

PORCUS

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# PrimeCuts

Celebrating the best of our industry



WINTER

# TOPIGS NORSVIN SA CELEBRATED PRODUCERS AT THEIR 2024 PRODUCERS' DAY

Customers from and across the borders of South Africa were welcomed to the 2024 Topigs Norsvin SA Producers' Day by general manager Andrew Reeders.

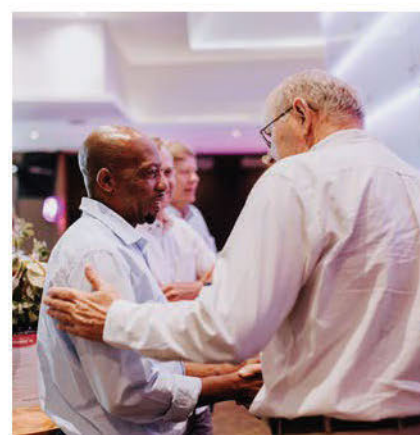
First to present, Henk Janssen, area manager for Topigs Norsvin International, gave producers an update on Topigs Norsvin activities elsewhere in the world, being specifically proud of the company's increased spend on research and development (43% more compared to five years ago). Jascha Leenhouders, global product manager for Topigs Norsvin, spent some time discussing global trends in the swine industry that are the main drivers for future changes in the pork value chain, including the economic cost of disease outbreaks, rising feed costs, the environmental impact of livestock production systems, and societal concerns regarding animal welfare. He stressed that innovative technologies were the key to sustainability and explained how Topigs Norsvin's balanced breeding progress will contribute to the future competitiveness of pork producers.

Topigs Norsvin SA's senior technical and breeding manager, Lihandi van Rheede van Oudtshoorn, reflected on the year's customer successes with the TN70, explaining that improvements in the number of live-born piglets and pre-weaning mortality rates had led to an increase in the number of piglets weaned per sow per year. Lídia Sbaraini Arend, global female reproduction specialist at Topigs Norsvin, shared her top tips for achieving the best reproductive

performance from the TN70. She reminded producers of the importance of focusing on gilt rearing to achieve optimal sow longevity.

Aston Bull, nucleus manager for Topigs Norsvin SA at Rietfontein, finished off the presentations with an update on their local genomic breeding programme, highlighting the fact that genomics contributes to more accurate and reliable breeding value estimation, which provides a more balanced response to selection.

After the formal presentations were completed, it was time to commence with the most exciting part of the day's programme, the awards ceremony, aimed at celebrating the successes achieved by producers over the past year. "Every year, when we see the results, we are humbled and proud of what our producer partners are achieving with the genetic potential we provide – this year is no different, and we are excited to share the results in this issue of *PORCUS PrimeCuts*", said Reeders. ● ●



# Topigs Norsvin SA: Celebrating producers

On 13 March 2024, during Topigs Norsvin SA's Producers' Day, customers were celebrated for their remarkable performance during the 2023 production year.

**"Congratulations to the teams on-farm! Your excellent results are testament to your passion and dedication, and we look forward to seeing what 2024 will bring."**





## TOP 10 SOW UNIT OF THE YEAR

Based on the number of piglets weaned per sow per year (including served gilts)

- Butt Farming
- EDE Farming
- GHB Farms: Kaalfontein
- GHB Farms: Rooipoort
- Koedoesrand
- Malanda Piggery
- Molare Piggery: Complex 1
- Molare Piggery: Complex 2
- Molare Piggery: Complex 3
- Walt Landgoed: Leeuwkuil

### Winners

1. Butt Farming
2. GHB Farms: Rooipoort
3. Molare Piggery: Complex 1



## TOP 10 GROWER UNIT OF THE YEAR

Based on finisher performance and throughput

- Butt Farming
- EDE Farming
- GHB Farms: Rooipoort
- GHB Farms: Spitskop
- Grassland Pigs
- Koedoesrand
- Malanda Piggery
- Molare Piggery: Combined
- Walt Landgoed: Biesjeskuil
- Walt Landgoed: Leeuwkuil

### Winners

1. Butt Farming
2. EDE Farming
3. Koedoesrand



## GROWER OUTPUT UNIT OF THE YEAR

Based on the amount of kilograms sold per sow per year

1. Butt Farming
2. Koedoesrand
3. GHB Farms: Rooipoort

## MOST IMPROVED UNIT IN SOUTH AFRICA

Molare Piggery: Complex 4

## MOST IMPROVED UNIT IN AFRICA

Tiple C Pigs: Richlands



# Topigs Norsvin invests further in environmentally controlled transport

**Nine years ago, Topigs Norsvin SA transformed gilt deliveries with the purchase of an environmentally controlled transport vehicle, imported from the Netherlands. Today, the company boasts that a second-of-its-kind and proudly South African-built version has been added to its fleet.**

A steady increase in the demand for deliveries, combined with the focus on doing so safely, inevitably led to the requirement for a second rig. After careful consideration of the expertise involved to successfully complete such a build, a local team, comprising the necessary skills across multiple fields, was assembled to tackle the project.

Though identical at a quick glance, the new rig was built slightly longer with increased ventilation capacity. This allows for more animals to be transported per load, improving its efficiency.



 **Topigs Norsvin**  
PROGRESS IN PIGS

The various systems on board are designed with safety, animal welfare, and biosecurity in mind:

- ★ The trailer has a generator and battery to supply power to all systems.
- ★ Two controllers manage the whole system and regulate the temperature and air flow.
- ★ Onboard and off-site live monitoring of the system can be done simultaneously.
- ★ Built-in alarms and fail-safes ensure that ventilation is always adequate.
- ★ A tail lift allows for efficient and comfortable loading and unloading at any ramp.
- ★ Incoming air passes through a double filter system and ultraviolet lights.
- ★ Filtered air is evenly distributed on every deck to provide constant and even flow for all animals.
- ★ Twelve pens distributed over three decks permit the splitting of animals into smaller groups.
- ★ A heater assists in maintaining optimal transport temperatures during colder winter months.
- ★ Onboard water can be supplied to the animals if needed.
- ★ A pressure washer enables manual washing and disinfection on any farm after animals are offloaded.
- ★ Additional internal disinfection is done through mist sprayers and a heater, both controlled from inside the truck, and performed en route after deliveries.

The addition of the second rig has added capacity and some flexibility for animal deliveries. This investment testifies to Topigs Norsvin SA's commitment to continue their high standard of gilt deliveries.



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