



NATIONAL CERTIFICATE (NQF 4)

ANIMAL PRODUCTION

**WITH SPECIALISATION IN
BEEF PRODUCTION**



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COURSE OVERVIEW

National Certificate: Animal Production | NQF 4, 142 Credits

With a specialisation in Beef Production

QUALIFICATION RULES

The National Certificate in Animal Production with a specialisation in Beef Production is an academic online programme supported by practical hands-on modules, developed for the sub-Saharan Africa Beef Industry.

The qualification focuses on the technical supervision of Operational Beef Production skills within the framework of the sciences of animal biology, nature conservation, regenerative production, agricultural economics and strategic and business management, supported by fundamental knowledge of the application of basic computer skills, communication, applied mathematics, agricultural engineering technology and chemistry & physics.

The one-year National Certificate in Animal Production with a specialisation in Beef Production will enable qualifying students to actively participate and gain knowledge in Primary Beef Production, whilst enhancing the overall agrarian process and gaining opportunities to access local, national and international agricultural markets.

Specific competency will be obtained in the specialised sub-fields of beef production systems, breeding systems, handling practices, classes and life functions, diseases and biosecurity, and handling and management practices, with an evenly strong focus on economic and financial management.

On completion, students will be well positioned to extend learning and practice into other sub-fields such as crop production, mixed farming, wildlife management and farm management through upskilling to a National Diploma on NQF level 5.

WHAT YOU STUDY

First Year modules

Semester 1

1. Introductory Modules (INDU110 & NATU110)
2. Basic Computer Skills (COMP110)
3. Communication Skills I (COMM114)
4. Applied Mathematics & Statistics I (MATH114)
5. Agricultural Science (AGSC110)
6. Agricultural Management & Economics I (AGMA114)



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7. Animal Science I (ANIM114)
8. Beef Production I (BEEF114)

Semester 2

1. Communication Skills II (COMM124)
2. Agri Engineering Technology (ENGI124)
3. Agricultural Management & Economics I (AGMA124)
4. Animal Science I (ANIM124)
5. Grazing & Pasture Science I (GRAZ120)
6. Beef Production I (BEEF114)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The following minimum admission requirements will be required to enter the National Certificate:

- Communication at NQF Level 2
- Mathematical Literacy at NQF Level 2
- Agricultural activities at NQF 3

CURRICULUM LAYOUT

First Semester:

Introductory Modules

- Introduction to Agripedia (INDU110)
- Nature of Thought (NATU110)

Module 1: Basic Computer Skills (COMP110)

- Introduction to Computers
- Computer Components
- Operating Systems
- Electronic Communication
- Microsoft Office

Module 2: Communication Skills I (COMM114)

- Accommodate audience and context needs in oral/signed communication
- Interpret a variety of literary texts
- Interpret and use information from texts
- Write texts for a range of communicative contexts



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Module 3: Applied Mathematics & Statistics I (MATH114)

- Conversions
- Quantities in Agriculture
- Circumference, Area, Volume & Distances
- 2 and 3 Dimensions
- Maps
- Data, Statistics & Probability in Agriculture
- Financial Mathematics

Module 4: Agricultural Sciences I (AGSC110)

- Animal & Plant Biology
- Basic Chemistry
- Ecological Principles

Module 5: Agricultural Management & Economics I (AGMA114)

- Farm Planning
- Introduction to Farm Management
- Human Resource Management
- Input Procurement, Purchasing & Stock Control

Module 6: Animal Sciences I (ANIM114)

- Classification & Nomenclature
- Genetics & Breeding
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Animal Diseases & Health (MSD)

Module 7: Beef Production I (BEEF114)

- Introduction to Beef production
- Overview of the Beef Industry
- Breeding systems
- Beef production systems
- Beef handling facilities and management practices

Second Semester:

Module 1: Communication Skills (COMM124)

- Engage in sustained oral communication and evaluate spoken texts



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- Read analyse and respond to a variety of texts
- Use language and communication in occupational learning programmes
- Write for a wide range of contexts

Module 2: Agri Engineering Technology (ENGI124)

- Energy
- Agricultural Safety
- Tools & Equipment
- Structural Materials & Construction Processes
- Irrigation & Water Supply
- Geographic Information Systems

Module 3: Agricultural Management & Economics (AGMA124)

- Farm Business Planning
- Financial Management
- Natural & Sustainable Resources
- Marketing

Module 4: Animal Science (ANIM124)

- Animal Nutrition
- Predation Management
- Animal Diseases & Health (MSD)
- Artificial Insemination

Module 5: Grazing & Pasture Science (GRAZ120)

- Introduction to Veld Management
- Succession, Evolution and Veld Types
- Plant Identification
- Assessment of Veld Condition and Carrying Capacity

Module 6: Beef production I (BEEF124)

- Feeding of beef cattle
- Safe transportation of beef cattle
- The feedlot environment



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SKILLS AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES

You will develop, over the tenure of your studies, a critical understanding of Beef Production in Africa in the modern era and working in a global economy. You will gain practical and relevant skills that will enable you to work in the Beef and other livestock production sectors in Sub-Saharan Africa.

All course content is based and supported by the latest industry developments, and these best practices will allow you to participate meaningfully in primary beef production.

Graduates will be able to enter the primary agricultural workplace and establish a thriving career through hard work and commitment.

METHODOLOGY

The National Certificate in Animal Production with a specialisation in Beef Production is presented as an exciting e-learning programme. This is done through own studies, reading and the online submission of assignments.

This is a participatory learning programme, where the student will also be able to communicate with fellow students across the country via, Agri-social, our social media platform. This platform allows for questions to be discussed, and the opportunity to upload and share interesting articles, images, and videos. Throughout the academic year, lecturers will be available on the Agri-social platform. They are also readily accessible via email, SMS, WhatsApp or direct telephonic contact.

Theoretical studies are completed through our online Agri-learn platform and the student is provided with a practical logbook to achieve practical competencies and experiences through the student's workplace. Where needed, students will be assisted towards practical competence through our work placement programme.

ACADEMIC FEES

The following academic fees are applicable for the 2025/2026 academic year:

Full time residential students:

Payment Structure 1:	Year 1 (2025): R 160 000	Year 2 (2026): R160 000
At registration:	R 3 000	R 3 000
After Registration – Once off Payment	R 157 000	R 157 000



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Payment Structure 2:	Year 1 (2025): R 160 000	Year 2 (2026): R160 000
With registration:	R 3 000	R 3 000
After registration – First semester:	R 78 500	R 78 500
Second semester:	R78 500	R 78 500

Payment Structure 3:	Year 1 (2025): R 160 000	Year 2 (2026): R160 000
With registration:	R 3 000	R 3 000
After registration – 10x Monthly payments	R 15 700	R 15 700

Day Students (Not living on campus on a permanent basis):

Payment Structure 1:	Year 1 (2025): R 160 000	Year 2 (2026): R160 000
At registration:	R 3 000	R 3 000
After Registration – Once off Payment	R 65 000	R 65 000

Payment Structure 2:	Year 1 (2025): R 160 000	Year 2 (2026): R160 000
With registration:	R 3 000	R 3 000
After registration – First semester:	R 31 000	R 31 000
Second semester:	R31 000	R 31 000

Payment Structure 3:	Year 1 (2025): R 160 000	Year 2 (2026): R160 000
With registration:	R 3 000	R 3 000
After registration – 10x Monthly payments	R 6 200	R 6 200

Note: The costs for transport, meals and accommodation for possible practical training outside Bloemfontein are not included in the academic costs and will be discussed with students in advance as applicable for practical training.



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ALTERNATIVE PAYMENT ARRANGEMENT:

If the student is not in a financial position to pay the full amount per semester, written application for the monthly payment of modules can be addressed to:

The financial Director : admin@mahlubini.africa

WHY MAHLUBINI AGRICULTURE COLLEGE?

Situated in the vibrant town of Cofimvaba, Eastern Cape, Mahlubini College is excited to welcome you to our community of future agricultural leaders. We offer accredited NQF 4 and NQF 5 programmes designed to give you the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in the dynamic world of agriculture. Whether you're passionate about sustainable farming, innovation, or community development, Mahlubini College is the place where your journey begins.

Join us, and together, let's grow Africa's future!

TO FIND OUT MORE:

www.mahlubini.africa

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