

Gert Fourie, owner of Ekofocus Wildlife Services is living proof that a combination of excellent academic qualifications, as well as extensive practical experience in the field, are necessary to be able to deliver a truly professional management service to Game Ranches.

On the academic side, he holds a B.Sc. (Hons) (Pr. Nat. Sci.) degree specializing in Plant Ecology, and is registered at SACNSP (South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions) as an ecologist.

On the practical side, he gained extensive experience in Game Reserve Management as well as eco-tourism before founding Ekofocus Wildlife Services in 1994.

His experience includes working as a registered Specialist Tourist Guide at Satour, and being a Senior Tour Guide at De Wildt Cheetah Breeding Station.

Gert was a part time lecturer in Biology at the Medical University of South Africa, and also did part time ecological consulting for game farm owners.

His experience in Game Ranch Management includes holding the position of Farm Manager at Eausiro Game, Guest and Ostrich Farm at Omaruru (Namibia), and at a later stage also holding the same position at Buffelskom Nature Reserve near Nylstroom in the Limpopo Province. Here, his responsibilities included

- Veld and game management
- Guest entertainment, coordinating and overseeing hunting and safari expeditions
- Management of ostrich breeding
- Planning, developing and erecting of ostrich rearing facilities
- Management of ostrich chick rearing, and planning and coordinating feeding programs
- General management and maintenance of reserve.

In 1995, Gert founded Ekofocus Wildlife Services, an ecological consultancy for the game industry.

Ever since embarking on his career, he has been honing his skills in various related fields by continuously attending game industry seminars, completing a course on selective bush control at Africa Skills Development and undergoing training and being exposed to numerous seminars.

Gert is registered at SACNSP (South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions) as an ecologist. He is also a widely published author of articles and papers pertaining to wildlife management and ecology, and currently has his own column in Wild en Jag magazine.

Gert is a sought after speaker on wildlife management and ecology.