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Hierdie ondersoek fokus op die winsgewendheid van wisselboustelsels vir die Middel-Swartland omgewing. Wisselbou bied 'n moontlike alternatief vir die monokultuurverbouing van koring waarvan winsmarges sedert 1996 afgeneem het. Die voordeel wat wisselbou vir die produsent inhou is hoofsaaklik verhoogde opbrengste en insetbesparings ten opsigte van bemesting, insek-, plaag- en onkruidbeheer. Inligting is bekom deur gebruik te maak van die Delphi tegniek en groepbesprekings waarby 'n multi-dissiplinêre span van kundiges betrek is. Die interne opbrengskoers van kapitaal (IOK) is gebruik as finansiële maatstaf vir die meet van die winsgewendheid van die agt wisselboustelsels wat ondersoek is. Uit die agt verskillende stelsels wat ondersoek is, behoort 'n stelsel waar koring saam met medics en klawer weidings geproduseer word na verwagting die mees winsgewende te wees. Die winsgewendheid ondersoek van alternatiewe wisselboustelsels, asook die finansiële implikasies van die implementering daarvan in die praktiese boerdery situasie, is met behulp van tipiese plaasmodelle deurgevoer.

A financial evaluation of crop rotation in the Swartland

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This research focuses on the profitability of crop rotation systems in the Middle Swartland region. Crop rotation present a possible alternative to wheat monoculture production, of which profitability decreased since 1996. The advantage of crop rotation is mainly increasing yields and savings on inputs like fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides. Information was obtained by making use of the Delphi technique and group discussions whereby a multi disciplinary team of experts were involved. The internal rate of return (IRR) was used as financial criterium in calculating the expected profitability of each of the eight crop rotation systems being researched. Of the eight systems the most profitable one is expected to be one consisting of wheat being rotated with medic and clover mixtures as grazing for livestock.

The profitability analysis of the alternative crop rotation systems as well as the financial implications of the implementation thereof in the practical farming situation was performed with the aid of typical farming models of the region.

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