



Die plantbaarheid van verskillende groottes en vorms saad word getoets.



Saad word geklassifiseer volgens grootte en vorm.



Sakkies saad word in plastiek toegedraai en op 'n pallet geplaas sodat dit makliker vervoer kan word en in 'n goeie toestand op die plaas aankom.



Braam Bezuidenhout, verwerkingsbestuurder, by saad wat plaaslik vir die buitelandse mark geproduseer word.

In die laboratorium word 'n groot verskeidenheid wetenskaplike toetse gedoen om genetiese suiwerheid, kiemkragtigheid en die regte eienskappe van die saad te bepaal.

"Monsanto se hoofdoel is om voedsel aan die mensdom te voorsien. Voedsel se oorsprong is gehaltesaad. Tien jaar gelede was die gemiddelde mielie-opbrengs in Suid-Afrika 'n rapsie meer as 2t/ha. Vandag is die gemiddelde opbrengs meer as 4t/ha, danksy die gebruik van tegnologie op produksie- en plaasvlak," sê Lindeque. [a](#)

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DEKALB® van Monsanto is steeds die vennoot waarop produsente kan vertrou om maksimum wins uit hul plase te haal. Daarbenewens waarborg Monsanto ondersteuning, gerugsteun deur voortgesette navorsing en bewese prestasie. Produsente kan staatmaak op Monsanto se puik kliëntediens en -verhoudinge.

Behalwe uitstekende **DEKALB®**-basters, bied **DEKALB®** die produsent ook die keuse van YieldGard®, Genuity® YieldGard® II of Genuity® Roundup Ready®-tegnologie in wit- en geelmieliesaad wat onderskeidelik beter beskerming teen stronkboorders bied en onkruidbestuur vergemaklik.

Oor die afgelope paar jaar het Monsanto met sy **DEKALB®**-handelsmerk vir wit- en geelmielies bekendheid verwerf vir goeie opbrengs en hoë-gehalte mieliebasters. Resultate van die maatskappy en van onafhanklike meerjarige proewe toon ook dat **DEKALB®**-kultivars uiters mededingend in al die marksegmente was.

In die besproeiingsegment het die nuwe besproeiingskultivars, DKC64-78BR en DKC62-84BR wat insekbeskerming sowel as onkruidoderverdraagsaamheid bied, baie goeie resultate gelewer. DKC62-84R wat die Roundup®-geen vir onkruidbeheer bevat, kan gebruik word vir die toevlugsarea vir albei die genoemde dubbelgeen-basters, DKC64-78BR en DKC62-84BR.

In die 2009/10-seisoen het 'n nuwe geelmieliebaster, DKC73-74BR, sy kommersiële buiging gemaak met DKC73-76R as sy toevlugsarea en Roundup®-weerstandbiedende dubbelganger. Hierdie baster is nog 'n **DEKALB®**-baster wat plaaslik ontwikkel en vir volhoubare prestasie getoets is.

Die baster se uitstekende weerstandbiedendheid teen grysblaarvlek en noordelike blaarskroei asook bruinroes, maak dit aantreklik vir die boer wat op spuitkoste wil bespaar. Met 'n plantestand van 60 000 plante/ha op 57 cm-rywydte is hierdie baster by uitstek 'n wenner veral as 'n mens in ag neem dat dit in die 2008/09-plantseisoen by sommige proewe die naaste opposisie met soveel as 1 ton geklop het. DKC73-74BR word ook nie deur die hewige winde geaffekteer nie. Dit kan hoofsaaklik toegeskryf word aan die baster se lae groeihoogte en relatief lae kopplasing.

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DeLaval AMR™ influencing and shaping the future of dairy farming

Stefan and Karin Löwenborg have been testing the AMR™ system since April 2010 on their farm in southern Sweden. They began by milking 300 cows on the industry-first automatic milking rotary, and are now moving towards milking 500.

The chance for staff to make dairy farming a desirable career at Odensviholm farm and the possibility to increase to 800 milking cows with no extra investment are the key strengths the DeLaval AMR™ has brought Stefan Löwenborg, the world's first dairy farmer to use the automatic milking rotary. "Our AMR™ installation will be able to milk up to 90 cows per hour and operate nine hours twice a day. This, without the need to hire new employees and make further financial investments," the fifth-generation pioneer dairy farmer said. We developed the system keeping large-scale dairy farmers' needs in mind. That's why the AMR™ is all about keeping costs down and working as effectively as possible," DeLaval vice president: business area capital goods Andrew Turner told reporters at Odensviholm farm. "AMR™ farmers will be able to focus their time and energy on their own personal and business priorities rather than being confined by daily milking routines," he added.

Karin Löwenborg thinks that the DeLaval

AMR™ can also be a good way to attract and keep quality labour. "People who want to work on a dairy farm are interested in the animals, so if you offer them the opportunity to focus on that aspect of the job instead of making them milk all day your farm becomes a more attractive workplace," she said. "It's also a fun job for those who enjoy working with technology and computers." While there have been some challenges with the system along the way, since it is still a test installation, Stefan Löwenborg praises the help he has received from DeLaval service technicians. "They have really been very supportive," he said. "They can change components quickly if something isn't working properly."

The Odensviholm installation has been part of the 'pilot phase', which now caters to the final stages of development and the first stages of commercialisation. Pilot farms are a standard procedure for DeLaval with new milking equipment, Andrew Turner explained. "The robotic rotary is not just an innovative piece of equipment. It represents a new way of farming.

We are currently focusing on making sure that the upcoming commercial installations can reap the benefits from this revolutionary technology," Turner said. Every day, millions of dairy animals are milked, fed and maintained by the DeLaval solution in more than 100 countries worldwide – and DeLaval meets with over 10 000 milk producers on their farms. DeLaval has over 125 years of innovation and experience in the dairy business, supporting dairy farmers in managing their farms their way. DeLaval's Sustainable Dairy Farming initiative is contributing to the production of more quality food for more people, with less impact on the environment. The company's Smart Farm strategy aims at influencing and shaping the future of dairy farming today. The goal is to accelerate the transition from milking management to global farm profitability management by harnessing emerging decision tools and information technologies for better quality milk and profits. DeLaval is a company of the Tetra Laval Group. 

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Creativity is thinking up new things. Innovation is doing new things. The Challenge is doing it today on your dairy farm. Smart Farming by DeLaval is an initiative to influence and shape the future of dairy farming today. The aim is to accelerate the transition from milking management to total farm profitability management by harnessing emerging decision tools and automation technologies for better quality milk and profits.

For more information contact your local dealer or +27 31 792 9800 or visit www.delaval.com



Scope of the scheme

The scheme covers farmers who have been affected by the flood between December 2010 and February 2011. Only farming units that were fully operational by the time that floods occurred will be considered for assistance. Furthermore, assistance is meant for damages incurred as a direct result of the floods. The scheme is to operate over the three-year financial year period, i.e. 2011/12, 2012/13 and up to 2013/2014. The purpose is to allocate sufficient time for all procurement procedures and infrastructure-related projects. The following are not the objectives of the scheme (non-objectives):

- Restoring the changed environment at all costs;
- Assistance for damages to insured assets;
- Compensation for crop losses;
- Assistance with regard to irreparable land;
- Assistance with regard to damages/ losses with regard to water logging;
- Assistance with regard to loss of income or consequential damages related thereto;
- Assistance with regard to damages/losses within farms that were not functional and not in production at the time of, or immediately prior to the December 2010 floods, and
- Assistance with regard to losses and damages due to floods that occurred prior to December 2010.

Assistance for affected qualifying farmers

Provided risk-reduction measures were adhered to and farms were not in areas susceptible to flooding, the affected qualifying farmers will be assisted with the following:

1. Land restoration and the removal of flood debris;
2. Agricultural inputs, including seeds and seedlings, fertilisers and implements;
3. Soil testing;
4. Soil rehabilitation, and
5. The repair of damaged agricultural infrastructure.

The scheme is to operate in accordance with all relevant official notices and prescripts, with specific reference to the Disaster Management Act (Act 57 of 2002), the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (Act 43 of 1983), the AgriBEE Charter, Division of Revenue Act (Act 2 of 2002), Treasury Regulations and the Public Finance Management Act (Act 1 of 1999, as amended). Other than the conditions stated within the document, assistance within the scheme is further subject to availability of funds. Also, the government reserves the right not to provide assistance. □

The latest on flood-damage assistance

KOSIE VAN ZYL AND DAWIE MAREE, ECONOMIST, AGRI SA

The verification of flood assessment is underway and service providers have meanwhile been appointed. They will be assisted by the provincial departments of agriculture, provincial agricultural unions and local farmers associations. The need for this exercise arose because in comparison with previous reports, there were huge differences in figures portrayed in the different reports.

Loans provided by the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) are available to assist businesses involved in agri-processing that has been affected by recent floods and droughts. Interest rates applicable to these loans are prime less 3%. Applications can be made through the provincial offices of the IDC.

Following the announcement by the IDC regarding a request to the Land Bank to administer R250 million for primary agriculture in order to assist farmers affected by the floods and drought, the bank has confirmed that the funds will be utilised to finance the replacement and repair of uninsured on-farm infrastructure and working capital required by eligible farmers located within and around the flood-disaster and drought-affected areas. The aims of the assistance are to:

- advance loans to farmers (both Land Bank and non-Land Bank clients and all farm enterprises, regardless of the nature of the legal entity) affected by the floods that occurred during the period January 2010 to February 2011 as declared disasters by notice in the Government Gazette No 34083 of 7th March 2011 in order to assist with reconstruction, re-establishment and replanting so that the farmers are able to continue with normal agricultural production;
- advance loans to sugar-cane farmers in KwaZulu-Natal affected by the very dry

and adverse weather conditions experienced over the period January 2010 to October 2010 for partial or full establishment/re-establishment of sugar cane lands in which roots were destroyed as a result of the adverse dry conditions and/or for the provision of input costs required for sugar-cane production.

- All new loans for equipment will have to qualify according to the Instalment Sale Finance requirements, or any other relevant product as provided for in the Loan Guidelines. (Please note that the rate on all types of loans under this scheme is 3,5% per annum.) A maximum loan amount of R25 million per client applies. The loan term will be for the expected life span of the asset financed, but will not exceed ten years. Applicants must prove that they have the required security and repayment ability in terms of standing Land Bank loan guidelines).

It is important to note that applicants have until the end of November 2011 to apply for flood and drought relief and are advised to approach their nearest Land Bank branch for further information and assistance.

The department of agriculture, forestry and fisheries (Daff) provided the following information, according to an extract from the draft framework on flood relief scheme. As soon as the detail of the scheme has been finalised with the relevant stake holders, it will be published.

ABIC2011 is an important conference for entrepreneurs, new business developers, and investors to obtain first-hand knowledge of the progress made in biotechnology and the business opportunities that exist.

Innovation in biotechnology can unlock business opportunities

Leading international experts on biotechnology will meet at the Agricultural Biotechnology International Conference (ABIC2011) at the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg from 6 – 9 September, to discuss the latest advances and trends in establishing a bio-economy.

The theme for this conference is Agricultural Biotechnology for Economic Development, and the focus will be on the role that biotechnology plays in economic development at community, national and international levels. The chairperson of ABIC2011 is Prof Jennifer Thomson of UCT, who is known for her work on maize that is tolerant to drought and to maize streak viral infections, which contribute towards alleviating chronic food shortages in Africa in particular. "Although biotechnology is being used to address problems in all areas of agricultural production and processing, its application is much broader than the agricultural sector. Therefore, ABIC2011 is a very important

conference for entrepreneurs, new business developers, and investors to obtain first-hand knowledge of the progress made in this field and the opportunities that exist for further innovation," she said.

Prof Thomson will also lead a forum discussion to demystify some of the misconceptions about biotechnology, such as the safety of genetically modified food, the impact of GM crops on the environment, and whether GM crops will put more money into the pockets of small-scale farmers.

Prof Marc van Montagu, highly acclaimed Belgian molecular biologist who discovered the gene transfer mechanism between agrobacterium and plants, is just one of many high-profile scientists who will present at ABIC2011. Van Montagu's work resulted in the development of methods to alter agrobacterium into an efficient delivery system for genetic engineering and the creation of transgenic plants. Deliberations at the conference will highlight the continuous



Advances in biotechnology result in crops that are more nutritious and naturally pest-resistant to feed a rapidly growing world population.

advances in life sciences and the potential benefits of bio-based resources, products and processes, and the conversion of such resources into economic capital. Themes to be covered at the conference include bioeconomy, genomics for improved agriculture, bio-based industrial products, biopharming, and environmental and food-safety evaluations – the new frontier.

More information about ABIC2011 and how to register for the conference is available on www.abic2011.co.za or phone the conference secretariat on (012) 816 9000.

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The Agricultural Biotechnology International Conference
6-9 September 2011
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"Agricultural Biotechnology for Economic Development"

High Profile International Experts to Present on the Following Topics:

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Important Dates

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Closing date for pre-conference registration

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Registration Enquiries

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My naam is vrou

ELIZE VAN DER WESTHUIZEN, BESTUURDER, MENSLIKE HULPBRONNE, AGRI SA

Vroue wat op plase woon as deel van die werkersgemeenskap is in die onbenydenswaardige posisie dat hulle dikwels min toegang het tot die media, tot noodsaaklike dienste en blootstelling wat hulle kan bemagtig om hulle tradisionele rol uit te brei en in diens van hul gemeenskap te staan. Omdat hulle dikwels nie op die plaas werk nie, word hulle ook van geleenthede wat vir plaaswerkers gebied word, uitgesluit.



iGama laMakhosikazi – My naam is vrou, en my behoefte aan leiding en kennis is groot. Dit sal my siel voed en my gees lei om 'n verskil te maak aan my gesin, my gemeenskap en myself.

Die Makhosikazi-projek is 'n gesamentlike projek wat oor twee jaar strek van die nie-regeringsinstansie LeadAfrika, die opleidingskonsultasie-maatskappy M-TC en onafhanklike uitgewer Plaas Projects cc. Die projek het tans twee strategiese vennote in UNISA se departement van maatskaplike werk en die Suid-Afrikaanse Vroue-landbou-unie, SAVLU.

Lewensvaardighede

Die projek word deur Isabé Loubser gelei, en het ten doel om die lewensgehalte van vroue en hul gesinne wat op plase woonagtig is te verbeter deur hulle in staat te stel om goed-ingeligte besluite te neem en om hulle nuutgevonde vaardighede, kennis en leierskapsvaardighede aan hul kinders oor te dra. Dit sal bereik word deur aan hulle ses lewensvaardighede oor te dra, naamlik leierskap, gesondheid, finansiële geleterdheid, basiese opvoeding, sosiale geleterdheid en besigheidsvaardighede op

kleinskaal. Hierdie ses "leer-areas" sal op verskillende wyses aan die vroue oorgedra word. Die belangrikste medium van oordrag is die kommersiële boer se vrou.


Die projekteikers bied die volgende:

- 'n Kwartaallike publikasie waarin die onderskeie leer-areas met behulp van studiemateriaal in die vorm van kort artikels en toepaslike illustrasies oorgedra sal word;
- Werkswinkels vir vroue wat op plase bly. Die werkswinkels sal aandag aan die onderskeie lewensvaardighede gee en sal deur vrywillige fasiliteerders op verskeie plekke landswyd aangebied word. Die projek stel hiervoor leermateriaal en hulpmiddels beskikbaar;
- 'n "Future Search" werkswinkel wat gekombineer word met leierskapsopleiding vir vroue wat op plase woonagtig is;
- 'n Internet-gebaseerde ondersteunings- en inligtingsentrum om die projek se aktiwiteite en leermateriaal te ondersteun, en
- 'n Navorsingsprojek met die doel om 'n

akkurate profiel op te stel van vroue wat op plase woonagtig is en watter aspekte hulle dag-tot-dag lewe en toekomsplanne beïnvloed.

Die projek het verder ten doel om vir vroue op plase akkurate inligting te bied oor dienste soos dié van die departement van binnelandse sake en klinieke in hulle omgewing. Die projek het ook ten doel om hulle bewus te maak van geleenthede waarvan hulle of hulle gesinne gebruik kan maak. Die tweede fase van die projek sal fokus op kleinsakeontwikkeling vir die vroue.

Vir Agri SA lê die uitdagings van die werkers en hulle gesinne na aan die hart. Die vrouens en kinders is steeds die groepering wat die minste dienste, opleiding en ander geleenthede het en Agri SA is van mening dat daar aan 'n manier gewerk moet word om hierdie tipe van projekte te bevorder.

Vir navrae en om deel te neem aan die projek, skakel vir Isabé Loubser by 071 344 0420 of e-pos women@leadafrika.com. 

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT in the agricultural sector (3)



ELIZE VAN DER WESTHUIZEN, MANAGER: HUMAN RESOURCES, AGRI SA

In the previous two articles (published in December 2010 and January/February 2011) we firstly described the concept of a National Skills Development Strategy (NSDS), who and what SETAs are, where the funds for skills development come from, and finally what NSDS III (running from 1st April 2011 to 31st March 2016) is all about. This, the final article in this series attempts to describe the main focus of AgriSETA for the 2011/-12 financial year.

AgriSETA has set some overarching aims for itself for the 2011/-12 financial year. Over the past number of years, the AgriSETA has consistently improved its performance against its available discretionary budget. This table indicates that it intends to disburse all available discretionary funds. The five-year Sector Skills Plan for the agricultural sector at large has been accepted by a panel of external experts appointed by the Department of Higher Education and Training (DHET). In short, it means that the department is satisfied that AgriSETA correctly interpreted the development needs of the sector and that the plan is also sufficiently aligned to national strategies and priorities. In order for AgriSETA to reach these overarching aims, it will have to carefully allocate funding to each of its identified 11 priorities for this year. The following table summarises the 11 priorities for

AgriSETA for the 2011/-12 financial year:

AGRISETA OVERARCHING AIMS FOR 2011/-12

1. Target to disburse 78% of possible mandatory grants - R85 million
2. Target to disburse all (100%) discretionary funds - R84 million
3. Target to disburse all (100%) PIVOTAL grants - R22 million
4. Roll-out large scale and reform project - R64 million over 3 years
5. One of the leading AgriSETAs re. occupationally aligned qualifications - piloting year
6. Learnerships, skills programmes, bursaries, internships, mentoring, ABET
7. Increased focus on Commodity Organisations
8. New board and Chairperson - aim to continue with same sense of stability

HOW DID AGRISETA ALLOCATE ITS R106M DISCRETIONARY FUNDS FOR 2011/-12?

P1	Sector intelligence	R1,3m
P2	Mis revised and aligned to NSDS III	RO,3m
P3	Career info available throughout sector	RO,6m
P4	Skills development support to the rural economy	R45,0m
P5	Extension officers developed	R2,0m
P6	AgriBEE charter supported	RO,3m
P7	Decent workplace work	R38,9m
P8	Provider development and integration	R5,0m
P9	Environmental focus	RO,3m
P10	Good governance and decent conduct	R5,0m
P11	Provincial presence	R1,3m



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Some are smaller, research-orientated items (such as sector intelligence, Agri-BEE Charter and environmental focus) – these will not be discussed within the limitations of this article. Priority 4 – skills development support to the rural economy (mainly the unemployed and under-resourced enterprises) and Priority 7 – decent workplace work (mainly referring to the employed worker) will be focused on, as we believe that this has a direct bearing on our stakeholders.

Skills development support to the rural economy

Rural development for the benefit of rural people has become one of the major focus areas of government. NSDS III clearly states that there is an urban bias in our skills-development initiatives, resulting in skills for rural development being neglected. It continues to state that a distinction should be made between training of rural people and skills for rural development. The former tended to train people to only migrate to urban areas, whilst the latter will aim to train

rural people for development of rural areas themselves.

AgriSETA is responding to the need to impact on rural development and has put aside a total of R46 million for this purpose. This will be implemented via various types of learning programmes, such as learnerships, skills programmes, bursaries, internships, apprenticeships and Adult Basic Education and Training (Abet). One of the new developments worth highlighting is the FarmTogether programme, which was developed as a joint initiative between the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (Daff) and us. This is a highly innovative approach to training, and focuses on members of small cooperatives, teaching them in an interactive manner how to work together, plan together and set priorities, budgets and performance targets. Forty-two facilitators from our accredited provider pool have already been trained to deliver this programme. Recently, Daff put out a tender valued at millions to now appoint these providers to implement the programme on a national scale.

Decent workplace work

One of the main aims of any skills-development strategy should be to positively impact on the skills needs of those in employment – the workforce. An amount of R38,9 million has been set aside for this purpose. Enterprises can therefore benefit directly in two ways from the skills levy. Firstly, by

claiming the mandatory grant (which is 40% of the levy paid) through submitting a Workplace Skills Plan and Annual Training Report. Secondly, enterprises engaging in training activities that lead to qualifications or which are in support of a qualification, can apply for additional discretionary grants.

Apart from granting learnerships, skills programmes, Abet, apprenticeships and bursaries, a new concept has now been introduced in NSDS III. The 10% of the levy (created via the reduction of 50% to 40% of mandatory grants) is now earmarked for professional, vocational, technical and academic learning skills (Pivotal). Enterprises that can indicate to the AgriSETA that they engage with high-level learning of which there is a scarcity and then link the learning to relevant workplace exposure will qualify for a Pivotal grant, which will equal 10% of the levy paid and which could, at AgriSETA's discretion, be topped up, if needed.

Summary of learning programmes to be funded

It appears that a discretionary fund of R106 million is a very large amount of money. However, if we consider that these funds need to be divided fairly amongst the nine provinces and have to address the needs of the employed as well as the

LEARNING PROGRAMMES TO BE SUPPORTED

Learnerships (1 & 1)	800 - R14,7m
Learnerships (1 & 2) + interns	850 - R27,9m
Skills programmes (employed)	1200 - R5,3m
Skills programmes (under resourced)	800 - R3,5m
Apprentices	80 - R3,4m
Foundational learning programmes	180 - R5,3m
ABET	1200 - R5,1m
Bursaries	120 - R4,4m
New venture creation	50 - R1,8m
Rural structures, commodity organisations, etc.	1200 - R5,1m

WHAT ARE PIVOTAL SKILLS?

- There are professional, vocational, technical and academic skills linked to fully occupationally-directed qualifications. It normally starts at a college or university and would include supervised practical learning in a workplace. It involves a SETA, educational institution, employer and a learner.
- Pivotal grants are in the form of 10% of levy paid and treated on a mandatory basis. The focus is on apprenticeships, internships, work experience placement, work integrated learning and professional placement, but can include learnerships and skills programmes.



PHOTO LEHMAN LINDEQUE

This is the first article in a series dealing with land degradation and the protection of natural agricultural resources in South Africa. With this series, we not only want to bring you some interesting facts and ideas about sustainable land management and resource conservation in general, but also to generate some debate around the problem and propose some creative solutions. We will make use of various guest writers to make sure we bring you recent and relevant information. However, your questions and viewpoints are also important, not as objective and independent observers, but as concerned individuals, farmers and stewards of the land, living on and from the land on a daily basis. Please share your suggestions and viewpoints with us. Email: ieca.safrica@gmail.com



Resource Conservation in South Africa

A non-issue of great concern

LEHMAN LINDEQUE: INTERNATIONAL EROSION CONTROL ASSOCIATION – SOUTHERN AFRICA CHAPTER

The International Erosion Control Association (IECA) is a non-profit international association aimed at creating a platform for all professionals, individuals and institutions concerned with soil erosion and its by-product sedimentation. The Southern Africa Chapter of IECA has been active in the country for over eleven years, and during the last three years it has intensified its efforts and tried to focus combined energy on promoting the benefits of resource conservation and the protection of soil as a natural resource.

After visiting the recent NAMPO Harvest Day near Bothaville in the Free State a few weeks ago, it has become clear that farming has been one of the most rapidly changing businesses in recent years. New and larger equipment with technology-advanced systems demands greater expertise from machine operators. Although the new equipment is usually more productive with greater capacity, the manager must be more skilful in order to obtain maximum advantage of the equipment while maintaining profitability.

A greater challenge, however, faces farm managers – conservation of farming resources while increasing production. Natural agricultural resources, namely soil, vegetation and water form the backbone of the farm. For today’s farmer to be competitive and productive, an abundance of other resources, such as energy, fertilisers and pesticides, are required.

The cost of these resources is partially responsible for forcing many farmers out of business, and that is clearly illustrated by the dwindling number of commercial farmers in

South Africa. The price of agricultural land is steadily increasing. Soil fertility and the amount of topsoil must be maintained to feed a growing population. Irregular rainfall, resulting in flooding and drought, has caused crop failures. Energy, fertiliser and pesticide prices have risen dramatically in recent years – beyond the point that many farmers can afford. That is why it is necessary to make the most efficient use of these resources.

With this in mind, conservation farming can be described as a system of



PHOTO JAY LE ROUX

Bird's eye view of serious gully erosion in the Eastern Cape.



PHOTO LEHMAN LINDEQUE

Soil erosion in a maize field in the Eastern Cape Province.

management that combines two major objectives: to maintain production of profitable, high-yielding crops and rangelands, while conserving soil, water, energy and other resources.

The question could be posed whether land degradation is a real problem in South Africa.

It is sometimes hard for people who live in the city, far removed from the day-to-day experiences of farming, to identify with an issue like land degradation. Yet such issues are of concern to all of us because we directly or indirectly experience their effects.

In its simplest form, land degradation is the loss of biological or economic productivity of an area primarily caused by human activities. Land degradation can take many forms, including urban development and mining on productive agricultural land, alien plant invasions of grazing land, soil

erosion and pollution of ground and surface-water resources, to name but a few.

Land degradation poses a serious threat to food security and the functioning of ecosystems. South Africa has very little high-potential agricultural land and, considering the ever-increasing demand on the agricultural sector to produce food for a growing nation, the decline in soil productivity, water quality and quantity, we cannot afford to lose any of these scarce resources.

The total area of South Africa is 122 million hectares, of which only 15% of all soils are suitable for cultivation – a mere 3,5% are high-potential soils. To illustrate this concept, with the population as it stood in 1970 (41 years ago) only 5,5 hectares per person were available and only 0,6 ha of cultivated soil. Today, only 2,4 hectares of land per person are available in South

Africa, and a mere 0,3 hectares per person of cultivated land. Government, private industry and all land users will have to make certain investments to protect this limited resource.

Land degradation costs money. Some estimates suggest that during the 1992/93 financial year soil degradation cost South Africa nearly R2 billion. This was due to the sedimentation of dams and associated water-purification costs. Additional costs included the loss of soil fertility, water logging and salinisation (Hoffman & Ashwell, 2001).

The figure of R2 billion per year did not include the cost of other forms of land degradation, such as bush encroachment, alien-plant invasions, deforestation or the loss of plant cover. The LandCare budget of R56 Million for the 2010/11 financial year gives an indication of the costs of other types of land degradation.

Whatever the actual figure, degraded land supports fewer crops and animals. In order to maintain productivity under such circumstances, farmers need to either obtain more land or to farm more intensively. Increased production costs feed the inflation spiral and reduce the viability of farming.

Future articles will take a closer look at the problem of land degradation in South Africa and discuss possible responses to deal with the problem and discuss challenges in adopting sustainable land-management practices.

The challenge to feed an ever-increasing South African population is tremendous. However, if farmers do not succeed in solving this problem it will endanger its own future. Sustainable development starts with a sustainable agricultural sector. Sustainable agriculture is therefore a cornerstone towards safeguarding our common future. **a**



PHOTO LEHMAN LINDEQUE

Photo opposite page: Soil erosion pose a serious threat to grazing land in the Sekhukhune district of the Limpopo Province.
Ruvubu River in Central Africa with very high sediment loads as a result of soil erosion in the catchment.

Overberg farmers adopting **Emergency Alert System from MYRADAR**

Farm watches and security committee's in the Overberg are adopting an EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEM (EAS) to assist in protecting themselves and their families against attackers and criminals.




Oliver Bidoli from the Grabouw Farmers Security Association says that "although radios have always been the choice of the tactical response crew, we have decided that in order to effectively "police" our community, we need to include farm workers, friends and family into the Emergency Alert loop, and the only way to handle that question is to use what already exists, the cellphone".

CEO of MyRadar, Gordon Bosman, explains that managing the "emergency communication process" and thereby sustaining the effective level

of response is what the EAS is all about.

"I have attended too many security committee meetings where 80% of the agenda is spent discussing communication procedure and response procedures – our system sorts this out once and for all. Essentially, we establish the tactical crew, set up the flow of communication and then open the system up to members of the community so that at the press of a button, all authorised eyes and ears are available to deal with the situation as it occurs. A unique feature of our system, is that the tactical crew are informed

about the situation that the person in need is facing, thus making effective response possible. Not knowing what situation you are faced with, is the biggest problem faced by any tactical team member when he has a situation to deal with," says Bosman. "In the Hermanus rural sector, an EAS has been established that connects residents, fire and rescue, tactical team members and the police into a rapid response management team. Due to the near real-time alerts generated to response team members, instant situational awareness and thus effective response is more likely than it was when you only hear about the situation 30 minutes after it has occurred," says Warrant Officer Riaan du Toit of the Hermanus SAPS.

Establishing an EAS in these times is no longer an option for most farming communities, and due to the low cost and easy administration of the system, it is a must have for any community safety team. Setting up the system is instant and there is no cost involved for establishing an account. Once an account is set up, there is a small monthly charge per cellphone. More information is available on request from Genevieve Bosman on genevieve@myradar.co.za. Her contact details are 072 600 6052 or 028 313 0987 during office hours. 



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Tyd om die jaggewere



nader te trek

Hierdie lelike ding met die naam winter, byt aan almal se lywe en laat mens dink aan Eugène Marais se gedig Winternag: *O koud is die windjie en skraal...* Ja, dis nie lekker om koud te kry nie, maar ek verwonder my altyd as ek terug in Moeder Karoo kom hoe mens en dier daar aangepas is om die bittere koue te hanteer. Maar nou ja, alles is nie sleg as dit koud word nie want dis tyd vir die jaggewere en die mense wat die veld invaar, op soek na die groot koedoe en die springbokram met die krulhorings. In die landbou-sektor is daar 'n opgewondenheid want baie boere se ooie lam so saam met die jagtyd en dit gee 'n man somer warm bloed as die Merino's sulke spierwit tweeling gooi.

Ongelukkig is daar in alle jagters se gemoed so 'n vae kommer soos 'n sinushoofpyn wat nie regtig wil deurbreek nie. Dit gaan oor die deurlopende aanslag van die regering en die "groenes" teen jag en jagters. Saam met die eerste koue word ons met 'n stel regulasies gegooi wat oor norme en standaarde vir jag handel waarin die departement omgewingsake reëls stel oor watter koeëlgewigte vir watter wild gebruik mag word. Wie ook al die argitek van die stuk hondebreekfis was, moes seker iets gesnuif het want dit is eintlik beter as 'n Mad Magazine. Oom Kaspaas van T O Honeyball-faam sou sekerlik ook kommentaar oor die stukkie papier wou lewer as hy nog in die lewe was. Verder is daar gedurig uitlatings van Animal Rights Afrika oor jag en moenie-vleis-eet-nie plus "Sir" Paul McCartney se vleislose

Maandae. In Engeland eet hulle in elk geval net polonie en dus maak sy oproep sin in sy tuisland.

Ons wat jag en dit meestal op plase doen (nie op die langplaaie nie, asbl!) het 'n baie groot verantwoordelikheid teenoor onself en die natuur. Jagters as die ikone van volhoubare benutting en bewaring moet verseker dat ons gedrag onberispelik is. Ons moet ook Moeder Natuur en al haar lewende wesens asook die grond, lug en water met die grootste agting hanteer, want dit wat ons vandag gebruik, moet môre en oormôre ook nog daar wees. Soos wat die Sanmense van ouds die bokke altyd bedank het nadat hulle gejag is, moet ons ook die wild wat ons jag, bedank vir die voorreg om hulle te mag jag. Daar is ook niks mee verkeerd om soms daardie ongelooflike trofeedier te laat wegkom nie. Ek dink mens se ego kry meer lyf as mens die 65-duim koedoe laat wegkom as wanneer jy hom met die jaggewere plattrek.

Ons gedrag teenoor die grondeienaar moet onberispelik wees en daar moet wedersydse respek wees want miskien word ons volgende jaar weer genooi om op die man se plaas te kom jag. Die boer waardeer dit altyd as die jagter die enkele koeldrank-blikkies of stukke draad in die veld optel en kamp toe bring. Enige tekens van wildstropery moet ons onmiddellik by die grondeienaar aanmeld want dis nie alleen 'n verlies vir hom nie maar dit het ook 'n negatiewe impak op biodiversiteit. Die meeste boere wat ek ken, vra ook dat jagters moet oplet na roofvoëls wat miskien mag broei want dis 'n reuse-

aanwys vir die plaas.

Hou ook maar die oë oop vir die groter roofdiere soos luiperds en hiënas. Alhoewel mens selde of ooit die diere jag, is dit altyd 'n grootse ervaring om op een van hulle in die veld af te kom. Sou die grondeienaar oor roofdiere soos luiperds, hiënas, wildehonde en jagluiperds kla wat onaantvaarbare skade veroorsaak, moet ons nie alte gewillig aanbied om die diere te skiet nie. Ons moet eerder met die Suid-Afrikaanse Jagters- en Wildbewaringsvereniging se bewaringsbestuurder kontak maak by telefoonnommer 012 808 9300 of met my by 082 446 8946 sodat ons kan help om aandag aan die probleem te gee sonder om die waardevolle diere dood te maak.

Jagters moet tog net nooit verskoning vra dat hulle jag nie. Dis so tipies van ons in die landbousector om sodra iemand ons aanval, in ons doppe te kruip en die klappe te vat. As ons verantwoordelik jag en die boere bestuur hulle wild verantwoordelik, is daar geen rede om nie daarop trots te wees nie. Die klomp blaarvreters wat anti-jag en anti-vleiseet voorstaan, eet dan juis goed soos sojabone, mielies, groente en vrugte wat glad nie eers kan wegkom voordat hulle doodgemaak word vir vegetariese disse nie! Vrinne, mag julle lekker jag en boere maak seker al ons jagters jag verantwoordelik. 



Dr Gerhard Verdoorn



Dr Gerhard H Verdoorn, Griffon Gifinligtingsentrum, neshar@tiscali.co.za 082-446-8946

Harde werk en uithouvermoë word beloon

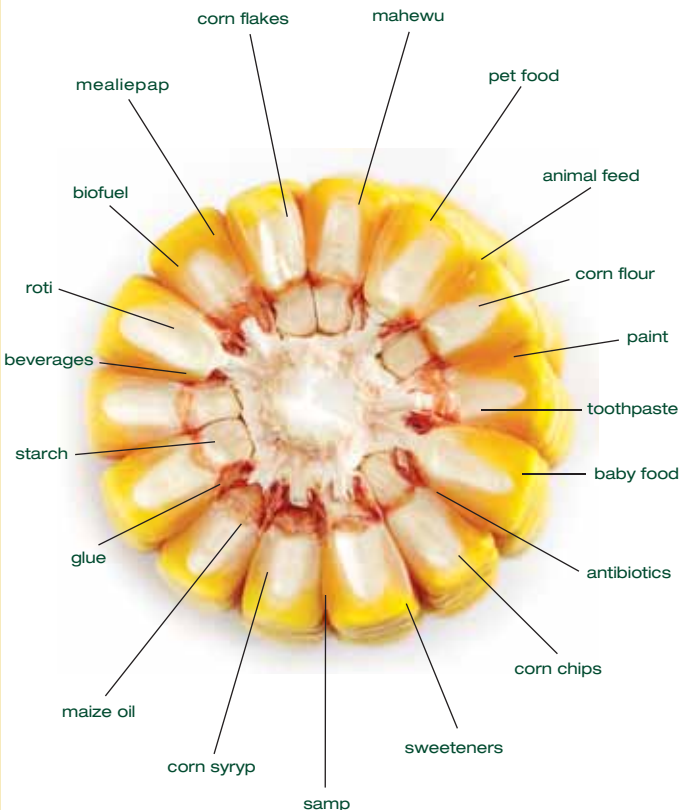
Ekonomiese omstandighede maak dat voltydse en opgeleide leraars skaars geword het. Dirk van Rensburg van Vrystaat Landbou en ds Piet Taljaard het besef dat die tyd van voltydse leraars vir talle gemeentes vir eers verby is; maar deur afstandsopleiding kan hierdie leemte gevul word.

Na goeie skakeling met al die leraars van die verskillende kerke in Leratswana, 'n swart dorp in die Vrystaat, het elf studente vir 'n driejaarkursus in kerkleierskap by die Nehemia Bybelinstituut ingeskryf. Nege studente van sewe verskillende kerkgenootskappe het einde 2010 dié kursus suksesvol voltooi.

Ds Taljaard het die studente een maal 'n week met lesings gehelp en hulle gemotiveer. Indien ds Taljaard nie beskikbaar was nie het Dirk van Rensburg vir hom gestaan. Op Vrydag 22 Mei, het die studente hul sertifikate by die Universiteit van Pretoria (UP) ontvang. UP het die kursus geakkrediteer. Die daaropvolgende Sondag het die studente hul diplomas van die Nehemia Bybelinstituut ontvang. Die gemeenskap is baie trots op dié groepie manne. Daar is behoorlik feesgevier, sê Van Rensburg.

Ds Piet Taljaard is die leraar betrokke by die projek en Dirk van Rensburg is 'n lid van Vrystaat Landbou. 

Ds Piet Taljaard (links voor) en Dirk van Rensburg (regs agter) by die groep studente wat sertifikate ontvang het.



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Hierdie wyn

is in Os se bloed

Die super-Bokstut van twee Wêreldbeker-oorwinnings het nou aangesluit by die geleedere van rugbyhelde wie se name aan wyn gekoppel word – dink maar aan Schalk Burger Sr, Jan Boland Coetzee, Hempies du Toit en Jannie Engelbrecht. Maar in Os du Randt se geval is dit nie deur wynboerdery of -makery nie; ook nie te veel wyndrinkery nie. Hy boer nog ewe gelukkig met beeste by Theunissen in die Vrystaat, maar is in 'n vennootskap vir die produksie en verspreiding van 'n nis-handelsmerk genaamd Osbloed.

Links: Die grote Os in die wynland, met klein stout wynmaker Theunis van Zyl.

In teenstelling met die gesperiede lywigheid van ons befaamde rugbyvriend, is die twee wyne in die Osbloedreeks meer aan die ligte, verbruikersvriendelike kant. Allermens die "osbloed" wat mens van studentedae af leer ken het as swaar, donker goed wat jou kieste op 'n knop trek.

"Ja, ek moes maar met my vroulike kant in voeling kom," het hy geskerts toe ek hom vra oor sy nie-macho rooi versnit en 'n effens parfuumagtige pienkwyn met 'n gewigtige naam. Laasgenoemde met die "Os"-woord wat oulik uitstaan in die "rOSé" op die etiket.

Die bekendstelling was tydens 'n funksie by Imbuko Wyne aan die buitewyke van die Paarl. Dit was in die vorm van 'n "tipiese

skaapbraai uit die Vrystaatse vlaktes".

Os het vertel dat hy nooit sou kon dink dat hy direk by wyn betrokke sou raak nie, alhoewel hy twee jaar nadat hy met skool klaar was met wyn kennismake het en sedertdien nogal rooiwyn geniet.

Die man agter die projek, ene Eion du Toit van die Paarl, ook 'n taamlieke swaargewig – wat homself beskryf as 'n vinofiel, en kommersiële antropoloog, wat spesialiseer in strategiese kommunikasie – het vertel dat die idee ontstaan het toe hulle toevallig in mekaar vasgeloop het by 'n makietie in Bloemfontein.

Du Toit het saam met vriende om die braaivleisvuur gekuier toe die formidabele man daar aankom. 'n Bok vir sports, was Os ook nie links nie en hy sit die gasvrou se wit hoedjie op. Net daar vat die paartie vlam en in die geesdrif word daar gesels oor lekker braaiwyn.

"Die volgende dag op pad lughawe toe tref dit my soos 'n klassieke Os-laagvat: Osbloed! Neem 'n sagte Kaapse versnit, bekroon dit met 'n etiket van Os met die wit hoedjie op en jou kop is deur. Ek bel hom op die daad. En die blonde reus spreek sonder meer sy seën oor die konsep uit."

Agterna het sake met spoed verloop. Du Toit vorm 'n dinksrum met een van sy kliënte, die wingerdboer Joachim Steyn, ook van die Paarl. Daaruit ontstaan toe die verspreidingsmaatskappy Ten90 Wines, vir

konseptontwikkeling. Volgende probleem: wynmaker? Geen probleem nie. Steyn stel voor gebruik vir Theunis van Zyl, wynmaker en eienaar van Imbuko Wyne. Van Zyl vat die gaping en 'n week later is die drie wynmanne hard aan die versny en proe.

Die resultaat is twee oulike wyne wat eersdaags landwyd beskikbaar sal wees – gerieflik op die vooraand van die Rugby Wêreldbeker waartydens ons rugbyhelde weer



Cassie du Plessis

op die voorgrond sal wees. Boonop natuurlik met Os wat ook 'n sterk hand het in die afrigting van die begeesterde Cheetahs-span.

Wynmaker Theunis se 'n voorvereiste vir die Osbloed was dat dit sag op smaak moes wees en eenvoudig 'n "lekker ervaring" bied saam met goeie vrugtigheid.

"Anders as in die Kaap neig die mense na vrugtiger hoe meer jy noord gaan," voeg Magoppie (van magopé,

Noord-Sotho vir "klein stout mannetjie") by.

Die Rosé 2011 is gemaak van Pinotage, met 'n vol pienkrooi blous en klem op die kultivar se kenmerkende aarbeigleur.

bladsy 54 ►




"Du Toit het saam met vriende om die braaivleisvuur gekuier toe die formidabele man daar aankom. 'n Bok vir sports, was Os ook nie links nie en hy sit die gasvrou se wit hoedjie op. Net daar vat die paartie vlam en in die geesdrif word daar gesels oor lekker braaiwyn."

◀ bladsy 53

Nie soet nie, maar met net oor die 10 gram ressuiker wat dit nog meer verleidelik maak.

Die rooi versnit genaamd Cape Blend 2010 het meer struktuur, ná ligte eikehoutkontak en bietjie ontwikkeling in die bottel. Dit is gemaak van Cabernet Sauvignon (70%) met kenmerkende bessiegeure, Shiraz (20%) wat speserykarakter byvoeg en vrugtige Pinotage (10%). Dit is medium-vol en sag op smaak, met 13.5% alkohol. Die druiwe vir die wyn kom alles van die Paarl-omgewing.

Die twee wyne – met moderne, skoon etikette waarop Os se gesig in sagte grys verskyn – komplete met die wit hoedjie van die famous paartie – sal in die kleinhandel onderskeidelik teen R45 en R49 verkoop. En Du Toit spog dat daar al 3 000 bottels geswaai is. Hulle verklap nie produksievolumes nie, maar daar is glo genoeg indien meer gebotteleer moet word.

Intussen het Os se wynspan opdraand van die steelkant gekry. 'n Oud-dominee van Somerset-Wes, Bertus van Niekerk, wat op klein skaal tuis wyn maak, maak kapsie dat hy ook 'n Osbloed-handelsmerk het, gemaak van Cabernet Sauvignon en Shiraz. Hopelik sal hierdie skrum met bietjie rooiwyn, gebed en genade nie in 'n bloedbad ontaard nie! 


◀ page 47 under-resourced in our sector, it becomes clear that the AgriSETA's funding base is limited and we need to carefully consider which learning programme applications to support and which not. The figures in the table on page 46 summarise the discretionary grants for 2011/-12 per learning programme. Employers are therefore advised to carefully consider their needs prior to submitting applications for discretionary funds. The following are a few pointers:

- High-level, scarce skills integrated with structured workplace exposure (to assist in this regard, study the Sector Skills Plan, which is available from the AgriSETA web-site).
- Attempt to focus the selection of learnerships on higher level-skills needs, such as foremen, managers and specialists, e.g. logistics, processing controllers, animal health.
- Do not try to cover all employees simultaneously – the AgriSETA simply does not have the discretionary funds to make large allocations per employer. Our applications for funding tend to exceed our available funds in a specific category by as much as ten-fold.
- Select from our accredited provider list (also available from the web-site) quality service providers. Shortlist some providers and

follow a proper procurement process to ensure that the provider most relevant to your needs will be appointed. Remember, the AgriSETA does not appoint providers – you do.

Conclusion

This article was the final one in a series of three articles. The first attempted to explain how the skills levy system works and how Sector Education and Training Authorities (SETAs) fit in. The second article focused on the third cycle of our National Skills Development Strategy (NSDS III), which is active for the period 1st April 2011 to 31st March 2012. Finally, this article tried to put into context the key activities of AgriSETA for the 2011/-12 financial year.

Employers and other stakeholders are invited to visit our web-site on a regular basis – it is frequently updated. There you will also find more information with regard to visits (road shows) we present on an annual basis in all provinces, and other SETA-related events. You are also welcome to contact the author of these articles, Johann Engelbrecht should you need more information. He will direct you to the relevant AgriSETA official for assistance. His contact details are: johann@agriseta.co.za or telephone (012) 301 5628 or 082 571 3526. 

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Water & the WRC

Many irrigation farmers in South Africa pay an annual research levy to the Water Research Fund in respect of water that is used for irrigation on scheduled land. This fund is dedicated to financing the activities of the Water Research Commission (WRC) to support and undertake research on the use of water for agricultural, industrial and domestic purposes. The levy on irrigation water is, however, not the only source of income for the fund: Levies on water use for urban, industrial and domestic purposes make by far the biggest contribution.

In this series of articles, Agri is in discussion with Dr Gerhard Backeberg, director: water utilisation in agriculture of the WRC, in order to obtain information on water use and what the WRC is doing for investment of funds in water research.

Agri: In the programme of action announced by the presidency, Outcome 7 is about vibrant, equitable and sustainable rural communities and food security for all. Output 2 is expected to accomplish improved access to affordable and diverse food. What should be done to achieve a decrease in the number of households that experience hunger, and enable poor households to produce some of their own food and improve income?

Backeberg: The importance of household food security and especially the impacts of under nourishment among children on wider society are increasingly being recognised. This has been highlighted by the rapid food-price increases globally since 2007/08. Food security exists when all people in a household at all times have access to sufficient, nutritious and safe food to meet the dietary needs and food preferences for a healthy and active life. In contrast, various surveys in South Africa indicate that 52% of all households experience hunger and with a monthly income poverty line of less than R800, 41% of households are food insecure.


The focus must therefore shift to the potential role of the homestead garden for food production, improved family nutrition and higher income. The reason is quite straightforward: Many households, both in rural villages and peri-urban environments have immediate access to the basic resources under their direct control.

Government authorities are also realising that lack of water has prevented many people from growing crops in their own gardens. Consequently, there is an appreciation of the opportunities for food production in the homestead backyards and the availability of water to support production. In this regard there is acceptance of the potential of a range of water access options, or 'multiple-use systems', especially rainwater harvesting in its various forms, over and above the conventional bulk supply and piped distribution systems.

The overall objective of a WRC-initiated and funded research project on water use in homestead food gardening was therefore to contribute towards improving food security. Priority was given to broad-based empowerment through knowledge that enables decisions and actions to produce food at the household level. This was achieved by developing and evaluating the appropriateness and acceptability of training material for training and practical skills development of household members in selected areas. Particular attention was given to the development of resource material for facilitators and food gardeners for productive agricultural water use in homestead gardening systems. The report "Agricultural Water Use in Homestead Gardening Systems" has several chapters and a set of handouts that deal with amongst others crop-production potential,

water supply and management, dietary requirements for a balanced nutrition, poverty alleviation, participatory rural appraisal and applicable adult educational approaches within rural social structures.

The process of 'participatory development' of the training material entailed two main aspects: firstly, relying on the know-how of practitioners in the field of household food security and homestead gardening; and secondly, field testing and refinement of the collated material with both food secure and insecure households in rural villages. The water-use techniques introduced as part of the learning and training process include deep trenching, run-on ditches, tower gardens, drip-kits, underground rainwater storage tanks and diversified, low-input practices.

The report "Agricultural Water Use in Homestead Gardening Systems Volume 1 (Main Report) – Report No TT430/09, and Volume 2 (Resource Material for Facilitators and Food Gardeners) – Report No TT431/1-3/09) published by the WRC in January 2010 can be obtained by contacting orders@wrc.org.za or downloaded from the WRC website. 



Dr Gerhard Backeberg

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Geld bewillig vir boereveiligheid

“Die veiligheid van nagenoeg 720 boere en 6 500 plaaswerkers in die Lephalale-gebied het pas ‘n hupstoot gekry deur ‘n geldelike skenking van die Agri Securitas Trustfonds vir die oprigting van ‘n radio-kommunikasienetwerk. Terselfdertyd is radiotoerusting ook geskenk aan die Van Zylsrus-landbouvereniging in die Noord-Kaap om hulle plaaslike polisie in staat te stel om met boere in die gebied te kan kommunikeer,” sê Japie Grobler, voorsitter van die Agri Securitas Trustfonds.

Die Landelike Beveiligingsplan vir die Lephalale-gebied maak voorsiening vir ‘n Landelike Veiligheidsforum wat ‘n gesamentlike krisisbeheersentrum en operasionele sentrum op die been bring. Die werksaamhede van die forum in belang van die boerderygemeenskap word deur die plaaslike polisie ondersteun en die kommunikasienetwerk sal die werk van die polisie en nooddienste in die gebied aansienlik verbeter. Die netwerk sal die gemeenskap in staat stel om vinnig te reageer in noodsituasies soos plaasaanvalle, vee- en wilddiefstal en selfs renosterstropery. Die grootte van die gebied wat nagenoeg 19 000 km² beslaan, noodsaak ‘n gemoderniseerde radio-kommunikasienetwerk om onder andere lugondersteuning te aktiveer wanneer nodig.

Kommunikasie met die polisie in Van Zylsrus bly ‘n probleem aangesien die polisie nie oor die nodige radiotoerusting beskik om effektief met die boerderygemeenskap te kommunikeer nie. Goeie werksverhoudinge bestaan tussen die boerderygemeenskap en die polisie en daarom het die Trustfonds radio’s aan die landbouvereniging beskikbaar gestel vir aanwending deur die polisie om met boere te kan kommunikeer. Die gebied grens aan Botswana en veediefstal asook diefstal van koper kom gereeld voor.

Die Agri Securitas Trustfonds is vir die afgelope vyf jaar aktief betrokke by die finansiering van traumawerkswinkels wat deur Reformanda Beradingsdienste aan boeregemeenskappe verskaf word. Die sukses van die traumawerkswinkels is daarin geleë dat landbougemeenskappe wat nie altyd naby

ondersteunende dienste is om aan hulle emosionele probleme aandag te gee nie, nou van die dienste van Reformanda gebruik kan maak. Die Trustfonds het pas sodanige werkswinkels wat in Leeudoringstad en Ermelo gehou is, finansiëel ondersteun. Volgens Grobler kan gemeenskappe wat van die diens gebruik wil maak, met die onderskeie provinsiale organisasies van Agri SA skakel.

Ten slotte sê Grobler dat dit die strewe van die Agri Securitas Trustfonds van Agri SA is om aanvullende finansiële hulpmiddele aan die landbougemeenskap beskikbaar te stel om landelike veiligheid te verbeter. Daar is reeds meer as 100 sodanige projekte landswyd deur die Fonds finansiëel ondersteun in ‘n poging om landelike misdaad te bekamp en ‘n veiliger omgewing vir die boerderygemeenskap te skep. 

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