



KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE

AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

AGRICULTURE MEC HANDS OVER IRRIGATION SCHEME IN PONGOLA

Ensuing from the official handover of irrigation scheme projects and fencing to uMkhanyakude District farmers on 11 March 2026, the KwaZulu-Natal MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development, Hon. Thembeni kaMadlopha-Mthethwa, continues to drive agricultural support forward with the rollout of fencing materials to farmers in the Zululand District. The event took place in KwaShoba, Pongola Local Municipality, on 17 March 2026.

The provision of fencing will play a crucial role in protecting farms from livestock intrusion and external damage, enabling families to produce food consistently, safeguard their crops and strengthen household food security and self-sufficiency in KwaZulu-Natal.

“We are here today to provide key fencing to protect our crops and products from wildlife, cattle and goats that graze on our fields, as well as to safeguard our harvests from thieves who take advantage of the opportunity to steal and reap where they haven't sown.”, said MEC kaMadlopha-Mthethwa.

The MEC congratulated the Biyela Mashobane farmers' cooperative and officially handed over fencing materials estimated to cover 125 hectares of land. The procured fencing materials are worth over R1.8 million.

MEC kaMadlopha-Mthethwa urged the community to work with the Department to protect livestock from Foot-and-Mouth Disease, requesting that livestock not be allowed to roam around freely on roads and in people's fields. The MEC reminded the farmers that the Department does not allow livestock to be transported without valid veterinary permits.











