around for hours on end and chew on bones whilst porcupines will gather and collect bones and drag it to their den.



Ingesting large bones can also be problematic from a digestive point of view. The chewing of bones could also result in the contraction of diseases like blackquater (sponssiekte) and botulism (lamsiekte). Both these diseases are caused by bacteria that end up in bone structures and also in tortoise shells. When animals chew on bones containing these bacteria, they end up in the animal and this could result in the production of a deadly toxin that affects the nervous system. It is suggested that giraffe be vaccinated yearly to prevent this from happening. The product used to vaccinate giraffe with is called Supavax. This is usually made up into a dart syringe without a barb or a gel collar. The giraffe is then darted and after a while the dart will

fall out by itself. This is the most sufficient way of getting these animals vaccinated against these diseases.



Without exception all of the wildlife supplementary feeding available on the market today makes provision for adequate supplements of calcium and phosphorus. The table below provides a few examples of game feed and their calcium and phosphorus compositions.

Composition (g/kg)	Wes Protein Browser (20kg) Blok	Wes Phosphate (20kg) Blok	Wes Ivomac (20kg) Blok	Meester 20 (40kg)	Driehoek wildsmeel (40 kg)	Driehoek Standaard Wildvoer blokkies (50 kg)	Driehoek Game Breeding Muesli (40 kg)	Voermol Wildkorrel/ Wildspille (50 kg)	Boskos Game pellets (50 kg)
Kalsium/ Calcium	6.3	180	6.3	10	8	8	7 - 10	8	9
Fosfor / Phosphorus	6.3	60	6.3	5.4	3	3	4.5	3	3



The calf in the picture on page 1 is that of a **blue wildebeest!**



For information on property sales contact:

Tel: **012 665 5308**

Email: **info@cranbrook.co.za**

### We would like to hear your story!

Should you have an event or story you would like to share, please send us your photos and a few words to **wildlife@lantic.net**

*From your Wildlife Management Team*

