

# Farm entrepreneur's award



**KZN MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development Thembu Mthembu, right, together with eThekweni Councillor Nkosenye Madlala hands over the best entrepreneur award at the KZN Female Farmer of the Year awards ceremony at the University of KwaZulu-Natal's Edgewood campus to Nonhlanhla Joye. Mthembu said the ceremony was to celebrate and appreciate the phenomenal work women were doing in the agricultural sector in KZN, and that women**

**were the backbone of the agricultural sector. He added that women received little to no assistance regarding land, inputs, agricultural training, technologies, services and markets as compared to their male counterparts, a fact which flew in the face of the knowledge women have in rural farming. Empowering and investing in rural women meaningfully increases productivity, reduces hunger and malnutrition and improves rural livelihoods, Mthembu said.**