

# Protein from extinct rhinos

**Ntsieni Sirwali**

PROF Yoshan Moodley hoisted the University of Venda's flag after being part of a research team that made a ground-breaking discovery. They managed to extract protein from the dental enamel of a 1,7-million-year old tooth from an extinct rhinoceros species.

Researchers used Moodley's draft black rhinoceros genome as a template to map amino acid (protein). The research team used technology called mass spectrometry and were able to retrieve amino acid sequences from the ancient fossil. Once obtained, this protein information was readily converted into a DNA sequence.

Moodley is a South African scientist who is attached to the Department of Zoology at the University of Venda. He obtained his PhD in molecular ecology in 2003 from the University of Cape Town and after completion, Moodley undertook a research career in Europe, first as a postdoctoral researcher in Cardiff (UK) and in Berlin (Germany), and then as a group leader in Vienna (Austria).

Moodley moved back to South Africa in 2015 where he joined the Department of Zoology, where he continued his research in evolutionary genetics, while also contributing the skills and experiences he gained abroad towards the development and capacity building of students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Moodley told CV about the discovery which will open an entirely

new field of science called paleoproteomics.

"I am happy to have played a part in this discovery and I look forward to the further development of this science, which will help us humans to unlock more of evolution's mysterious past. In South Africa, many shy away from evolutionary research, which puzzles me because if we are not able to understand where we come from and the evolutionary forces that shaped the biodiversity around us today, then what hope will we ever have of conserving this biodiversity and moving forward in the right direction as a species?"

This research is published in this week's

Nature journal, which along with the Science journal, are the two most prestigious scientific journals in the world.

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**Exclusive to print**

Prof Yoshan Moodley with an archived skull from Univen's SARCHI museum.

## NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION AND WATER USE PROCESSES FOR THE PROPOSED NEW TOMATO FARMING AND PROCESSING FACILITIES IN THE LEBOWAKGOMO REGION WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF LEPELLE-NKUMPI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY IN THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE

18 SEPTEMBER - 18 OCTOBER 2019

Notice is hereby given in terms of Regulation 41 (2) of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations of December 2014 as amended, published in terms of Chapter 5 of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) for the purpose of applying for an Environmental Authorisation and Water Use Licence in accordance with the requirements of the EIA Regulations and National Water Act, 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) (NWA) respectively.

### NATURE OF ACTIVITY

Nyamane Agro Foods Holdings (Pty) Ltd proposes to develop a new tomato farm and associated processing facilities within the Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality in the Limpopo Province. The project entails the undertaking of the following activities, structures and infrastructures:

Farming activities	Tomato processing facility
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clearance of up to 1700ha vegetation for farming</li> <li>Construction of roads to and in between the tomato fields</li> <li>Construction of water abstraction works for irrigation, Water pump station</li> <li>Installation of pipelines from pump station to water ponds</li> <li>Water storage ponds (i.e. earth dams with lining)</li> <li>Propagation Unit including nursery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clearance of approximately 4ha vegetation for tomato processing facility</li> <li>Processing equipment to wash raw tomatoes, chop and juice tomatoes</li> <li>Construction of water recycling plant and warehouse</li> <li>Ancillary structures, parking and wash bay</li> <li>Surfaced road from the entrance to processing facility (less than 1 000m)</li> <li>Fuel storage area (3x2 200 diesel storage)</li> </ul>

Consequently, the proposed development triggers listed activities in terms of the EIA Regulations of December 2014 as amended and the National Water Act, Section 21 as follows:

Legislation	Regulation /Section of the Act	Triggered Listed Activities
National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998)	Government Notices R.983 of December 2014 EIA Regulations as amended	Listing Notice 1: Activities 12 (b) (c), 13, 25 and 27.
	Government Notices R.984 of December 2014 EIA Regulations as amended	Listing Notice 2: Activities 15 and 16.
	Government Notices R.985 of December 2014 EIA Regulations as amended	Listing Notice 1: Activity 4 e (i) (cc) (ee), Activity 12 e (ii) and Activity 14 (i) (ii) (b) (c) e (i) (dd) (ff).
National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998)	Section 21	Section 21 a, b, d and g.

### LOCATION

The proposed activities will be undertaken on Farms Platdoorns No. 498 Portion 1 & Remainder of 498; Davidspoort No. 499 Portion 1 & Remainder of 499 and Graslaagte No. 522 Portions 1, 2, 3 and Remainder of 522 in the Lebowakgomo Region within the jurisdiction of Lepelle-Nkumpi Local Municipality in the Limpopo Province.

NAME OF APPLICANT: Nyamane Agro Foods Holdings (Pty) Ltd

NAME OF CONSULTANT AND CONTACT: To register as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) or to submit your comments relating to this project, contact us through any of the details below within 30 from the date of this advert.

Please quote Reference Number (F019 -19) in all correspondence.

Contact: Rejoice Aphane  
E-mail: rejoice@nsovo.co.za or admin@nsovo.co.za  
Tel: 011 041 3689 / 076 751 3476  
Fax: 086 602 8821  
Postal address: Postnet Suite 697, Private Bag X29, Gallo Manor, 2052



Offence Lambani, is reeling from shock after the shack in which she stayed caught fire and was destroyed.

## Girl loses everything in shack fire

**Given Mukwevho**

A 19-YEAR-OLD learner from Sinugani Secondary School, Offence Lambani, is reeling from shock after the shack in which she stayed had burned down after catching fire.

The incident reportedly happened last Saturday at around 02:00 at Magau village in the Sinthumule area.

Offence was not at home at the time of the incident.

She was at the school's seasonal camp, where learners study while based at the school day and night.

"I feel sad for what has happened to our house," she said. "My mom is currently working in Gauteng where she has been trying to make ends meet but the last I heard from her things were not going well. I am really frustrated as a child and learner."

She had lost all her belongings in the fire, her ID, food, clothes, furniture, and utensils.

"I am only left with a school uniform which I was wearing when I went to school that night. I am currently writing exams

and I don't want this situation to disturb me."

Makhado Municipality councillor, Mavhambi Mashamba (ward 23) paid Offence a visit early last week.

"We appeal to businesses to consider helping this young woman in this very difficult time," Mashamba said.

"She needs food, blankets and clothes. More than anything else, she needs decent shelter, a stable house for that matter."

Those interested in assisting Offence can contact Mashamba on 079 054 7247. capvoice@nmgroup.co.za

## Mayor hosts women in business

**Michael Sakuneka**

THE Mayor of Greater Letaba Municipality, Peter Matlou has called businesswomen to form forums if they want to succeed in what they are doing.

Matlou recently addressed delegates during the Mayor's Women in Business session held at Bodepu Community Hall in ward 2 of the municipality. He said small businesses could play a major role in the improvement of local economy and job creation.

According to Matlou, if people have no jobs, they end up being misused by those who have money to block roads during service delivery protests in exchange for money or food.

"Business owners must equip themselves with knowledge if they want to succeed," he said.



Letaba Mayor, Peter Matlou.

He indicated that the municipality planned to host a summit early next month where women who want to venture into construction, will be provided with skills.

Vyida Rakubu, founder and

the Chief Executive Officer of Shidila Lodge outside Modkadjiskloof, said she was excited to be one of the business owners operating in Greater Letaba.

She started her business eight years ago and has hustled her way to the top, she told CV.

Speaking on behalf of businesswomen who attended the event, Rakubu expressed concern at the way municipalities marginalise women.

She indicated that in order to be successful, women should work hard to market their businesses. She explained that business women should not rely on municipalities but they

must make their businesses known in the communities where they operate.

She also called on women to venture into male-dominated industries. capvoice@nmgroup.co.za

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