



**COMMUNICATION SERVICES**

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# ‘Stock thief nabbed after selling cattle’

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AN ALLEGED stock thief is due to appear in the Dundee Magistrate’s Court today.

The 46 year old is expected to apply for bail after he was arrested for allegedly stealing 13 cattle worth R130 000 at Matatana farm in Dundee.

Provincial police spokesperson Maj Thulani Zwane said on June 5 the Stock Theft Unit received information about a vehicle loading cattle at Matatane farm.

“The members started to look for the vehicle and it was spotted with three occupants. It was searched and two suspected stolen cattle were found,” Zwane said.

When the occupants were questioned, they told the police that they had bought the cattle from a known person. The information led to the arrest of the suspect.

Zwane said the cattle were recovered before the owner had even become aware that his cattle were stolen. “Further investigations led to nine other stolen cattle at the suspect’s place on June 8 in the Nquthu area.”

The victim positively identified the cattle as his. Zwane has urged farmers to brandmark their livestock so their ownership can be authenticated when stolen cattle are recovered.

“Stock theft has become a huge problem in our province and the arrest of the suspect might decrease theft of livestock in Dundee,” provincial commissioner Lt-Gen Mmamonye Ngobeni said com-



**ARRESTED:** The suspect is alleged to have stolen 13 cattle. PICTURE: GETTY IMAGES

mending the police for their good work.

Ngobeni also condemned the killing of a suspected criminal, Sizwe Ntuli, 30, this week by community members from Ntuzuma. They assaulted six suspected criminals in the area.

Ntuli died while in police custody and a case of murder was opened. The remaining suspects, aged between 15 and 19, appeared in the Ntuzuma Magistrate’s Court on Wednesday.

“We once again discourage people from taking the law into their hands and caution that those found to be breaking the law will be prosecuted. We urge members of the community to work together with the police by providing information with regard to the suspects involved in any criminal activities,” the commissioner said.

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