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Farm and Smallholding Attacks/Incidents in South Africa (January 2025)



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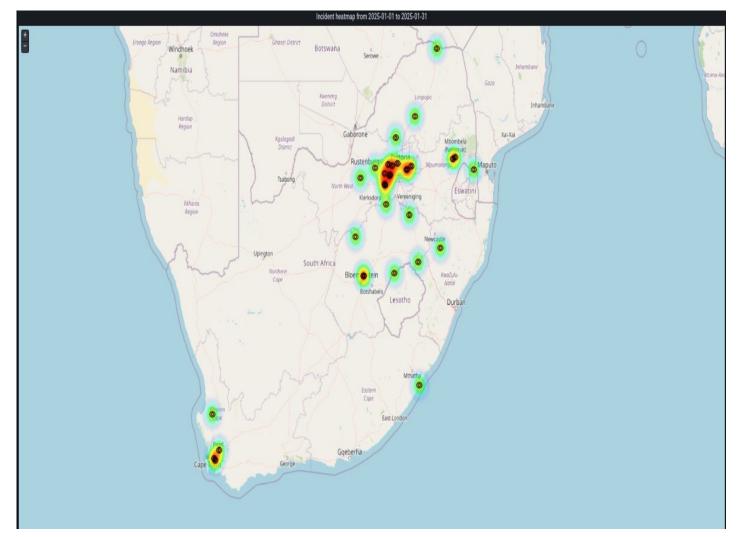
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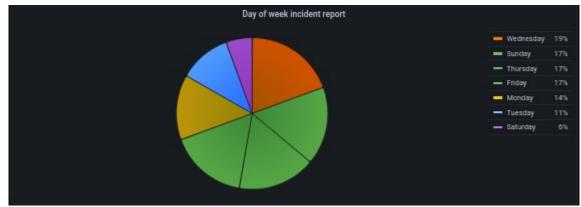
1. Introduction

This report provides a comprehensive analysis of farm and smallholding attacks that occurred across South Africa during the month of January 2025. The data has been meticulously reviewed to highlight key patterns, including the days of the week when incidents were most likely to occur, the provinces affected, and the specific types of attacks endured by farms and smallholdings. Special attention is given to incidents categorized as "Farm Attacks" and "Smallholding Attacks" to offer a detailed understanding of the nature and severity of these events.

2. Incidents Map

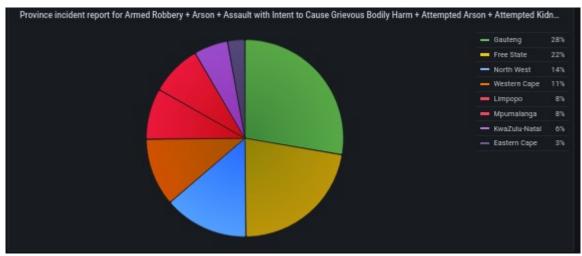


3. Day of the Week Analysis



Examining the data reveals that farm and smallholding attacks were most frequent on weekends, particularly Sundays and Saturdays. This observation suggests that attackers may exploit the reduced presence of security personnel or neighbours during these periods. Incidents were reported on every day of the week, underscores the need for consistent security measures throughout the week. Notably, a significant number of attacks occurred during early morning hours, indicating a strategic effort to catch victims off-guard.

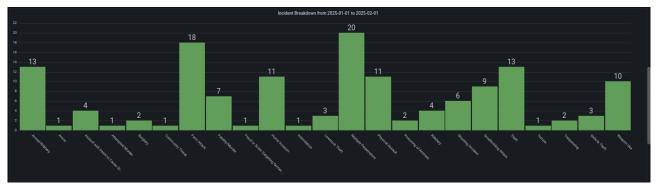
4. Provincial Distribution



Provinces such as the Gauteng, Free State, and North West emerged as hotspots for farm-related incidents. Gauteng experienced the highest number of attacks, particularly in rural areas like Magaliesburg and Bronkhorstspruit. Gauteng saw multiple high-profile attacks. Free State recorded

a concerning rise in violent assaults and robberies, impacting both smallholdings and larger farming operations.

5. Incident Types and Categories



The incident types varied widely, with "Armed Robbery," "Farm Attack," and "Physical Assault" being the most common categories. Notably, attacks often involved multiple perpetrators, with five to nine individuals reported in several incidents. The use of firearms and blunt weapons (such as pangas and sticks) was prevalent, underscoring the violent nature of these attacks. A disturbing trend was the targeting of women and children, as evidenced by cases where entire families were assaulted during nighttime raids.

6. Detailed Analysis of "Farm Attack" and "Smallholding Attack"

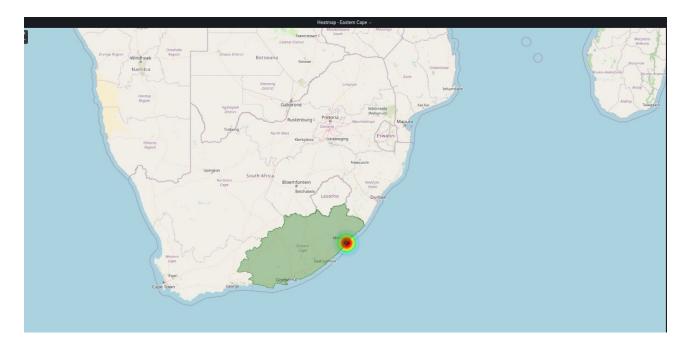
The categories "Farm Attack" and "Smallholding Attack" were predominant in the dataset, reflecting the vulnerability of rural and semi-rural areas. These attacks frequently involved the theft of agricultural supplies, livestock, and household goods, often accompanied by physical violence against residents. For example, a farm in the Free State was targeted during a maize theft, resulting in the arrest of several individuals. Similarly, a smallholding in Gauteng saw a brutal assault on two brothers who were demanding money and firearms.

Other notable incidents include:

- A fatal attack in Mpumalanga where three bodies were found on a farm, raising questions about suspicious circumstances and investigations still ongoing.
- A nighttime attack in North West where a woman sustained severe injuries after being assaulted with a machete.

7. Incidents

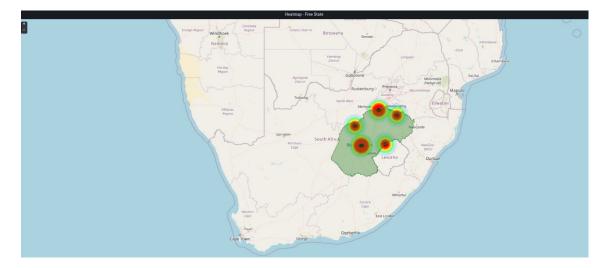
7.1. Eastern Cape



Post ID: 2236

- Date: January 29, 2025
- Day of Week: Tuesday
- **Province:** Eastern Cape
- Source: Other
- Incident: RepeatAttack on Coffee Bay Couple
- Types: Armed Robbery, Home Invasion, Physical Assault, Theft

7.2. Free State

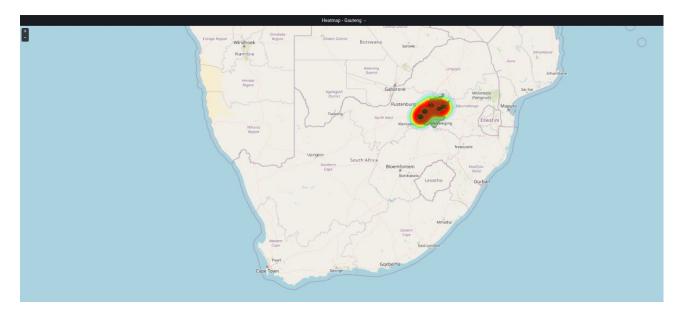


1. Post ID: 2231

- Date: January 22, 2025
- Day of Week: Wednesday
- **Province:** Free State
- Source: Other
- Incident: Foreign National Fatally Assaulted on Farm in Ficksburg
- Types: Burglary, Fatality/Murder, Multiple Perpetrators, Physical Assault, Theft
- 2. Post ID: 2248
 - Date: January 17, 2025
 - Day of Week: Friday
 - **Province:** Free State
 - **Source:** Other
 - **Incident:** Smallholding Owner Attacked by Illegal Occupant Near Vanderbijlpark
 - **Types:** Intimidation, Livestock Theft, Physical Assault, Smallholding Attack, Trespassing
- 3. Post ID: 2207
 - Date: January 10, 2025
 - Day of Week: Friday
 - **Province:** Free State
 - Source: Other
 - Incident: Former Rugby Player and Magistrate Found Dead on Smallholding
 - **Types:** Fatality/Murder, Smallholding Attack, Weapon Use

- 4. Post ID: 2203
 - Date: January 10, 2025
 - Day of Week: Thursday
 - **Province:** Free State
 - Source: Other
 - Incident: Worker Assaulted and Killed in Robbery on Morelig Farm
 - **Types:** Farm Attack, Fatality/Murder, Multiple Perpetrators, Physical Assault, Theft, Vehicle Theft
- 5. Post ID: 2213
 - **Date:** January 8, 2025
 - Day of Week: Wednesday
 - **Province:** Free State
 - **Source:** Other
 - Incident: Attack on the 't Lam Family
 - Types: Poisoning of Animals, Smallholding Attack

7.3. Gauteng



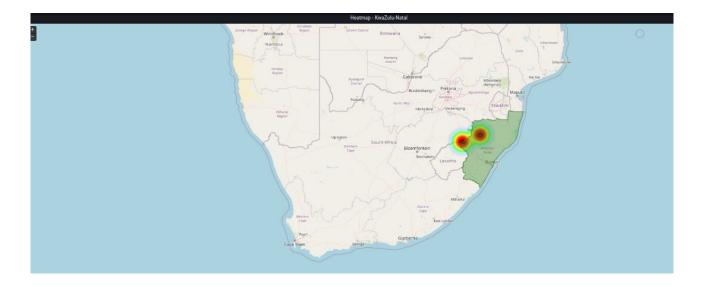
1. Post ID: 2232

- **Date:** January 26, 2025
- Day of Week: Sunday

- **Province:** Gauteng
- **Source:** Other
- Incident: Smallholding Attack in Oberholzer
- **Types:** Armed Robbery, Multiple Perpetrators, Physical Assault, Smallholding Attack
- 2. Post ID: 2242
 - Date: January 26, 2025
 - Day of Week: Sunday
 - **Province:** Gauteng
 - **Source:** Other
 - Incident: Smallholding Attack in Oberholzer
 - **Types:** Armed Robbery, Multiple Perpetrators, Physical Assault, Smallholding Attack
- 3. Post ID: <u>2242</u>
 - **Date:** January 26, 2025
 - Day of Week: Sunday
 - Province: Gauteng
 - Source: Other
 - Incident: Smallholding Attack in Oberholzer
 - **Types:** Armed Robbery, Multiple Perpetrators, Physical Assault, Smallholding Attack
- 4. Post ID: 2222
 - Date: January 15, 2025
 - **Day of Week:** Tuesday
 - Province: Gauteng
 - Incident: Nighttime Attack on Welbekend Farms
 - **Types:** Livestock Theft
- 5. Post ID: 2221
 - Date: January 14, 2025
 - **Day of Week:** Tuesday
 - Province: Gauteng
 - Source: Other
 - Incident: Armed House Robbery in Kameelzynkraal
 - Types: Armed Robbery, Farm Attack, Home Invasion, Theft
- 6. Post ID: 2205
 - Date: January 8, 2025

- Day of Week: Wednesday
- **Province:** Gauteng
- **Source:** Other
- Incident: Farm attack Vlakdrift
- **Types:** Armed Robbery, Farm Attack, Multiple Perpetrators, Shooting Incident, Weapon Use
- 7. Post ID: <u>2204</u>
 - Date: January 8, 2025
 - Day of Week: Tuesday
 - **Province:** Gauteng
 - **Source:** Other

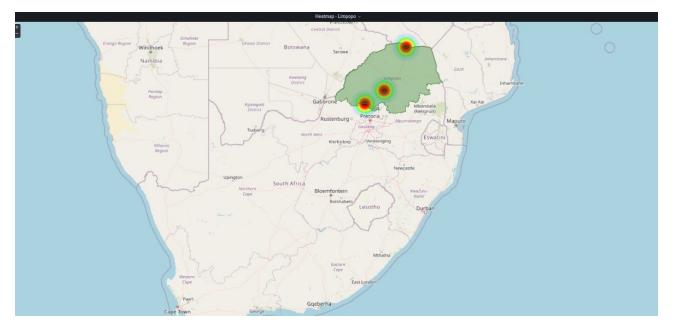
7.4. KwaZulu-Natal



- 1. Post ID: <u>2234</u>
 - Date: January 27, 2025
 - Day of Week: Monday
 - **Province:** KwaZulu-Natal
 - Source: Other
 - Incident: Collapse of Maluti-a-Phofung Sewage System
 - Types: Poisoning of Animals
- 2. Post ID: 2235
 - Date: January 24, 2025

- **Day of Week:** Thursday
- **Province:** KwaZulu-Natal
- **Source:** Other
- **Incident:** Farm Attack in Dundee
- **Types:** Armed Robbery, Assault, Farm Attack, Home Invasion, Multiple Perpetrators, Physical Assault, Theft

7.5. Limpopo



1. Post ID: 2227

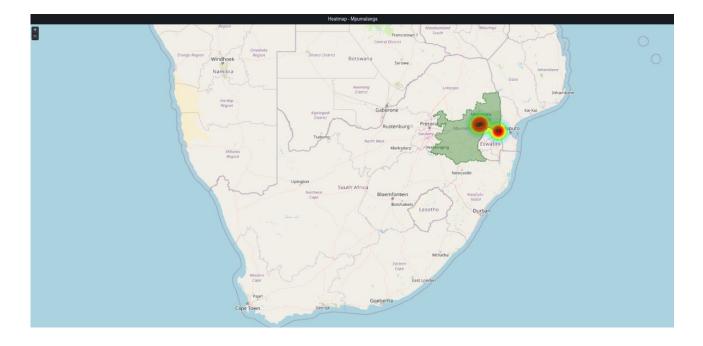
- Date: January 21, 2025
- Day of Week: Monday
- **Province:** Limpopo
- **Source:** Other
- Incident: Attempted Attack at Rietspruit
- Types: Farm Attack, Multiple Perpetrators
- 2. Post ID: 2211
 - Date: January 11, 2025
 - Day of Week: Saturday
 - **Province:** Limpopo
 - Source: Other

- Incident: Farm Burglary Between Mokopane and Mookgophong
- Types: Home Invasion, Multiple Perpetrators, Theft

3. Post ID: 2196

- **Date:** January 8, 2025
- Day of Week: Wednesday
- **Province:** Limpopo
- Source: Other
- **Incident:** Police Recover Stolen Firearms and Vehicle Following Violent Farm Attack
- **Types:** Assault with Intent, Farm Attack, Home Invasion, Physical Assault, Robbery, Theft, Torture, Vehicle Theft, Weapon Use

7.6. Mpumalanga



1. Post ID: 2225

- Date: January 17, 2025
- Day of Week: Thursday
- **Province:** Mpumalanga
- **Source:** Other
- Incident: Mystery Surrounds Discovery of Three Bodies on Mpumalanga Farm
- Types: Fatality/Murder

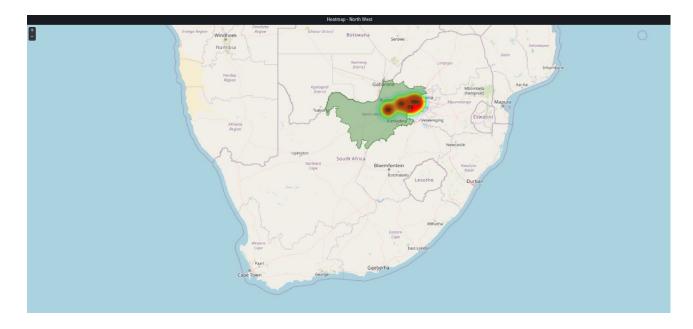
- 2. Post ID: 2224
 - Date: January 13, 2025
 - Day of Week: Monday
 - **Province:** Mpumalanga
 - Source: Other
 - Incident: Woman Shot and Wounded During Armed Robbery at Hilltop
 - **Types:** Armed Robbery, Home Invasion, Shooting Incident, Smallholding Attack, Weapon Use
- 3. Post ID: 2199
 - Date: January 8, 2025
 - Day of Week: Wednesday
 - **Province:** Mpumalanga
 - Source: Other
 - Incident: Armed Attackers Raid Zaytoon Farms
 - Types: Armed Robbery, Farm Attack, Livestock Theft, Multiple Perpetrators, Theft

7.7. Northern Cape



None

7.8. North West



1. Post ID: 2233

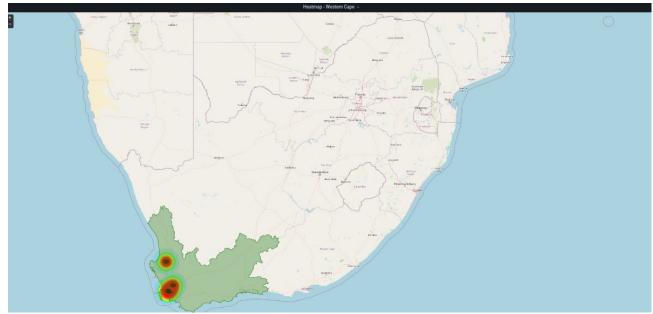
- Date: January 26, 2025
- **Day of Week:** Saturday
- **Province:** North West
- **Source:** Other
- Incident: Farm Attack Thwarted in Lichtenburg
- Types: Armed Robbery, Multiple Perpetrators, Physical Assault

2. Post ID: 2230

- Date: January 22, 2025
- Day of Week: Wednesday
- **Province:** North West
- Source: Other
- Incident: Plot Attack on Smallholding in Mooinooi
- Types: Home Invasion, Smallholding Attack, Weapon Use
- 3. Post ID: 2226
 - Date: January 20, 2025
 - Day of Week: Monday
 - **Province:** North West

- **Source:** Other
- Incident: Farm Workers Protest in Hekpoort
- **Types:** Community Threat
- 4. Post ID: 2206
 - **Date:** January 9, 2025
 - **Day of Week:** Thursday
 - **Province:** North West
 - **Incident:** Farm attack Syferbult north west
 - **Types:** Attempted Murder, Farm Attack, Multiple Perpetrators, Shooting Incident, Weapon Use
- 5. Post ID: 2201
 - Date: January 8, 2025
 - Day of Week: Wednesday
 - **Province:** North West
 - **Source:** Other
 - Incident: Farm Attack in Koster
 - **Types:** Assault with Intent, Burglary, Farm Attack, Multiple Perpetrators, Physical Assault, Vehicle Theft

7.9. Western Cape



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- 1. Post ID: 2228
 - Date: January 21, 2025
 - Day of Week: Monday
 - **Province:** Western Cape
 - Source: Other
 - Incident: Swift Action Contains Fire in Paarl, Suspected Arson Under Investigation
 - **Types:** Arson
- 2. Post ID: 2229
 - **Date:** January 19, 2025
 - Day of Week: Sunday
 - **Province:** Western Cape
 - **Source:** Other
 - **Incident:** Elderly Woman Dies Following Alleged Assault by Son on Piket Bo Berg Farm
 - **Types:** Fatality/Murder
- 3. Post ID: 2212
 - **Date:** January 13, 2025
 - **Day of Week:** Sunday
 - **Province:** Western Cape
 - **Source:** Other
 - Incident: Family Attacked and Robbed on Stellenbosch Farm
 - Types: Armed Robbery, Farm Attack, Home Invasion, Multiple Perpetrators, Theft
- 4. Post ID: 2200
 - Date: January 9, 2025
 - Day of Week: Thursday
 - **Province:** Western Cape
 - **Source:** Other
 - Incident: Two Injured in Farm Attack in Raithby
 - **Types:** Assault with Intent, Farm Attack, Home Invasion, Physical Assault, Robbery, Theft

8. Conclusion

The data underscores the alarming rise in farm and smallholding attacks across South Africa, with significant implications for rural security and agricultural productivity. The concentration of attacks on weekends, the involvement of multiple perpetrators, and the use of violent methods highlight the need for enhanced security measures, community vigilance, and prompt law enforcement responses. Addressing these challenges requires a multifaceted approach, including better surveillance, improved access to emergency services, and stronger community-police partnerships to deter and prevent such incidents in the future.