

Smallholder Market Access Tracker (SMAT) Pilot Version 2

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SUMMARY

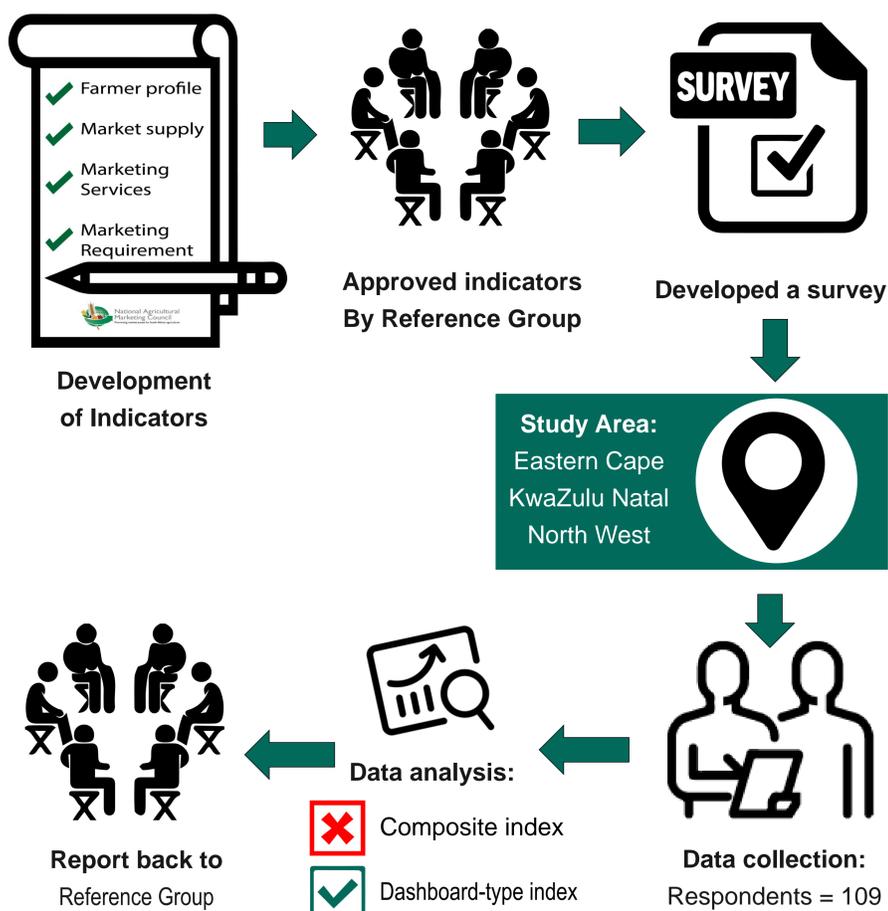
This poster presents the findings of version 2 of the Smallholder Market Access Tracker (SMAT). Version 2 is a pilot that was undertaken in the beef subsector, mainly focusing on communal cattle farmers. The results were derived from a survey of 109 farmers from the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu Natal and North West Provinces. The results entail four main categories of the SMAT indicators, namely farmers' profile, how they supply to the markets, market services they have access to (including how they rate these services) and their awareness and compliance with formal market requirements. The results show that the communal cattle sector is dominated by males and that the informal market (followed by auctions) is the main marketing channel used by communal cattle farmers. Furthermore, there are fewer farmers that have access to fewer marketing services.

Keywords: Market Supply, Marketing Services & Market Requirements

INTRODUCTION

- The NAMC is leading a project to develop a tool to measure progress towards achievement of market access for all participants, particularly for smallholder farmers in South Africa.
- The rationale for the creation of such a tool stems from the general perception and, in some cases, study findings, pertaining to or indicating lack of progress in addressing integration of smallholder farmers in South Africa's mainstream economy, a majority of them black.
- Since 1994, there have been a number of policies and programmes that have been formulated and developed to provide support services to enable farmers to move into commercial farming if so desired.
- Some of the policies and programmes were geared towards improving smallholder farmers' ability to seize marketing opportunities (Van Renen, 1997).
- However, findings suggest that such endeavours have not been as effective as they were envisaged.
- There is currently a gap in the understanding and measurement of market access locally and internationally.
- It is against this background that the NAMC proposes that the Smallholder Market Access Tracker (SMAT) be developed as a measure of progress in the achievement of the market access goal for smallholders in South Africa.

METHODOLOGY



RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Farmer profile:

| Indicator | | Eastern Cape | KwaZulu Natal | North West |
|-----------|--------|--------------|---------------|------------|
| Gender | Male | 81% | 91% | 78% |
| | Female | 19% | 09% | 22% |
| Age | | 58 | 51 | 56 |

Market Supply:

| Indicator | | Eastern Cape | KwaZulu Natal | North West |
|----------------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|------------|
| Type of market supplied | Formal | 18% | 88% | 78% |
| | Informal | 82% | 12% | 22% |
| Selling arrangements | Contract | 2% | 0% | 22% |
| | Spot on | 70% | 85% | 56% |
| | Others | 28% | 15% | 22% |
| Payment arrangements | Immediately | 77% | 36% | 67% |
| | 1-7 days | 07% | 55% | 22% |
| | >14 days | 06% | 09% | 11% |
| Average Distance to market | | 28km | 25km | 07km |

Marketing Services

| Province | Market information | | Feeding facility | | Credit | | Training | | Own transport | |
|------------------|--------------------|------------|------------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|---------------|------------|
| | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| Eastern Cape | 19 | 48 | 11 | 56 | 5 | 62 | 6 | 61 | 15 | 52 |
| KwaZulu Natal | 29 | 4 | 24 | 9 | 2 | 31 | 27 | 6 | 3 | 30 |
| North West | 4 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 6 |
| Total (%) | 48% | 52% | 34% | 66% | 7% | 93% | 32% | 68% | 19% | 81% |

Market Requirements

| Province | Site licensing | | Traceability | | Biosecurity & disease control | | Animal health welfare | |
|------------------|----------------|------------|--------------|------------|-------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|------------|
| | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No | Yes | No |
| Eastern Cape | 7 | 60 | 13 | 54 | 16 | 51 | 17 | 50 |
| KwaZulu Natal | 5 | 28 | 18 | 15 | 24 | 9 | 26 | 7 |
| North West | 1 | 8 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 6 |
| Total (%) | 12% | 88% | 30% | 70% | 39% | 61% | 42% | 58% |

CONCLUSION

- The results indicated that the majority of sampled farmers do not have access to marketing services and they are not aware of the formal market requirements.
- In addition, the informal market seems to be dominant.