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On a farm in the Caribbean region, three different syndicates have struck and poached between nine and twelve oryx, three cattle and a zebra. Photo: Private

- **POLICE**

POACHING NEVER ENDS

Claudia Rider

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Windhoek (eh/cr) - Farmers gathered outside the Karibib Magistrates' Court yesterday Monday to prevent suspected poachers from being released on bail.

This comes after cattle worth N\$135 000, gemsbok worth N\$60 000 and zebras worth N\$9 000 were stolen in the Otjiwarongo, Karibib and Omaruru area in the week between full moon and 21 July had been. In addition, farmers had to pay around N\$22,000 for fuel, guards and anti-poaching units.

In one of the most recent cases, five suspects were arrested by Rickus Spangenberg, his team Karibib K9 Academy and farm workers. "On a farm in the Karibib region, three different syndicates poached between nine and twelve gemsbok, three cattle and one zebra within four days," he said on Sunday. Spangenberg uses about eight tracking dogs and 22 anti-poaching or patrol dogs, which he trains himself.

According to him, the five suspects were caught after his team found clues and lay in wait in the evening. With the help of the dogs, the crooks were finally caught and the meat was

confiscated. Spangenberg says they also caught suspected poachers in the Otjiwarongo area that same night. "Eight pairs of shoes were found at the crime scene in Otjiwarongo, which they use to carry out the work, confusing the farmers."