KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCE
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

KWAZULU-NATAL PREMIER HAS UNVEILED NEW TRACTORS AND HANDHELD TILLERS TO TACKLE FOOD INSECURITY

The KwaZulu-Natal Premier Mr Thamsanqa Ntuli and MEC for the Department of Agriculture and Rural Mr Thembeni kaMadlopha-Mthethwa have launched tractors and ground-breaking handheld tillers designed to empower household farmers and tackle food insecurity. The handheld tillers, considered a game changer for household food production, will be piloted in the uMgungundlovu District.

According to the General Household Survey, KwaZulu-Natal is among the provinces with the highest percentage of households struggling with inadequate access to food, which has risen from 12.7% in 2021 to 15.5% in 2024.

Speaking during the handover of the tractors and the tillers, kaMadlopha-Mthethwa said eight handheld tillers have been procured costing nearly R300 thousand. She said, "In response to the challenges in the food production, they have developed interventions to boost agricultural production yields. The tractors and handheld tillers add to the existing initiatives such as the Seed Multiplication, Mushroom, Community Investment, and Multi-planting Season programmes. The new additions of equipment will go a long way in addressing the shortcomings in the farming sector."

For more on this please contact Vusi Khumalo (MLO) at 082 350 4674.

ISSUED BY THE KWAZULU-NATAL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT




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