Agri SA
E-nuusbrief / E-newsletter

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Agri SA se E-Nuusbrief word saamgestel uit berigte en brokkies van die Algemene Sake-, Bedryfs- en Landboubesigheidskamers, vir u inligting en verspreiding
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21 Januarie 2009

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Partners makeing a contribution in various fields within AGRI SA With their financial contributions, these partners have already demonstrated their support for the farmer and agriculture	AGRI SECURITAS TRUST FUND Partners These partners make a contribution towards the safety of the farming community
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T & E Finops Enquiries: Esmé Theron 0861 440 666.	**Sanlam** Enquiries: Adv Kobus Engelbrecht 021-947 4506
Agri SA Group Provident Fund Enquiries: Sakkie Hurd at (012)431 3333 or sakkieh@absa.co.za	**CrisisOnCall** Enquiries: Marius Vermaak 083 302 7576
Agri SA het groot waardering vir die vennote se betrokkenheid by die organisasie en die breë landbou	

Agri SA verander ratte

Hans van de Merwe, Uitvoerende Direkteur

Die nuutsaamgestelde beleidskomitees van Agri SA hou in die eerste week van Februarie 2009 hulle eerste rondte vergaderings. Kennisgewings van die vergaderingprogram en sakelyste is reeds per e-pos aan al Agri SA se affiliasies versend. Die beleidskomitees is toeganklik vir al Agri SA se affiliasies, wie oor verteenwoordiging en bywoning sal besluit. Die vergaderingprogram is as volg:

2 Februarie 2009
10:00 Landelike veiligheidskomitee (Voorsitter: André Botha)

3 Februarie 2009
08:00 Natuurlike hulpbronne (Voorsitter: Johannes Möller)
13:00 Arbeid en maatskaplike aangeleenthede (Voorsitter: Anton Rabé)

4 Februarie 2009
08:00 Transformasie (Voorsitter: Theo de Jager)
13:00 Kommersiële beleid (Voorsitter: Louw Steytler)

5 Februarie 2009
08:00 Kommunikasie en beeldbou (Voorsitter: Carl Opperman)
13:00 Uitgebreide Dagbestuur (Huidige Dagbestuur en die beleidskomiteevoorsitters)

Aanvullend tot die beleidskomitees se werksaamhede sal Agri SA in die toekoms ook meer gebruik maak van konferensies en werkgroepe oor spesifieke onderwerpe om sy beleidsontwikkelingsprosesse te versterk deur meer inklusiewe deelname van alle belanghebbendes aan te moedig, insluitend deur van die insette van eksterne kundiges gebruik te maak.

Die week se veraderings word afgesluit met 'n vergadering van Agri SA se uitgebreide dagbestuur wat saamgestel word uit die president, Johannes Möller, adjunk-president, Dr. Theo de Jager, vise-presidente Neels Ferreira, Louw Steytler en Corwyn Botha, asook die beleidkomiteevoorsitters (wat nie reeds lede van die dagbestuur is nie) naamlik Andre Botha, Carl Opperman en Anton Rabe. Hierdie komitee sal toesig hou oor die implementering van Agri SA se nuwe organisatoriese bedeling en ook beleidbesluite namens Agri SA mandateer.

Elektrisiteits-aangeleenthede

Nic Opperman, Direkteur: Natuurlike Hulpbronne

Die Nasionale Elektrisiteitsreguleerder van SA (NERSA) het in Desember verlede jaar drie konsep-beleidsdokumente vir kommentaar vrygestel.

Die '*Power Conservation Programme (PCP) Rules*' is ontwikkel na aanleiding van die elektrisiteitskrisis wat in die land ontstaan het. Die konsultasie-dokument dui aan dat sektor-spesifieke besparingsmaatreëls deur die Departement van Minerale en Energie afgekondig sal word en gee erkenning aan die navorsing van die HSRC dat 'n 10% besparing vir alle sektore in die ekonomie nie aangewese is nie. Die '*Energy Conservation Scheme*' (ECS) sal vir alle gebruikers ingefaseer word, beginnende by die grootste gebruikers bokant 25 GWh per jaar.

Voorsieners van water vir die landbou of lewende hawe word as 'n nasionale prioriteitsdiens beskou en word van die elektrisiteits-besparingsmaatreëls vrygestel. Kommentaar op die PCP moet NERSA voor 23 Januarie 2009 bereik.

Vervolgens moet kommentaar op NERSA se '*Multi Year Price Determination 2*' (MYPD 2), se voorgestelde wysigings aan die reëls, die Reguleerder voor 29 Januarie bereik. Agri SA se voorlopige kommentaar hierop is aan affiliasies gestuur.

Agri SA se reaksie aan die hand van 'n bydrae ontvang van Prof Dieter Holm ten opsigte van NERSA se '*Renewable Energy Feed – In Tariff*' (REFIT), waarvan die sluitingsdatum 15 Januarie was, is reeds aan die Reguleerder voorsien. Die REFIT is van groot belang vir die landbou. Gegewe die insentiewe beskikbaar vir hernubare energie binne internasionale konteks, is die voorgestelde tariewe te laag, die kontraktermyne te kort en is die voorgeskrewe lisensie-prosedure 'n bron van onnodige beslommernis.

CFU verslag oor die situasie in Zimbabwe

Hans van der Merwe, Uitvoerende Direkteur

In 'n dokument saamgestel deur die CFU van Zimbabwe word verslag gedoen oor die situasie in Zimbabwe soos in Januarie 2009. Die verslag is beskikbaar op Agri SA se webblad (http://www.agrisa.co.za/Dokumente/Zimbabwe.pdf). Die verslag gee 'n omvattende oorsig oor die landboutoestande sowel as die politieke sienings oor die toekoms van kommersiële boerdery in daardie land. Die CFU dui aan wat hulle nodig ag om van die mees kritieke uitdagings wat blanke kommersiële boere in die gesig staar aan te spreek. Een van die kritieke uitdagings waarmee grondeienaars te kampe het is om voort te gaan om die regstelsel te gebruik om hulle eiendomsreg te beskerm. Buiten fondsbeperkings is die beskikbaarheid van regsadvies problematies.

Agri SA herinner lede dat ‘n rekening beskikbaar is waarin donasies betaal kan word vir sake van spesiale belang vir volhoubare kommersiële boerdery in Zimbabwe, wat deur die CFU geïdentifseer word, en waartoe Agri SA instem. Die besonderhede van die rekening is as volg: ABSA Bank, Rek nr: 4050566323, Takkode: 323645 of elektroniese oorplasing 632005, Rekeninghouer: Agri Info Africa (Pty) Ltd.

Agri tydskrif, mondstuk van Agri SA

Zelna Oberholster, Bestuurder Agri, ingelyf Die Boer/The Farmer

Op die Sjinese kalender is 2009 die jaar van die os. In 'n verslag deur Daiwa Instituut beweer hulle dat die jaar van die os in die verlede rampspoedig was vir aandele. Ander meen dat standvastige, harde werk met voorspoed en geluk beloon sal word.

Wat hou 2009 in vir besigheid? Waar sal u sny, waar sal u byvoeg? Hoe beskou u mark u besigheid en hoe kan u bewustheid van u handelsnaam of produk behou? Behoort u nuwe markte te ondersoek of hou by die bestaande mark?

Die 2009 Agri Ontbyt wat in Februarie gehou word, sal lig werp op waar die landboumark huidiglik is en waarheen dit op pad is. Geleenthede en bedreigings sal uitgelig word en natuurlik die belangrikste- hoe om produkte te bemark aan die landboumark gedurende 'n resessie, sal ook gedeel word met adverteerders.

Intussen kan u 'n **250 woord artikel instuur wat gratis geplaas sal word saam met elke A4 volblad, volkleur (VBVK) advertensie bespreek** (aanbod geldig tot 30 Januarie) indien u opwindende nuwe ontwikkelings of produkte het wat boere van behoort te weet of die dieregesondheid en veebedryf diens.

Mag 2009 die jaar wees waar harde werk beloon word, aandeelmarkte styg, brandstof pryse en rente koerse daal, daar krag in die heeljaar deur en u handelsmerk pryk in elke uitgawe van die Agri!

Navrae: Zelna Oberholster, 012-300 9524 of Zelna@agrisa.co.za

Agri SA kommentaar op die ANC se verkiesingmanifes

Mediaverklaring deur Agri SA op 14 Januarie 2009

Die ANC se 2009-verkiesingsmanifes sê min nuut oor die landbou en bevestig grootliks bestaande beleid soos vervat in dié party se Polokwane-resolusies. Daar is 'n opsigtelike gebrek in die manifes om van die fundamentele uitdagings vir die internasionale mededingendheid, winsgewendheid en volhoubaarheid van die kommersiële landbou aan te spreek, insluitend die institusionele- en kapasiteitsgebreke wat programbestuur die afgelope paar jaar ernstig gekortwiek het. Die klem bly steeds op die sosiaal-maatskaplike funksies van die bedryf soos byvoorbeeld die bydrae wat dit kan lewer tot armmoedeverligting, toegang tot bekostigbare voedsel, skoon water en huisvesting, asook die versnelde voortsetting van die transformasie-agenda deur middel van 'n verskeidenheid programme wat grondoordrag, toegang tot waterregte en ontwikkelingshulp as doelwit het.

Die manifes maak net in een paragraaf melding van markfaktore, maar dan in die konteks van wat van regeringskant gedoen kan word om hoë voedselpryse aan bande te lê deur middel van beheer oor logistieke reëlings soos vervoer, opberging en aankope asook die strenger die toepassing van mededingingswetgewing. Die afleiding kan derhalwe gemaak word dat die ANC ‘n al-hoe-meer sosialistiese benadering ten opsigte van die landbou voorstaan, inaggenome die mandjie vol regeringsintervensies wat in die manifes voorgehou word.

Een van die voornemens van die ANC is om Suid-Afrika minder van ingevoerde voedsel afhanklik te maak. In praktyk is die regering egter besluitloos oor hoe om dit te doen. Agri SA het reeds twee jaar gelede in samewerking met verskeie ander landbou-organisasies en die Departement van Landbou voorstelle oor 'n landbouhandel en -tariefbeleid voorberei wat, indien dit toegepas sou word, die plaaslike bedryf beter teen onbillike mededinging sal beskerm. Tot

dusver het dadels daarvan gekom. Is die regering bekommerd dat billike beskerming teen gesubsidieerde landbou-invoere voedselpryse kan opjaag? Indien dit die geval is, moet bepaal word of laer of veranderende landboupryse 'n betekenisvolle invloed op voedselpryse het. Alles dui daarop dat ander koste-elemente 'n groter rol op voedselpryse het as dít wat die produsente van primêre landbouprodukte toeval. Daar is dus nie 'n wesenlike konflik tussen enersyds, die ontwikkeling van die plaaslike landboubedryf deur middel van billike beskerming teen goedkoop invoere en andersins, die regerende party se strewe om voedselpryse bekostigbaar te hou nie. Kom ons vertrou dat die manifes se uitspraak die regering sal help om oor hierdie bruggie te kom.

Die manifes het 'n onduidelike en kommerwekkende uitspraak oor regeringsbetrokkenheid by die aankoop en verspreiding van voedsel. Dit skep die indruk dat die ANC wil hê dat die regering met die privaatsektor moet meeding met die aankoop en verspreiding van voedsel aan arm gemeenskappe. Hieroor sal beslis verder skouers geskuur moet word. Agri SA glo in die markmeganisme en die bevordering van billike mededinging in belang van ontwikkeling, produktiwiteit en effektiwiteit. Agri SA het ook kommer oor arm gemeenskappe se probleme om genoegsame goeie voedsel te bekostig en het laasjaar reeds by monde van sy president, Johannes Möller, 'n beroep op alle rolspelers in die voedsel-waardeketting gedoen om prys-en winsdissipline aan die dag te lê. Agri SA is egter van mening dat groter regeringsbetrokkenheid in die mark die dun punt van die sosialisme-wig is wat privaatinisiatief en doeltreffendheid stelselmatig en toenemend sal onderdruk en uiteindelik belastingbetalers sowel as verbruikers tot nadeel sal strek. Geteikende en goed geadministreede voedsel- en voedingsprogramme, soos ook in die manifes aanbeveel word, behoort eerder as oplossing nagevolg te word.

Die noodsaak vir 'n herskikking van grondbesit en toegang tot verwante hulpbronne soos water, word allerweë aanvaar. Dis egter die "hoe" en resultaat daarvan wat pla. Daarom is Agri SA sterk ten gunste van plaaslike komitees, verteenwoordigend van alle rolspelers, om die proses te help fasiliteer, eerder as om dit te laat lei deur 'n sterk gesentraliseerde burokratiese bedeling waar oneffektiwiteit en nepotisme die proses frustreer.

Die gebrek aan inligting oor waar ons staan ten opsigte van vordering met grondoordrag, is ook 'n probleem wat vanjaar opgelos moet word. 'n Werkgroep wat verteenwoordigend is van die owerheid en die georganiseerde landbou het laasjaar reeds heelwat spitwerk hieromtrent gedoen en hopelik sal 'n inligtingsbasis vanjaar vorm aanneem. Dalk verras die inligting oor die vordering wat reeds gemaak is maar sal hopelik van nut wees met die toepassing van beleid.

Ongeag die problematiek van grondoordrag, het praktyk bewys dat grondoordrag die makliker deel van landbou-transformasie is. Die groter uitdaging is om deur boerontwikkeling, produktiewe plase instand te hou. Van die mees ontwikkelde en produktiewe landbougrond word deur grondoordrag geraak. Dis 'n ope vraag wat die bydrae is wat grondoordrag, soos wat dit tot dusver hanteer is, tot dalende produksie en verminderde werkgeleenthede gelewer het. Die meeste waarnemers is skepties hieromtrent. Daarom is daar meriete in die klem wat die ANC in sy manifes plaas op ontwikkelingsondersteuning. Hoewel die staat hulpbronne hiervoor beskikbaar moet stel, het praktyk weereens aangetoon dat die staat egter ‘n swak ontwikkelingsagent is. Indien ontwikkelingsbystand nie in noue vennootskap met bestaande kommersiële boere en hulle organisasies gelewer word nie, is die resultate meesal swak tot totale mislukkings.

Die ANC-dokument gee ongelukkig nie erkenning aan die noodsaak van vennootskapsverhoudings met bestaande rolspelers in die kommersiële landbou nie. Indien samewerking nie op politieke vlak gesanksioneer en aangemoedig word nie, sal dit steeds op uitvoerende vlak 'n probleem bly om brûe te bou. Wil die ANC nie maar op hierdie vlak erkentlik wees deur 'n positiewe standpunt oor samewerking te stel nie?

Agri SA het ook kommer oor hoe waterregte, wat ook in die manifes ter sprake kom, die optimale benutting van die hulpbron sal raak gegewe die huidige “bevriesing” van die oordrag van sekere waterregte deur die Departement van Waterwese. Agri SA is op die punt om regsoptrede te oorweeg vanweë die wyse waarop die Departement van Waterwese dié situasie hanteer. In praktyk lei die blokkering van verhandeling tot die finansiële benadeling van individue asook tot die onderbenutting van besproeiingswater vir landbouproduksiedoeleindes.

Hoe dít versoenbaar is met die ANC se ideaal om Suid-Afrika minder afhanklik van voedselinvoere te maak deur voedselselfversorgendheid te verbeter, is dus 'n raaisel. Die ANC sal sy eie benadering in die verband moet opklaar.

Die kwessie van verbeterde bewoningsregte vir plaas. Die staat het reeds in begrotingsreëlings 'n aanduiding gegee dat hy ondersteunend hiertoe wil wees en Agri SA sal dit steun mits dit ook voorsiening maak vir bewoningshulp vir "af-van-die plaas" behuising. Ongelukkig was dit grondeienaars se ervaring dat "op-die-plaas" huisvesting ingevolge die Verblyfregwet daartoe lei dat behuising deur voormalige werknemers opgeëis word. 'n Alternatiewe oplossing is dus aangewese.

AGRI SA CHANGES GEARS

Hans van der Merwe, Executive Director

Agri SA's newly appointed policy committees will be holding their first round of meetings during the first week of February 2009. Notices and agendas of the meetings have already been e-mailed to all Agri SA affiliates. The policy committees are accessible to all Agri SA affiliates who will decide on representation and attendance. The meeting programme is as follows:

2 February 2009
10:00 Rural safety committee (Chairman: André Botha)

3 February 2009
08:00 Natural resources (Chairman: Johannes Möller)
13:00 Labour & social matters (Chairman: Anton Rabé)

4 February 2009
08:00 Transformation (Chairman: Theo de Jager)
13:00 Commercial policy (Chairman: Louw Steytler)

5 February 2009
08:00 Communication & image-building (Chairman: Carl Opperman)
13:00 Expanded executive committee (Current executive committee and the policy committee chairmen)

To supplement the policy committees' activities, Agri SA will in future also make greater use of conferences and working groups for specific issues to strengthen its policy development processes and encourage more inclusive participation by all parties concerned, including the use of inputs from external experts.

The week's meetings will conclude with a meeting of Agri SA's expanded executive committee consisting of the president, Johannes Möller, deputy president, Dr Theo de Jager, vice presidents Neels Ferreira, Louw Steytler and Corwyn Botha, as well as the policy committee chairmen (who are not already members of the executive committee) namely Andre Botha, Carl Opperman and Anton Rabe. This committee will supervise the implementation of Agri SA's new organisational dispensation and also mandate policy decisions on behalf of Agri SA.

ELECTRICITY ISSUES

Nic Opperman, Director: Natural Resources

In December last year the National Electricity Regulator of South Africa (NERSA) released three draft policy documents for commentary.

The *Power Conservation Programme (PCP) Rules* was developed in light of the electricity crisis that prevailed in the country. The consultation document indicates that the Department of Minerals and Energy would publish differentiated sector-specific saving targets and would recognise the research conducted by the HSRC indicating that a 10% energy reduction across all sectors in the economy will not be feasible. The Energy Conservation Scheme (ECS) will be phased in for all consumers, starting with the largest users above 25 GWh per annum.

Suppliers of water for agricultural or livestock will be treated as a national priority service and is exempted from the electricity-saving measures. Comments on the PCP must reach NERSA before 23 January 2009.

For this reason, commentary on the amendments to the rules as proposed in NERSA's Multi-Year Price Determination 2 (MYPD 2) must reach the Regulator before 29 January. Agri SA's provisional commentary in this regard has been sent to its affiliates.

Agri SA's response to NERSA's Renewable Energy Feed - In Tariff (REFIT), taking into account a contribution received from Professor Dieter Holm, has already been forwarded to the Regulator with a view to the deadline of 15 January. The REFIT is very important to agriculture. Given the incentives available for renewable energy within the international context, the proposed tariffs are too low, while the contract periods are too short and the prescribed licensing procedure is a source of unnecessary bureaucracy.

CFU'S REPORT ON SITUATION IN ZIMBABWE

Hans van der Merwe, Executive Director

A report compiled by Zimbabwe's CFU on the situation in Zimbabwe as in January 2009, is available on Agri SA's website (http://www.agrisa.co.za/Dokumente/Zimbabwe.pdf). The report gives a comprehensive overview of agricultural conditions as well as political views regarding the future of commercial agriculture in that country. The CFU also indicates what they deem necessary to resolve some of the most critical challenges faced by the remaining white commercial farmers. One of the critical challenges facing landowners is to continue with utilising the legal system for protecting their property rights. Apart from fund limitations, the availability of legal expertise has also become problematic.

Agri SA wishes to remind members that Agri SA has an account into which donations can be paid in aid of issues regarded as of special importance for sustaining commercial farming in Zimbabwe, as identified by the CFU and agreed to by Agri SA. The details of this account are as follows: ABSA Bank, Account no: 4050566323, Branch code: 323645 or electronic transfer 632005, Account holder: Agri Info Africa (Pty) Ltd

AGRI MAGAZINE, MOUTH PIECE OF AGRI SA

Zelna Oberholster, Manager Agri, incorporating Die Boer/The Farmer

On the Chinese calendar 2009 is the year of the ox. In a report by private research company Daiwa Institute said that in the past the year of the ox has been disastrous for stocks. Others say that steady, hard work will be rewarded with prosperity and happiness.

What does 2009 hold for business? Where will you cut and where will you add? How is your market going to perceive you and how can you keep awareness of your product? Should you explore other markets or stick to that which you know?

The 2009 Agri Breakfast to be held in February 2009 will shed some light to advertisers on where the agricultural market stands and where it is heading. Opportunities and threats will be pointed out and most importantly advice on how to market products to agriculture during a recession will be shared.

In the mean time, if you have any exciting developments that farmers should know about, or have new products or launches, or service the animal production or animal health field, supply us with a **250-words article** which will be placed **free of charge with every A4 full page, fulle colour (FPFC) advertisement booked (offer valid until 30 January).**

May 2009 be the year that hard work pays off, stock markets climb, fuel prizes and interest rates decline, power be available right throughout the year and your brand grace every issue of the Agri!

Enquiries: Zelna Oberholster, 012-300 9524 or Zelna@agrisa.co.za

AGRI SA COMMENTARY ON ANC ELECTION MANIFESTO

Media release by Agri SA on 14 January 2009

Die ANC's 2009 election manifesto has very little new to say about agriculture and largely confirms existing policy as contained in the party's Polokwane resolutions. The manifesto clearly fails to address fundamental challenges in terms of international competitiveness, profitability and sustainability of commercial agriculture, including institutional and capacity deficiencies which have seriously hampered programme management over the past few years. The emphasis remains on the social upliftment functions of the industry, such as the contribution it can make to poverty relief, access to affordable food, clean water and housing, as well as accelerated transformation through a variety of programmes aimed at land transfer, access to water rights and development aid.

Only one paragraph refers to market factors, and then only in the context of what government can do to address high food prices through control over logistical arrangements such as transport, storage and procurement as well as stricter enforcement of the Competition Act. Given the full basket of government interventions set out in the manifesto, it can be deduced that the ANC advocates an increasingly socialistic approach to agriculture.

One of the ANC's objectives is to make South Africa less dependent on imported food. In practice, however, the ANC is uncertain how this should be done. Two years ago Agri SA, in conjunction with various other agri organisations and the Department of Agriculture, prepared proposals on an agricultural trade and tariff policy which, if implemented, would afford the local industry better protection against unfair competition. To date nothing has come of this. Is the government concerned that protection against subsidised farm imports could push up food prices? If this is the case, it must be determined whether lower or changed farm prices have a significant impact on food prices. All indications are that other cost elements play a bigger role in food prices than the portion received by producers of primary agricultural products. This means there is not a significant conflict between the development of the local agricultural sector through protection against cheap imports, on the one hand, and the ruling party's objective to keep food prices affordable, on the other. Let us hope that the statement in the manifesto will help the government cross this bridge.

The manifesto contains an unclear and worrisome statement regarding government involvement in the procurement and distribution of food. This creates the impression that the ANC wants the government to compete with the private sector with regard to the procurement of food and distribution thereof to poor communities. This is bound to give rise to further debate. Agri SA believes in the market mechanism and the promotion of fair competition in the interest of development, productivity and effectiveness. Agri SA is also concerned about the problems experienced by poor communities in accessing sufficient and affordable food, and had last year, in the person of its president, Johannes Möller, called on all role players in the food value chain to exercise price and profit discipline. Agri SA is of the opinion, however, that greater government intervention signifies increasing socialism, which in turn will systematically and increasingly suppress private initiative and efficiency, ultimately to the detriment of taxpayers as well as consumers. Targeted and well-administered food and feeding programmes, as also recommended in the ANC manifesto, should serve as the preferred solution.

The need for redistribution of land ownership and access to related resources such as water, is widely accepted. What is of concern, however, is the "how" and the outcome thereof. For this reason Agri SA is strongly in favour of committees at local level, representative of all role players to facilitate the process, rather than to have it driven by a strongly centralised bureaucratic dispensation where inefficiency and nepotism could frustrate the process.

Another problem that will be addressed this year by *inter alia* Agri SA, is the lack of information as to where we stand in terms of progress made with land transfer. A working group representative of the government and organised agriculture last year did much of the spade work in this regard and an information base will hopefully take shape this year. The information

regarding progress already made may come as a surprise but will hopefully inform the implementation of policy.

Despite problems relating to land transfer, experience has shown that land transfer is in fact the easier part of agricultural transformation. A much bigger challenge is to maintain productive farms through farmer development. Some of the most developed and productive farm land is affected by land transfers. It is an open question whether the contribution made by land transfer, as dealt with to date, had resulted in a decline in production and fewer job opportunities. Most observers are sceptical in this regard. Thus there may be merit in the emphasis that the ANC manifesto places on development support. Although the state must make the necessary resources available, experience has once again shown that the state is an ineffective development agent. If development aid is not made available in close partnership with existing commercial farmers and their organisations, the results are mostly poor or total failure.

The ANC document unfortunately does not recognise the need for partnership relationships with existing role players in commercial agriculture. If co-operation is not sanctioned and encouraged at political level, building bridges will remain problematic at executive level. Is it *so* difficult for the ANC to adopt a positive stance on co-operation at this level?

Agri SA is also concerned about how water rights, also mentioned in the manifesto, will be optimally used given the current situation whereby the transfer of certain water rights are "frozen" by the Department of Water Affairs. Agri SA is currently considering legal action with regard to the manner in which the Department of Water Affairs deals with the situation. In practice, blocking trade in water rights leads to financial loss for individuals as well as to the under-utilisation of irrigation water for agricultural production purposes. How this is compatible with the ANC's ideal to make South Africa less dependent on food imports through food self-sufficiency remains an enigma. The ANC will have to clarify its own approach in this regard.

The question of improved residential rights on farms: The state has already given an indication in the budget as to how it wants to assist in this regard and Agri SA will support it provided that it also makes provision for assistance for "off-farm" housing. Unfortunately it has been land owners' experience that "on-farm" housing in terms of the Tenure Act resulted in houses being claimed by former employees. An alternative solution is therefore required.

RSG Landbou-program

RSG Landbou bestaan uit aktualiteitsonderhoude en landbounuus wat van Maandae tot Donderdae van 12:30-12:44 uitgesaai word op RSG. Die aanbieder is Hennie Maas. Die hoofborge Agri SA, MPO, AgriBonus en Graan SA is verantwoordelik vir die verskaffing van die progamme se redaksionele inhoud. Die programinhoud en nuus word gekoördineer en saamgestel deur Agri Connect.

Landboufokus
Landboufokus word van Maandae-Vrydae van 4:45-4:55 op RSG uitgesaai. Die program bestaan uit interessante onderhoude oor verskillende landboubedrywe. Die program word aangebied deur Hennie Maas en word saamgestel deur Agri Connect.

Agriculture Today

SABC 2 Maandae – Vrydae 05:45
SABC Africa (kanaal 53) Sondae 12:30

Ons spreek oudergewoonte landboukwessies aan, kyk na die jongste markpryse.
We have a look at what the weather holds.
Lekker boer! / Enjoy your farming!