



agriculture & rural development

Department:
agriculture
& rural development
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL



MEDIA ALERT / INVITE

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KZN AGRICULTURAL SUMMIT TO ENSURE RESTITUTED FARMS ARE BROUGHT BACK TO FULL PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY

The Province of KwaZulu-Natal will host an Agricultural Summit in Ixopo, Morningside Stadium, at 09h00 tomorrow the 18th November 2014.

The summit is aimed at bridging the gap between commercial and emerging farmers through skills transfer.

It is evident that most of the restituted land is not being used productively and this is adversely affecting the entire agricultural sector.

Despite the government intervention, most Programmes which have been established to uplift farmers have not yielded the desired outcomes and it has also been noted that there is significant skills shortage to the new entrant commercial farmers.

Agri-business remains the centre-stage of the government development programme and those that are still finding their feet in the agricultural sector are high priority.

The KZN Department of Agriculture and Rural Development has therefore seen the need to hold a one-day summit aimed at discussing issues affecting both commercial and emerging farmers.

The focal point of discussion will revolve around the issue of skills transfer, finance and production.

Taking part in this summit, will be agricultural financial institutions and other organised agricultural groups of interest such as Cooperatives, small-scale farmers and established commercial farmers.

This is one of the attempts from the Department in trying to bridge the gap between commercial and emerging farmers through skills transfer.

The Premier of the Province, Mr Senzo Mchunu, MEC for Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Mr Mike Mabuyakhulu, together with the MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr Cyril Xaba, will be addressing farmers about the role the government intends to play in ensuring that farms recovered through government's intervention remain in full production under new ownership.

Other role players such as Ithala, SAB and Clover PTY LTD will be part of the discussions at the Summit.

For RSVP and more details please contact:
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Issued by the Office of the MEC, for the KZN Department of Agriculture and Rural Development