



agriculture & rural development

Department:
agriculture
& rural development
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

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KZN DARD MEC CYRIL XABA AND EDTEA MEC MIKE MABUYAKHULU ADDRESS THE COMMUNAL FARMERS OF EMTHEKWINI, HLUHLUWE 31 May 2015

The MEC for KZN Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr Cyril Xaba, together with Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs MEC Mike Mabuyakhulu, met with the community of eMthekwini where 27 cattle had died on 19 May 2015.

Also in attendance was Inkosi Bonga Mdletshe of Mdletshe Tribal Authority in Hluhluwe, where he raised the issue of the land claim lodged by the people of eMthekwini and requested for it to be fast tracked. Drought, scarcity of water and overgrazing were the main challenges that were raised by the community when given an opportunity on an open floor question and answers session.

MEC Xaba said "The land claim lodged by the community of eMthekwini under the Mdletshe Tribal Authority is being processed through the correct channels and the outcome of that claim investigation will be conveyed to the people upon completion." He also said "the Provincial Executive Committee is taking this matter very seriously and will be undertaking strict measures to ensure that the challenges brought forth are attended to promptly".

The MEC emphasized on the good relationship of the Department with Inkosi Mdletshe and the people of eMthekwini. He also diffused brewing tensions by stressing on the importance of good neighborliness between the commercial and communal farmers of the area. As part of solving some of the challenges raised, MEC Xaba mentioned that the Department will assist the community with the installation of boreholes where an underground water source will be identified by the Departmental Engineers who were already on the ground in the area. A programme of Animal Veld Management through the Department, is one of the interventions identified to assist the challenge of overgrazing that is affecting the community.

For more information please contact Lelethu Manentsa (KZN DARD) on 071 492 5716 or lelethu01@gmail.com



MEC for KZN Agriculture and Rural Development Mr Cyril Xaba, together with MEC for KZN Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs Mr Mike Mabuyakhulu, Umkhanyakude District Municipality Mayor Clrr Jeffrey Vilane, False Bay Big 5 Local Municipality Mayor Clrr Gumede and Department of Community Safety and Liaison HOD Mr Themba Mavundla arriving at Emthekwini community to meet with communal farmers who lost their livestock



MEC Cyril Xaba together with MEC Mike Mabuyakhulu, Clrr Jeffrey Vilane and Hlabisa Local Municipality Mayor Clrr VF Hlabisa greeting the community of eMthekwini



MEC Cyril Xaba briefing the communal farmers who lost their livestock at Hluhluwe - Mathenjwa, Mthethwa, Gumede and the Sikhakhane family