





OSCA Graduates Excel

The MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development in KwaZulu-Natal, Mr Themba Mthembu, has called on graduates to pull up their sleeves and join the agricultural sector in order to mitigate the challenge of ageing farmers.

He was speaking during the graduation ceremony in Owen Sithole College of Agriculture, outside eMpangeni recently. He told graduates and parents that there is a rapid growing menace in the sector in general that of old age farmers with the youth keeping at bay.

He reassured the attendees of the graduation ceremony that the fight against poverty and unemployment can only be won if the sector produces high quality agriculturists who are ready to take on the bull by its horns. He also emphasised the need to introduce the young people in agriculture saying that there is a challenge of age disparities in the sector with the majority of farmers being people who are over the age of 60.

Mthembu said this is a cause for concern because it indicates an unwarranted phenomenon and paints a picture of a sector of society that cannot revitalise itself.

He wished the graduates all the best in their chosen careers and encouraged them to work hard and position themselves as the country is on new path of availing the land to those who need it most and who have the skills to work it.

Young people, Mthembu said, are in the forefront of his department's programme of action and they should raise their hands in order to be brought on board. The college gave out awards to best performing students in a variety of components within its academic programme. Over 50 students were graduating, accompanied by their elated parents. The students completed their studies in the faculty of Animal Production and Crop production.



Student Awards

(to qualify for an award an average mark of 65% or above has to be obtained



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1. BHENGU SIZWE GOODENOUGH	9 HLONGWANE SBUSISO BRARDLY	17 NTSHANGASE NOMNOTHO MUNTOMUHLE
2 BUTHELEZI NOMFUNDO	10 KHANYILE THOBANI CHRISTIAN WONDERBOY KHANYILE	18 SIBIYA BONGINKOSI LINDOKUHLE
3 CELE NOKUTHULA	11 MAHLABA MANELISI	19 SITHOLE MACCO PHINDILE
4 DHLADHLA NHLAKANIPHO ANDREW	12 MAVUSO SIPHO ICKEL	20 SITHOLE SAKHILE MALUSI
5 DLAMINI BENNY MNCEDISI	13 MBATHA AYANDA CELIMPILO NDODO	21 YAKA CELUMUSA NKULULEKO
6 DUBE DUMISANI GIFT	14 MDLADLA NOSIPHO MANDISA	22 YOUNG SANELE
7 GABELA ZAMAVEZI ZININGI CLOTILDAH	15 MLAMBO SIPHO	23 ZULU THOKOZANI NJABULO
8 GUMEDE THOBELANI	16 NDWANDWE AYANDA KWANDOKUHLE	Mark Alan

CROP PRODUCTION

CROTTRODUCTION		
24 BUTHELEZI SANELE SINAKEKELO	37 LEMBEDE BONGEKA SINAMILE	50 NDLOVU NQOBILE
25 BUTHELEZI THULISILE NCAMISILE PHINDILE	38 MABASO FUNDISWA	51 NDWANDWE MFIHLAKALO BUHLEBAKHE
26 CELE ZAMANDOSI PRECIOUS	39 MAJOLA SOLWAZI SANDILE GIFT	52 NGCOBO SANDILE
27 DLADLA THOLAKELE ENITH	40 MAMBUNU BONGEKILE PRINCESS	53 NGUBENI SIMPHIWE
28 DLAMINI IRENE NQOBILE	41 MANQELE SAKHILE SIMISO	54 NKWANYANA MBALENHLE OWETHU
29 DLAMINI NOMVULA PRECIOUS	42 MATHABA SIZWE	55 NXUMALO NOMAKHWEZI NOMZAMO
30 DLAMINI NONTUTHUKO NOKWENAMA	43 MCHUNU SIPHOSETHU SIWEZE	56 NXUMALO SIBUSISO S'PHAMANDLA
31 DUBE NONDUMISO PRECIOUS	44 MNGOMEZULU MFIHLAKALO MOSES	57 SHOZI SAKHILE DAVID
32 DUMA NOMPUMELELO SHERLY	45 MNISI SIMPHIWE GIFT	58 TETYANA ZIZO
33 GAZU HLAKANIPHILE SIFANISIWE	46 MTHEMBU JABULANI ALEX	59 ZONDI NOKULUNGA
34 GUMEDE SANELISIWE PRETTY	47 MTHEMBU ZAMOKUHLE PRIMROSE	60 ZUMA NQOBILE NHLAKANIPHO
35 JELE BUSISIWE DEBORAH	48 MVELASE MZENZI SIBUSISO	61 ZUMA SFUNDO NTUTHUKO
36 KHUMALO SNQOBILE MBALI	49 MWELASE NTOMBIFUTHI BEAUTY	The state of the s