

Agri SA

E-nuusbrief / E-newsletter

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Beste wense vir 'n Geseënde Kersfees en 'n Voorspoedige Nuwe Jaar

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2011 FLOOD RELIEF SCHEME

Koos van Zyl

A meeting arranged and chaired by the Northern Cape Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development was held on 7 December 2011 at Upington to discuss the implementation of the 2011 flood assistance scheme, based on the R131.862 million that was allocated for disaster relief for the financial year ending 31 March 2012. The invitation was addressed to amongst others, Agri SA, Agri Northern Cape, Department of Water Affairs and Eksteenskuil Agricultural Co-operative, and was well attended by representatives from these organisations. It was also noted that the Orange River Farmers Union represents 22 Water Users Associations and two Independent Water Boards.

A broad overview of the flood damage and the status of the repair programme were given. The substantial damage to the infrastructure was clearly seen from pictures and it also show what individual farmers have done to repair some of the flood and protection walls.

Following this, the content of the 2011 flood assistance scheme was discussed. It came clear that the scheme, as it has been approved, does not cater for the repair of the protection walls or levees on either state or on private land to protect large areas of irrigation land, livelihood of farmers and those living on the land. The subsidies provided for in the scheme are not adequate since some of the individual protection walls can cost more than the value of a particular farm. In the low-lying areas e.g. Eksteenskuil, where small farmers and subsistence farmers are not in a position to make any contribution whatever the nature, due to the huge damage and that well equipped and skilled contractors will have to be called in to do the repairs.

Although there is great appreciation for the Government's assistance, the meeting proposed that as a first priority the funds should be used (as a 100% subsidy) to fully repair all the protection walls alongside the flooded area, since it is regarded as key conservation works as risk reduction against future floods. If this route is not taken, many farmers will not be in

financial position to repair these works on their own properties within the current subsidy scheme of 50 % of the cost of repair. This will leave some of these protection walls or levees “open”, which can cause future disaster flooding. The same arrangement must apply to the small and subsistence farmers.

The meeting suggested that second, third and fourth priority should be the repair of privately owned water installations and canals; roads (referred to as farm roads) soil conservation repair works.

The meeting discussed a range of strict control measures that must be in place and that the regulations must be drawn up as soon as possible. Representatives of Organised agriculture indicated that they will fully support such measures. The 24 Water Users Associations and two Independent Water Boards confirmed that they interpret “own contribution” as defined in the Government Gazette as their duty to supervise and inspect while the repair of the works are being done. They are also prepared to serve on the task team who will perform the duties of verifying and signing off when the work is completed. At provincial level Agri Northern Cape will serve on the Coordinating body while Agri SA will serve at national level. Concern was mooted that the small number of local contractors will not be able to cater for the demand and that the scheme must allow for contractors from outside the area to tender, but with the strict proviso that local unemployed persons must be appointed to do the bulk of the work. Local registered engineers should also be contracted to assist with the planning of the work, supervision and signing off The completed works. There is a lot of confusion on the rule in the framework of the 2011 flood assistance scheme that states “repair means restore to applicable standard (in DAFF terms)”. There are no specific standards and it is recommended at the norm of the 2011 flood be used. The height of the flood namely the m³ water/second at the Upington bridge measured at +500mm and should be used as the future standard. The onus rests with the farmers to comply to these standards. Those works already completed by individual farmers will be dealt with under the rules of the current scheme.

Urgent presentation to the relevant authorities to amend the present Flood Assistance Scheme will be prepared by the provincial department of the Northern Cape for submission to the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

Dieselterugbetalings

Dawie Maree, Ekonomiese

Agri SA het gedurende die jaar verskeie navrae gehad betreffende die voorskrifte rakende administrasie gerig op dieselterugbetalings. Gedurende April 2011 het die nuwe verwysingsgids vir diesel/biodieselterugbetalings van SARS verskyn, wat aan alle affiliasies van Agri SA gestuur is, vir verdere verspreiding na lede.

Volgens hierdie gids moet daar onder andere logboeke gehou word van die hoeveelheid diesel wat in ‘n voertuig gegooi word (“*keep logbooks in respect of fuel supplied to each vehicle...*”). Dit het aan die lig gekom dat SARS verskeie oudits in hierdie verband uitgevoer het en dat boere in bepaalde gevalle nie aan die riglyne (voorskrifte) wat in die verband neergelê is, voldoen nie. Dit beteken dat eise geweier word en dat ‘n ingewikkelde beswaar- en appèlprosedure dan gevolg moet word. Diegene wat nie oor die “*Reference guide – Diesel/Biodiesel Refund*” beskik nie moet dit asseblief onverwyld vanaf SARS se webwerf bekom. Rekenmeesters, ouditeure, boekhouers wat boere bedien moet hulleself ook vergewis van die inhoud hiervan ten einde laasgenoemde te kan adviseer.

Agri SA ontvang internasionale afvaardigings

Dawie Maree, Ekonomiese

Agri SA het onlangs twee besoeke ontvang van buitelandse afvaardigings uit onderskeidelik Vietnam en China.

Die Vietnamese afvaardiging is gelei deur mnr Nguyen Quoc Cuong, Voorsitter van die Vietnamese Landbou-unie (VNFU). Die doel van die VNFU se kort besoek aan Suid-Afrika was om 'n bilaterale gesprek te voer oor aktiwiteite en ervarings van Agri SA en om verhoudings te bou tussen die VNFU en Agri SA. Landbou speel 'n groot rol in die Vietnamese ekonomie en ongeveer 70% van die bevolking is nog betrokke in boerdery aktiwiteite, alhoewel op 'n klein skaal, met 'n gemiddelde plaasgrootte van 1 ha.

'n Chinese afvaardiging uit die Ningxia Hui outonome gebied, onder leiding van mnr Zhao Yongbiao, Direkteur-generaal van die Departement van Landbou en Veeteelt in dié gebied, het Agri SA besoek. Die doel van hierdie besoek was om meer inligting in te win oor die landbou situasie in Suid-Afrika met die oog op moontlike samewerking, veral op die gebied van skaap- en beesboerdery. Aangesien die Ningxia Hui gebied redelik afgeleë is, is handelsmoontlikhede beperk, maar daar word gepoog om meer tegniese samewerking te skep.

AGRICULTURE: A CALL TO ACTION FOR COP17 CLIMATE CHANGE NEGOTIATORS

Nic Opperman, Director: Natural Resources

The following open letter endorsed by the participants of the Agriculture & Rural Development Day (ARDD), which was held on 4 December 2011 in Durban, was handed to the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Ms Tina Joemat-Pettersson.

“Our world faces formidable challenges. The global population has now crossed the seven billion mark and is projected to reach nine billion by mid-century, requiring at least a 70 percent increase in agricultural production to meet increased demand.

The world's resources are under more strain than ever before as global demand for water, energy and food is on the rise. At the same time, climate change threatens farmers' ability to produce enough to meet growing demand, and poor communities' ability to access nutritious food.

More frequent and extreme weather events are affecting our food supply, our infrastructure and our livelihoods. Last year, Russia suffered its worst drought in more than 100 years, triggering forest fires and destroying millions of hectares of crops. This year we have seen the Horn of Africa face its worst drought in 60 years as more than 13 million people requiring emergency food aid and pastoralists losing a third of their livestock. Recent flooding in Thailand, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Cambodia has also impacted livelihoods and worsened food insecurity.

The most vulnerable regions of the world – developing countries – are disproportionately affected by climate change, despite contributing little to carbon emissions. People in developing countries depend heavily on agriculture for their livelihoods, yet are increasingly challenged in their ability to produce sufficient food for their families and for markets.

Whilst agriculture is a contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, it has significant potential to be part of the solution to climate change. Preserving and enhancing food security requires increasing agricultural productivity whilst at the time adapting to and mitigating climate change. It also requires a shift towards building farmers' and vulnerable communities' resilience to climate shocks and related food price volatility.

More productive, sustainable and resilient agriculture requires transformations in how rural people manage natural resources and how efficiently they use these resources as inputs for crop production. For these transformations to occur, it is essential that the world's farmers, scientists, researchers, the private sector, development practitioners and food consumers come together to achieve climate-smart agriculture.

Yet the agricultural sector remains astonishingly underfunded. As a percentage of total investment, agriculture has dropped from 22 percent in 1980 to approximately 6 percent today. In absolute terms, this constitutes a drop to roughly half of the funding allocated thirty years ago.

At the upcoming climate change negotiations in Durban, we call on negotiators to recognize the important role of agriculture in addressing climate change so that a new era of agricultural innovation and knowledge sharing can be achieved. Specifically, we ask that they approve a Work Program for agriculture under the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) so that the sector can take early action to determine the long-term investments needed to transform agriculture to meet future challenges”.

CrisisOnCall sinoniem met gemoedsrus

Kobus Visser, Direkteur: Korporatiewe Skakeling

CrisisOnCall se dienste het die afgelope nege jaar sinoniem geraak met die woord gemoedsrus. Kommersiële boere het tans verskeie uitdagings op die politieke en ekonomiese terrein waaraan hulle moet aandag gee. Wanneer dit by noodsituasies kom, is CrisisOnCall daar om die nodige gemoedsrus te gee. CrisisOnCall se dienste is so ontwikkel om ook vir die boere en hul gesinne gemoedsrus op 'n landswye basis te verskaf. Hierdie organisasie verskaf dus nie net gemoedsrus aan sy lede nie, maar maak ook 'n finansiële bydrae tot die Agri Securitas Trustfonds om landelike veiligheid te bevorder.

Deur CrisisOnCall se vennootskap met die Agri Securitas Trustfonds word die volgende dienste aan die landbougemeenskap beskikbaar gestel:

- Die reismoniteringsdiens verseker dat gereeld kontak gehou word met die reisende familie terwyl die krisislyn, gekoppel aan 'n nasionale noodnommer daar is om hulp en advies te verleen sou die noodlot toeslaan.
- Min mense besef hoe krities inligting is tydens 'n mediese noodgeval. CrisisOnCall se identifikasie-sisteem oorbrug daardie probleem. Neem verder in ag dat telefoniese mediese advies, regsadvies en trauma berading saam met die ander dienste 24/7/365 beskikbaar is.

Vanaf so min as R 71.00 per maand (R 852.00 per jaar) kan elke boer en sy gesin nou deel in die gemoedsrus wat CrisisOnCall bied. Lidmaatskap tot CrisisOnCall help die organisasie om maandeliks 'n bydrae tot die Agri Securitas Trustfonds te maak.

Die noodlot stuur nie 'n boodskap met die datum en tyd wat dit gaan toeslaan nie. Dit gebeur net. CrisisOnCall sal daar wees om bystand te bied wanneer die onvoorsiene gebeur. Kontak CrisisOnCall by die volgende 0861 57 4747 of marketing@crisisoncall.co.za vir meer inligting.

CRISONCALL SYNONYMOUS WITH PEACE OF MIND

Kobus Visser, Director: Corporate Liaison

Over the past nine years, CrisisOnCall's services have become synonymous with peace of mind. Commercial farmers currently face various challenges on the political and economic front to which they must attend. When it comes to emergency situations, CrisisOnCall is

there to provide the necessary peace of mind. The services have been developed in such a way that farmers and their families countrywide are afforded peace of mind. The organisation not only offers peace of mind to its members, but also makes a financial contribution to the Agri Securitas Trust Fund to promote rural safety.

Through CrisisOnCall's partnership with the Agri Securitas Trust Fund, the following services are made available to the farming community:

- The travel monitoring service ensures that regular contact is maintained with the travelling family, while the crisis line, linked to a national emergency number, is there to assist and provide advice in the event of an emergency situation.
- Few people realise how critical information is during a medical emergency. CrisisOnCall's identification system solves this problem. Also note that telephonic medical advice, legal advice and trauma counselling are available with the other services on a 24/7/365 basis.

From as little as R71,00 per month (R852,00 per year) every farmer and his family can now share in such peace of mind offered by CrisisOnCall. Membership helps the organisation to make a monthly contribution to the Agri Securitas Trust Fund.

We never know when an emergency will arise – it simply happens. CrisisOnCall will be there to assist you when the unforeseen happens. Contact CrisisOnCall at 0861 57 4747 or marketing@crisisoncall.co.za for more information.

GESINSBESKERMER om in die hele gesin se behoeftes te voldoen

Kobus Visser, Direkteur: Korporatiewe skakeling

Wanneer 'n lid van 'n gesin op enige manier in 'n ongeluk betrokke is, of in 'n misdaad voorval aangeval word is die gevolge nie net traumaties nie, maar kan dit ook 'n swaar las op die gesin se finansies plaas. Dit is veral wanneer die broodwinner sterf of beseer word wanneer die res van die gesin erge finansiële probleme ervaar. Die GESINSBESKERMER (voorheen genoem Agri Securitas Traumaversekering) is spesifiek ontwikkel om aan die gesin se behoeftes in die geval van trauma te voldoen. Die produk word deur T&E FinOps bemark met wie Agri SA reeds 'n jarelange werksverhouding het.

Alle bestaande Agri Securitas Traumaversekeringslede word outomaties oorgeplaas na die skema en deel in die verhoogde/addisionele voordele teen dieselfde premie as voorheen. Skrywes in die verband is reeds op 1 September 2011 aan bestaande lede uitgestuur.

Die GESINSBESKERMER word sedert 1 Oktober 2011 onderskryf deur ACE Insurance Limited, een van die wêreld se grootste verskaffers van versekering. Van die uitsonderlike voordele van die skema is die volgende:

- Traumavoordeel van R10 000 per insident/per lid van die gesin tydens n traumatiese gebeurtenis.
- Die GESINSBESKERMER bied nou dekking aan die boere vir "hele lewensduur" waar dit voorheen op ouderdom 80 gestaak het. Slegs arbeidsongeskiktheidsvoordele verval op ouderdom 80. Let wel lede wat ouer as 80 jaar oud is en lid was van die Agri Securitas Traumaskema kan weer aansluit!!!
- Ongeskiktheidsdekking vir kinders!!
- Gewaarborgde hospitaaltoelating van tot R20 000 per persoon in geval van 'n ongeluk*;
- Mediese ondersteuning en noodafvoer per pad of lug.
- Met betrekking tot boere geniet hulle ten volle dekking tydens Passiewe Oorlogvoering, dws optrede met die oog daarop om misdaadverwante gebeure te voorkom of stop te

sit. Liggaamlike beserings/dood voortspruitend uit optrede in samewerking met die kommando, as polisiereservis en/of boerewag/plaaswag word ten volle gedek.

- Beserings weens gevaarlike sportsoorte word gedek.
- Die hospitaalkontantplan betaal uit, ongeag hoeveel u mediese skema uitbetaal.
- Die 'C5 HIV prevention plan' is beskikbaar aan alle lede.
- 25 kritieke siektes vir die hele gesin is addisioneel beskikbaar (onderhewig aan ouderdoms-beperkings)
- Die GESINSBESKERMER vul al die leemtes wat aanwesig is by n gesin se versekerings- portefeulje.

Premies wissel vanaf R240.00 per gesin per maand tot so laag as R75.00 na gelang van die voordeleplan wat gekies word.

Vir meer besonderhede kan T&E FinOps wat 'n gemagtigde diensverskaffer is gekontak word by 0861440666, faks 0866109170 of e-pos esme.theron@tefinops.co.za

Agri SA mediaverklarings / AGRI SA MEDIA RELEASES

Agri SA het verskeie mediaverklarings gedurende September 2011 uitgereik. Die volledige verklarings kan op Agri SA se webblad gelees word. <http://www.agrisa.co.za/Verklarings/Verklaring.htm>

During the month of September 2011 Agri SA issued various media statements. The full statements could be read on Agri SA's webpage <http://www.agrisa.co.za/Verklarings/Agri-persa.htm>

7 December 2011 **CLIMATE CHANGE – COP 17**

DO YOU NEED A VEHICLE?

Kobus Visser, Director Corporate Liaison

The relationship between the vehicle manufacturer, **Nissan SA**, and the Agri Securitas Trust Fund, in terms of which Nissan SA makes a contribution of R1 000 to the Trust Fund for every Nissan vehicle purchased by agriculture, including farmers, goes back 11 years. Agriculture can demand a rebate from 2% to 8% depending on the model, excluding accessories. A fleet code, **F14911**, must be used to qualify for the discount when a vehicle is purchased from a Nissan dealership, which will then enable the manufacturer to make a contribution to the Trust Fund.

Agri SA's website, www.agrisa.co.za, now makes provision for a portal on its homepage where members can purchase vehicles via **Barloworld Motor**. It is a simple process where the member indicates his/her particulars and vehicle requirements on the website. These particulars are then sent directly to Barloworld Motor which will contact the member to discuss the transaction further. With competitive prices for new and used vehicles, vehicle finance and much more, Barloworld Motor strives to exceed the expectations of clients and Agri SA members and to make a financial contribution to Agri SA.

Agri SA members are encouraged to make use of this added value in order to make their vehicle purchase a pleasant experience.

RSG Landbou-program

Luister weksdae, Maandae tot Donderdae na RSG Landbou met Lise Roberts, aanbieder van die program wat landbou aktualiteitsonderhoude voer met boere,

kundiges en landboueiers. Die program word uitgesaai op die senders van RSG. Die hoofborge Agri SA, MPO, AgriBonus en Graan SA is verantwoordelik vir die verskaffing van die programme se redaksionele inhoud.

Ondersteun ons vennote

Agri SA het groot waardering vir die vennote se betrokkenheid by die organisasie en die breë landbou

Partners making a contribution in various fields within AGRI SA	
With their financial contributions, these partners have already demonstrated their support for the farmer and agriculture	
Absa AgriBusiness Enquiries: 011-350 6854 or your nearest Absa branch	Agri SA Group Provident Fund Enquiries: Rene Cockrell Tel: +27 12 431 3462 or rene.cockrell@absa.co.za
T & E Finops Enquiries: Esmé Theron 0861 440 666	Barloworld Enquiries:

AGRI SECURITAS TRUST FUND Partners	
These partners make a contribution towards the safety of the farming community	
Absa AgriBusiness Enquiries: 011-350 6854 or your nearest Absa branch	Nissan SA Enquiries: Piet Visser 012 529 5030 or 083 372 1035
CrisisOnCall Enquiries: Marius Vermaak 083 302 7576	

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This newsletter is compiled and issued by Agri SA Corporate Liaison*