ID # _____

Livestock Guarding Dog Questionnaire

Method _____ **DATE:** _____

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____ **Contact no:** _____
Email: _____ **Postal Address:** _____
Location: _____ **GPS location: S -** _____ **E** _____

Would you like receive newsletters from CCB? Yes ☐ No ☐

1. Farm Type *(please tick)*

Communal Farmland/Subsistence Farming ☐ Commercial Farmland ☐

2. Which of these farming techniques do you use?

Guard Dogs ☐ Herders ☐ Guard donkeys ☐
Lambing/Calving season ☐ Maternity kraal ☐ Kraal (day) ☐ Kraal (night) ☐
Other ☐ (please state) _____

3. Do you use livestock guarding dogs with…..?

Sheep ☐ Goats ☐ Cattle ☐

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DOG/S

Note: If you have more than one dog, you can answer for one dog, or if you want to answer for more than one, please make a note of which dog you are referring to by ticking multiple boxes or writing notes in the margin.

4. How many livestock guarding dogs do you own?

Males _____ Females _____

5. How many guarding dogs do you have with your livestock?

Number of dogs / number of livestock

Sheep :
Goats :
Cattle :

6. How old is your livestock guarding dog/s?

<18months ☐ 18mths-3 yrs ☐ >3-6 yrs ☐ >6-10 yrs ☐
>10 yrs ☐ Unknown ☐

7. What size is your dog/s?

1–12 kg – small ☐ 13–25 kg – medium ☐ 26–40 kg – large ☐ +40 kg – very large ☐

8. What breed is your livestock guarding dog/s?

Tswana ☐ Anatolian Shepherd ☐ Greyhound ☐
Crossbreed ☐ **(please specify breeds)** _____
Other ☐ (please state) _____

9. Where did you get the dog/s?

Was given it ☐ Found it ☐ Owned its parents ☐
Bought it ☐ how much was it? _____ Other ☐ _____

10. Were the dog's parents livestock guarding dogs?

Yes (both) ☐ Mother was ☐ Father was ☐ No (pet) ☐ Unknown ☐

11. Do you breed the dog/s for any purpose?

Don't breed dogs □ Guarding stock for personal use □ For sale □

Other □ (please state) _____

12. How long have you been using Livestock Guarding Dogs?

0-1 yr □ >1-2yrs □ >2-3 yrs □ >3-5 yr □ >5-10 yr □ >10 yr □

13. Do you have a herder accompanying the herds that have dogs? Yes □ No □

If yes, how many hours of the day is the herder with the dog and the herd? _____

Do you feel that this improves the dog's effectiveness? Yes □ No □

How much do you pay your herder? _____per day/_____ per hour

14. Did you have a herder accompanying the dog while it was in training? Yes □ No □

If yes, do you feel like it helped with the dog's training? Yes □ No □

If yes, How much do you pay your herder? _____per day/_____ per hour

15. Was your dog trained alone or did it have other guarding dogs with it?

Alone □

With other guarding puppies □ how many? _____

With trained livestock guarding dogs □ how many? _____

16. Have you had livestock guarding dogs before? What happened to them?

Not applicable □

Breed of previous dog _____

Killed by an intruder	□	Sold	□
Killed by another farmer	□	Given away	□
Killed due to disciplinary problems	□	Given away due to disciplinary problems	□
Poisoned	□	Lost	□
Death from old age	□	Stolen	□

Killed by another animal □ (animal responsible) _____

Other (please specify) _____

CARE AND TRAINING OF THE DOG

17. What do you feed the dog/s?

Pap/Porridge □ Leftovers □ Pelleted/tinned dog food □ Meat □

Other □ (please state) _____

18. Please estimate the cost for the upkeep of your dogs (per dog per year).

Food Costs P_____ per dog per year

Medical Costs P_____ per dog per year

Other Costs i.e. injuring livestock/killing game

(please specify what the problems are) _____ P_____ per dog per year

19. Veterinary Care; do you …….?	**Yes**	**No**	**Unsure**
Spay/neuter your dog/s (stop it from having puppies)	□	□	□
Vaccinate your dog/s for diseases in addition to rabies	□	□	□
Deworm your dog/s	□	□	□
Dip your dog/s for ticks and fleas	□	□	□

20. Would you be interested in free sterilization for your livestock guarding dog/s?

Yes □ No □ Unsure □

21. Please list any health problems that your dog has had/does have?

_____

22. At what age was the dog/s placed in the kraal?

Born in the kraal □ <4wks □ 4-6 wks □ 7-9 wks □ 10-12 wks □
3-6 months □ >6-12 months □ >1 yr □ Unsure □

23. Did your dog suckle from the livestock when it was young?

Yes □ No □ Unsure □

24. What age of livestock was the dog/s originally placed with?

Young (kids/lambs) □ Sub-Adults □ Adults □ All ages □ Unsure □

25. At what age did the dog/s go with the livestock into the veldt?

<8wks □ 8-12 wks (>2-3months) □ 13-24 wks (>3-6 months) □
25–52 wks (>6-12 months) □ >52 wks (>1yr) □ Unsure □

26. Is the dog/s fed in the kraal?

Yes □ No □ Unsure □

DOG PERFORMANCE

27. Does your dog stay with the herd?

All of the time □ Most of the time □ Occasionally □ Never □ Unsure □

28. Please list any disciplinary problems you have or have had with your dog?

	Yes	No	Rarely	Unsure
Chasing/Injuring Game	□	□	□	□
Chasing/Injuring Livestock	□	□	□	□
Not staying with Livestock (e.g. comes home in the heat of the day)	□	□	□	□
Other (please specify) _____	□	□	□	□

_____

If there were problems, please state how you corrected it

_____

29. Can the dog be handled by people?

Yes □ No □ By herder/farmworker only □ Unsure □

30. Does your dog protect its livestock against predators and thieves?

Yes □ No □ Unsure □

31. How does the dog react to a predator?

Chase □ Bark □ Attack □ Herds the livestock □
Bluff Attack (advances but keeps a distance) □ Ignores □ Unsure □

32. How does your dog/s react towards human intruders?

Chase □ Bark □ Attack □ Herds the livestock □
Bluff Attack (advances but keeps a distance) □ Ignores □ Unsure □

33. Does your dog keep the livestock together in a tight group?

Never □ All the Time □ Only when threatened □ Unsure □

34. Does your dog display herding tendencies more than guarding? Note: herding means that the dog controls the movements of the flock, directs them and keeps them together in a tight group; guarding dogs will follow the lead of the flock whilst protecting them from predators

Yes □ No □ Both equally □ Unsure □

35. How many livestock <u>per year</u> were you losing prior to getting a dog (average)?

_____ per year Unsure □

36. How many livestock <u>per year</u> have you been losing since getting a dog (average)?

_____ per year Unsure □

<u>PREDATOR ISSUES</u>

37. List the predators you have the biggest problems with (from the biggest problem to the least)

_____

_____

_____

38. Are there any predators present on your farm that don't cause problems with your livestock? _____

39. If you had problem with predators in the last 12 months, please state:

Date or season	**Animals killed or injured (species, number, sex)**	**Age or size of animals killed**	**Predator responsible (number, species, age)** i.e. 2 x adult male cheetahs	**How was it identified (visual, spoor, carcass)**	**Time of the day**	**Location**

<u>FARMERS SATISFACTION</u>

40. Do you feel more confident of the safety of your livestock because of having a livestock guarding dog?

Yes □ No □ Unsure □

41. Would you recommend livestock guarding dogs to other farmers?

Yes □ No □ Unsure □

42. Since getting a livestock guarding dog are you more inclined to tolerate predators on your farm?

Yes □ No □ Unsure □

43. Which statement best matched your position on predators (please tick one only):

□ I have always tolerated predators on my farm
□ I am more tolerant of predators on my farm since getting a dog
□ I have never and will never tolerate predators on my farm
□ I will tolerate predators on my farm so long as I have no livestock losses
□ Unsure

44. Since getting a dog are you less likely to use lethal control for predators on your farm I.e. shooting, trapping, poisoning.

Yes □ No □ Unsure □

45. Which statement best matches your opinion on lethal control? (please tick only one)

□ I will **not** use lethal control now I have a livestock guarding dog
□ I will continue to use lethal control on predators
□ I will use lethal control only if I have livestock losses and can confirm the problem animal whilst abiding by Department of Wildlife Regulations.
□ I have never used lethal control of predators
□ Unsure
Comments_____
_____

46. Any additional information or interesting stories about your dog's performance?

_____
_____
_____

47. Do you use other species as livestock guarding animals i.e. donkeys, llamas?

Yes □ please specify what type of animal _____
No □ Unsure □

Thank you for taking the time to fill out our questionnaire. Your responses will help Cheetah Conservation Botswana establish predator-friendly farming techniques and help reduce livestock losses for farmers.