maintain these in their population as these colour variants fetch very high prices: for example a normal impala typically sells for ≈ R900 whilst a black impala sells for ≈ R41 000. Similarly a blue wildebeest sells for ≈ R 1 900 and a gold gnu for R620 000. The question is who is buying these animals and for which market?

We argue that the breeding and selling of these colour morphs is in fact a closed circle with breeders selling to other breeders and that the market is close to saturation and on the verge of imploding.

What is the value to the stocking of extralimital species to ecotourism?

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Many Private Protected Areas (PPAs) stock an abundance of charismatic species with the aim of increasing species diversity for ecotourism. Many species, which historically did not occur on the reserves, known as extralimital species have thus been introduced into these Protected Areas. In this study we investigated the value of stocking these species in terms of ecotourism. Shamwari Private Game Reserve in the Eastern Cape, South Africa was used as a case study where we conducted research into the behaviour of tourists on game drives. A mixed-method approach was used, where quantitative as well as qualitative data were collected. It was found that the largest percentage of time was spent viewing elephants (*Loxodonta Africana*) and lions (*Panthera leo*).

Based on the proportion of viewing time and the availability of species, the extralimital white rhino (*Ceratotherium simum*) was ranked as the most important species. In the questionnaires majority of the tourists indicated they would choose to visit another PPA if their preferred species was not stocked at Shamwari. The study concludes that there is value in stocking extralimital species, based on ecotourism. However, only certain species serve as a tourist attraction and the numbers should be managed accordingly. PPAs should not compromise their conservation status and all costs and benefits of social, economic and ecological factors should be taken into consideration.

An economic evaluation of typical wildlife production systems in the Western Cape Province of South Africa

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The wildlife industry in the Western Cape Province is growing, but there is a lack of economic research on the industry. An evaluation done on the economic viability of two typical wildlife production systems in the Western Cape Province revealed that although the contribution made towards conservation is important to wildlife producers, income also needs to be generated from wildlife production in order to make the system financially viable and, ultimately, worthwhile for the wildlife producer.

The typical biltong hunting system in the Beaufort West region, housing sheep as well as wildlife to the equivalent of 349 large stock units on 10 000 hectares, has a favourable solvency position and has proven to be profitable. Profits realised are not large, however. Although this system has a net farm income of R197 781, the amount of overhead costs takes its toll on the total farm gross margin of R636 749. The system is successful by virtue of the fact that wildlife producers perceive the wildlife enterprise as additional income to livestock production, almost without any additional costs. Wildlife, in this typical system, is seen and utilised as a bonus to livestock production.

Southern African Wildlife Management Association

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