

HISTORIC SUMMARY OF THE CLUB

1. Introduction

It is regrettable that there is very little records/information regarding the origin-history of the club, since certain documents e.g. minutes, etc. were never kept/preserved.

To research the genesis-history of the club, we mainly had to rely on the memory of senior members. In this department we received incredible co-operation from Tobie Fourie, known by many as "Oom Tobie" who is, farming Boer goats and dairy cows in Louis Trichardt.

Where contradictions occurred, we followed the most trustworthy source. The following may include wrong or insufficient information, but unless it is proven differently, we stand with the information as it is stated in this document.

2. Departmental policy

Around 1964, the Department of Agriculture had the policy that the area north of the Soutpansberg-mountain range, is not suitable for farming with small stock. This policy was based on the fact that the average rainfall of 300mm per annum, was too little for farming with small stock. The Department also had the opinion that "The vegetation and region was too much like a desert."

A group of farmers realized the potential of Boer goat farming. Trails and experiments with small stock breeds have already been done at the Messina Experimental Farm. It was determined that the Boer goat was not in competition

with the cattle in the area regarding grazing. It was determined that a Boer goat eats 80% leaves and 20% grass. Fred Badenhorst was a pioneer and researcher of note regarding these aspects. He established the Boer goat North of the Soutpansberg-mountains, as well as performing all the experiments as mentioned above. He was also the individual that realized the potential of the Boer goat, e.g. to keep the intrusive plants under control.

3. The First Bosveld Boer goat Club

A group of farmers, including the Fourie-family that played a major role, was of opinion that starting a Club could be beneficial. This way they could have a say in the Department of Agriculture's short-sighted policy regarding the Boer goat, and try to persuade them to revise their policy.

Various meetings were held, and approximately around May 1964 the Bosveld Boer goat Club was established. During the first meeting the following prominent individuals were present:

- Joubert Fourie (Grandfather of the current well-known Joubert Fourie), breeder and judge of Boer goats.
- Holtman Fourie
- Jan Fourie
- "Uncle" Tobie Fourie (Father of the well-known Joubert Fourie)

At this meeting, Joubert Fourie Sr was elected as the first Chairperson of the club. Jan Sheegers was elected Vice-chairman, and Tobie Fourie as Secretary of the club. This meeting took place in Louis Trichardt showground. (Information provided by Tobie Fourie)

GESKIEDKUNDIGE OORSIG VAN DIE KLUB.

1. Inleiding

Dit is baie jammer dat daar in die verlede nie behoorlik rekord gehou was ten opsigte van die ontstaan geskiedenis van die Klub nie, en is sekere dokumente soos notules, ens. nie bewaar was nie.

Om die ontstaan geskiedenis van die Klub na te vors, moes ons hoofsaaklik staatmaak op die geheue van senior lede en veral het ons ongelooftlike goeie samewerking van Tobie Fourie van Louis Trichardt (by baie mense bekend as "Oom Tobie") verkry.

Waar teenstyldighede dalk voorgekom het, het ons die mees betroubaarste bron gevolg. Wat hierna volg mag gebreke toon of verkeerde inligting bevat, maar tensy die teendeel bewys word, volstaan ons met die inligting hierin verrat.

2. Departementele beleid

Hier rondom 1964 het die Departement van Landbou die beleid gehad dat die gedeelte Noord van die Soutpansberg, nie geskik vir klein-vee boerdery was nie. Hierdie beleid het daarop gesteun dat die gemiddelde reën 300mm per jaar is en dus te laag vir klein-vee boerdery is. Die Departement het ook die mening gehuldig dat "Die veld en wêreld te na aan 'n woestyn was."

'n Groep boere het die potensiaal van boerboek boerdery ingesien en was daar reeds proewe met klein-vee rasse op Messina proefplaas

gedoen en is daar vasgestel dat die boerboek nie in kompetisie met beeste is wat, weiding betref nie, want die bevinding was dat 'n boerboek 80% blare en 20% gras vreet. Oom Fred Badenhorst was 'n pionier en navorser van formaat. Hy het die boerboek Noord van die Soutpansberg gevestig en ook die proewe uitgevoer soos hierbo na verwys.

Hy was ook die een wat die potensiaal van die boerboek raakgesien het om o.a. bos indringer- plante in bedwang te hou.

3. Die eerste Bosveld Boerboek klub

'n Groepie boere waarvan die Fourie-familie 'n groot rol in gespeel het, was van mening dat die stigting van 'n Klub die aangewese weg sou wees om inspraak te hê by die Departement van Landbou ten einde die Departement te laat afsien van hulle kortsigtige beleid ten opsigte van die boerboek.

Verskeie loots-vergaderings het plaasgevind en ongeveer Mei 1964 is daar oorgegaan tot die stigting van die Bosveld Boerboek Klub. Tydens hierdie eerste vergadering was onder andere die volgende prominente persone teenwoordig:

- Joubert Fourie (Die Oupa van die welbekende Joubert Fourie), teler en be-oordelaar, van boerboekke.
- Holtman Fourie
- Jan Fourie
- "Oom" Tobie Fourie (Pa van die nou bekende Joubert Fourie).

Op hierdie vergadering was Joubert Fourie Snr as eerste Voor-sitter verkies, Jan Sheegers as