

National warning issued by SAWS valid for, 11-13 MARCH 2024.

Please find extreme Weather Warning Service information issued for Limpopo.



hazard	Alert level	Valid from	Valid to
Extreme warning	Warning	11/03/2024 Monday	13/03/2024 Wensday

Heatwave conditions with persistently high temperatures are expected over the south-western Bushveld in Limpopo where these conditions will are likely to persist into Wednesday (13/03/2024).

Heat stress can greatly impact cattle producers through decreased milk production and subsequent calf growth, decreased reproductive performance in cows and bulls, and decreased stocker and feeder performance.

Heat stresses occur when the animal's attempt to dissipate heat is unsuccessful or overwhelmed, and the animal's performance or health suffers as a result.

Managing animals and crops during hot weather

The following strategies can be applied for livestock during times of very hot conditions:

1. Identify animals that are most susceptible to heat stress.
2. Develop an action plan for heat stress.
 - Animals in heat stress need to drink water
 - Move the animals' feeding time to late afternoon or evening.
 - Air movement is an additional factor that promotes animal cooling.
 - Cool the ground and the cattle gradually.

- Provide shade if possible.
- Adding bedding to the ground can reduce the temperature of the ground on which cattle are lying.
- Control flies as much as possible
- most importantly, do not work cattle during extreme temperature
- Pay attention to long- and short-term weather forecasts and have a copy of the temperature humidity index chart readily available.

The following strategies can be applied for crop production during times of very hot conditions:

- Do not irrigate during the day as more water will evaporate.
- Irrigate early in the morning or afternoon.
- Choosing more and better heat and drought resistant crops. e.g. sorghum/ millet
- Consider mulching to minimize evaporation.

A comprehensive list of strategies can be found in the monthly NAC Advisory. It can be accessed from the following websites: www.Ldard.gov.za; www.dalrrd.gov.za and www.agis.agric.za

The Disaster Management Act (Act No. 57 of 2002) urges Provinces, individuals and farmers, to assess and prevent or reduce the risk of disasters using early warning

information.

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