

## agriculture & rural development

Department: agriculture & rural development PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

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## KZN MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr. Cyril Xaba condemns the murder of iXopo farm manager, Mngoma Mbanjwa

KZN MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development Cyril Xaba, expressed his outrage at the news of yet another farm murder.

Although the motive of the murder of Mngoma Mbanjwa, 51 is unknown, MEC Xaba is conveying his condolences to the Mngoma family and the farming sector at large and said agriculture cannot afford to be losing farmers and farm workers in such a manner. Xaba condemned the killing of the Farm Manager and reiterated his earlier sentiments by saying that such actions should not deter the youth and those participating or planning to participate in agriculture in the Province. "I urge the people of our Province not to forget that Agriculture is the lifeblood of the country and without it, food security is non-existent" he said.

Mngoma Mbanjwa was allegedly found by his employer with two gunshot wounds on the left shoulder and one on the back of the head at the Lockwood Sugarcane farm near Springvale location in iXopo. It is also alleged that a case of murder has been opened at the Highflats SAPS for investigation and no arrests have been made as yet.

The MEC is urging all those affected and the farming communities not to take the law into their own hands but to rather allow the course of the law to take its place and follow due processes.

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