# LRF NEWS

AUGUST 2026

## LRF NEWS

**BreedLOGIC is now LIVE!**

As of the 31st of August, BreedLOGIC Database Search is now **live** to all of the LRF member breed societies across Southern Africa, providing a modern and intuitive way to search breed society information. Users are able to explore animals, pedigrees, members, sales information and genetic evaluation data through a powerful platform designed to make finding and analysing information easier.

During the introductory period, BreedLOGIC Database Search will be available alongside Internet Solutions, allowing users to access and explore the new platform while continuing to use the existing system. This overlap period provides an opportunity to become familiar with BreedLOGIC's features and gradually transition to the new platform.

BreedLOGIC Database Search represents an important step forward in how breed society information is accessed and shared across Southern Africa. Breed societies, together with the LRF and ABRI, look forward to supporting members throughout the transition and helping them make the most of the platform's enhanced capabilities.

## IN THIS ISSUE



Please note that an online introductory session, hosted by Catriona Millen from ABRI, will be held on the 2nd of September 2026 from 10:00–11:00, providing an overview of BreedLOGIC and what users can expect from the new software.

RSVP by filling out the Google form

**RSVP BreedLOGIC Introductory Session**

The BreedLOGIC Knowledge Base is the central repository for BreedLOGIC Database Search help and support resources. Accessible via the Support & Resources section within the platform, the Knowledge Base contains user guides, FAQs, instructional videos and a downloadable booklet, with additional content being added over time. The Using BreedLOGIC Database Search booklet is a great place to begin, bringing together all user guides and key support information in a single document.

**BreedLOGIC Knowledge Database** | **Using BreedLOGIC Database Search Booklet**

**18th LRF Annual Stockman School:**

The 18th Annual LRF Stockman School is set to take place from 7–9 October 2026 at the Aldam Holiday Resort in the Free State. This year's theme, "Unlocking the Beef Value Chain", promises to deliver fresh insights into one of the most vital sectors of livestock production.

Widely regarded as a highly anticipated event, the Stockman School draws both local and international speakers and participants, making it a hub of knowledge-sharing and networking. Known for its educational depth and practical focus, it equips attendees with tools and strategies they can apply directly in the field. If you're passionate about the beef industry, this is an event you simply won't want to miss.

Tickets are selling out fast! Don't miss this opportunity to learn from, engage with, and gain valuable insights from a lineup of highly specialised speakers covering relevant, thought-provoking topics. Join us for an exciting opportunity to connect with experts, ask questions, share ideas, and deepen your knowledge alongside fellow professionals.

Please note that Stockman School is registered for CPD Points!

View the programme and access the registration form off of our website or contact Charmaine Alberts for more information:

**Cell Phone Number:** +27 82 922 3747
**Email Address:** charmainealberts8@gmail.com

**Stockman School Registration Form** | **Stockman School Programme**


**Monthly Tipsheet and Video Series: August Focus – Understanding Genetic Linkage**

We are excited to announce the next monthly tipsheet and video for our 2026 series. Each month, a one-page tipsheet and video will be released covering all the information you need to know! For July, our focus was on **Selection Indexes.**

Access July's one-page tipsheet and 2-minute video below to stay informed and up-to-date.

**Selection Indexes Tipsheet**

**Selection Indexes Video**

For August, our focus is on **Understanding Genetic Linkage**

**Genetic Linkage:**
- One of the most important components of the BREEDPLAN analysis is the ability to compare the resulting Estimated Breeding Values (EBVs) of animals running under different conditions.
- This is achieved through the use of **genetic linkage.**
- Genetic linkage is established by the use of common sires across herds.
- To compare animals from different environments, herds must have some performance recorded progeny from common animals, which are used to benchmark one herd against another.
- Genetic linkage is also important within a herd, to compare animals born in different years and raised in different contemporary groups

**Example of Genetic Linkage:**
- Consider a situation where 3 different mobs of calves are compared, there are nutritional differences between the Groups:
  - Contemporary Group 1 (CG1) has relatively poor nutrition.
  - CG2 has relatively good nutrition.
  - CG3 has average nutrition.
- In this example, all of the progeny in each group are by different sires:
  - Nifty is the sire of the progeny in CG1.
  - Lusty is the sire of the progeny in CG2.
  - Curly is the sire of the progeny in CG3.
- Under such conditions, it is impossible to make valid comparisons about the relative performance of the animals in the different contemporary groups, as there are no "genetic links" between the groups.
- If however, progeny from a common sire existed in each contemporary group then it becomes possible to compare the progeny of the different sires represented in each group.

- The progeny of the link sire (Admiral) have an average adjusted 400-Day weight of 290 kg, 390 kg and 300 kg.
- In comparison, the average adjusted 400-Day weights of the progeny of the other sires are: Nifty: 300 kg, Lusty: 380 kg and Curly: 320 kg.
- In CG1 the progeny of Nifty were heavier than the progeny of Admiral.
- In CG2 the average weights are higher than CG1 but the progeny of Lusty did not weigh as heavily as the progeny of Admiral.
- In CG3 the progeny of Curly were considerably heavier than the progeny of Admiral.
- While the Lusty progeny had the heaviest average weights of the three home sires they were 10kg lighter than the Admiral progeny.
- The Nifty progeny outperformed the Admiral progeny by 10kg and the Curly progeny outperformed the Admiral progeny by 20kg, making Curly the superior sire for 400-Day weight.
- Assuming large numbers of progeny, the difference in the sire EBVs will approach twice the average progeny differences. This is because the progeny only receive half of their genes from their respective sires.

Access August's one-page tipsheets and 2-minute video below to stay informed and up-to-date.

**Genetic Linkage Tipsheet** | **Genetic Linkage Video**

## LRF Online Courses

**BreedLOGIC Introductory Online Session: 2 September 2026**
Make sure you don't miss out on this informative session that will provide an overview of BreedLOGIC and what users can expect from the new software.
Date: 2nd September 2026
Time: 10h00 – 11h00
Presenter(s): Catriona Millen (ABRI)
RSVP: Please fill out the Google form:

**BreedLOGIC Introductory Session**

## HerdMASTER/BREEDPLAN NEWS

**HerdMASTER**

A reminder, for helpful HerdMASTER tutorials covering topics like imports, troubleshooting, tipsheets, and more, please follow the link provided to access all the resources you need. These guides are designed to make your experience smoother and more efficient, don't miss out on the support available at your fingertips.

For any assistance or queries, contact Jeanine at
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Jeanine@lrf.co.za

**HerdMASTER Tutorial Tipsheets**

**HerdMASTER Tutorial Videos**