



## Who are we?

We are the Western Cape Department of Agriculture

**Who is in charge?** The Minister is **Gerrit van Rensburg**. He is an elected politician. He is responsible for directing the Department's activities in line with the National and Provincial Government policies.

The Head of Department is **Ms Joyene Isaacs**. She is a public servant, appointed to ensure that the Department implements the Ministerial and Governmental directives and mandates efficiently and effectively.

## Our main objective

The Department is primarily responsible for the promotion of agriculture in all its rich diversity in the Western Cape. We are striving towards being a united, responsive and prosperous agricultural sector in balance with nature.

## What services do we provide?

### Governance

Provide and adhere to good corporate governance principles and practices, including diligent financial management, the application of fair human resource management, the promotion of appropriate communication with clients, other Departments, Provinces and African countries, within the context of the BATHO PELE principles and Inter Governmental Relations requirements.

### Financial support for agriculture

Manage and facilitate financial support for farmers at all levels of production, including CASP, LandCare, land protection subsidies, MAFISA, bursaries for agricultural training and education as well as disaster relief funds as allocated from time to time.

### Knowledge transfer

Train prospective and current agriculturists, farmers and farm workers in the agricultural industry and promote career opportunities in agriculture.

Deliver a competitive and appropriate farmer support service (including extension) to a broad spectrum of clients, with emphasis on the emerging farming sector on a geographically determined basis.

Provide agricultural economic information and services for effective decision making in the agricultural and agribusiness sector.

Provide information and services to increase the efficient use of our agricultural water resources especially in view of the possible impact of climate change on our Province.

### Regulatory function

Monitor and minimise animal health risks to ensure food security by means of food safety and to facilitate the export of animals and animal products.

Promote the conservation and sustainable use of the environment, especially agricultural natural resources (land and water) and prevent the fragmentation and rezoning of agricultural land.

### Knowledge development

Develop economically accountable and environmentally sustainable cutting-edge technologies in all spheres of agricultural production, processing and marketing with due consideration of current and future needs of all farmers and consumers nationally and internationally in a changing environment, to enhance competitiveness and to expand agricultural production for increased growth and development as well as promoting agricultural job opportunities.



# How did we do in 2011/2012?

Services and outputs achieved:

## Water conservation projects undertaken

- 66 water and irrigation related projects and initiatives rendered to stakeholders.
- 61 support actions rendered to Farmer Support and Development (CASP/LARP) related to water and irrigation (investigations, designs and completion certificates).
- Provided 162 irrigation farmers with relevant information to assist them to increase water use efficiency whilst producing more crops.

## Animal housing and handling and animal waste management facilities

- 409 support initiatives rendered to clients of whom 160 were for CASP, LRAD beneficiaries (investigations, designs and completion certificates).
- 214 clients provided with ad-hoc training and advice in various categories of engineering.

## Mechanisation planning service

- 141 mechanisation planning and 4 on-farm value adding initiatives undertaken.
- 2110 hectares of farm land improved by means of conservation farming.

## Protection of natural resources

- Massive project undertaken to rehabilitate the Berg River system by removing 100 year old blue gum trees that infested the riparian zone of the river. This created an improvement in the flow of the river that is safe for people to use.
- 45 projects and initiatives implemented to protect rivers from eroding their banks and destroying prime agricultural land.

## Prevention of fragmentation of agricultural land

- 932 recommendations made for change of agricultural land use.

## Conservation projects (Act 43 of 1983)

- 314 farm plans updated for purposes of sustainable farming.
- 6338 youths were exposed to LandCare principles aiming to create a culture of conservation and caring for our natural resources.

## Development of farm workers

- 651 farm workers assisted through referral system.
- 1556 farm workers trained in different technical and life skills.
- 9 anti-substance abuse projects supported.
- 14 regions in the Western Cape took part in the Provincial Farm Worker of the Year Competition.

## Casidra (Pty) Ltd. implementation of prioritised projects

- 35 infrastructure projects delivered that contributed to the success of 60% of all agricultural land reform projects.
- 648 infrastructure projects delivered on various community, school, church and households for the socio-economic development of communities in selected rural nodes.

## Agri-Business development and support

- 58 Agri-Businesses supported to access markets.
- 1273 clients supported with agricultural economic advice.
- 174 economic and statistical information requests dealt with.
- 49 new enterprise budgets developed or updated.
- 4 international promotional events in Africa and China supported for new market opportunities.

## Technology, transfer and information

- 3352 farmers supported with advice through on-farming visits.
- 128 requests for assistance attended to of which 81 were smallholder farmers.
- Delivered 83 demonstrations, 29 farmer's days and 95 non-accredited courses for 1400 farmers.
- Facilitated 105 land reform assessments.
- 1522 smallholder farmers supported with advice to contribute to successful land reform.
- 471 monitoring reports completed on land reform farms.

## Food security projects

- 51 community gardens successfully established across the Province. 1091 beneficiaries reached.
- 23 food security projects rehabilitated in poor communities.
- 810 household food production packages (suitcases) were delivered across the province.
- Established 20.3 hectares of table grape and 42.4 hectares of wine grape vineyards, 93.3 hectares of fruit orchards, 1703.9 hectares of grain and 151.2 hectares of vegetable production.

# Our organisation and staffing

## STAFFING

On 31 March 2012, we employed 951 staff of which 818 were permanent employees and 133 contract employees. Representation with regards to race, gender and disability:

**163 = (17.2%)** of our staff are Black

**507 = (53.3%)** are Coloured

**4 = (0.4%)** are Indian

**277 = (29.1%)** are White

**393 = (41.3%)** of our staff are women

**17 = (1.8%)** are persons with disabilities

## LANGUAGE

English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa are the three official languages for the Province. The home language of most of the staff is Afrikaans. The majority of the personnel can, however, speak and write in both English and Afrikaans. Only a small percentage of the personnel can express themselves in and understand all three languages. A drive is underway in the Department to train staff in isiXhosa.

## SERVICE DELIVERY CENTRES

The Head Office of the Department as well as the main campus of the Cape Institute for Agricultural Training is situated on the Elsenburg farm in Stellenbosch. The Department has a District Office in all six of the Municipal Districts as well as 45 service points in the Province from where services are rendered. The Department also has 3 decentralised campuses, 7 research farms, veterinary services, plant production, animal production as well as other research laboratories under its jurisdiction.

### **Provision of research results, outcome of scientific analysis, advice and relevant technology information dissemination**

- 205 presentations made at technology transfer events (farmer days).
- 43 semi-scientific and 126 popular publications.
- 41 radio talks and 90 conference papers delivered on technical issues.
- 17 different information packs distributed, 14 information days / events conducted.
- 38 climate change reports and 19 agricultural condition reports disseminated.

### **Agricultural Economics information dissemination**

- 196 written outputs including scientific and popular reports or articles for publication in various journals and presented at national and international conferences.
- 43 agricultural economic studies conducted.
- 61 marketing outputs disseminated.

### **Disaster relief, poverty alleviation and social responsibility campaigns**

- Continued financial (R24.9million / drought assistance, R21.5million / flood relief) and humanitarian support was given to farmers for the implementation of continued disaster assistance and relief works in the West Coast and Eden.
- Clearing of alien invasive vegetation created 25 040 jobs which assisted with poverty alleviation in the specific rural areas.
- Social upliftment projects in 6 Rural Nodes provided for 416 temporary jobs and 798 training opportunities.
- World Food Day celebrations were held in Doringbaai (West Coast) on 14 October 2011. Household production packages as well as indigenous fowls provided. Staff also donated tinned food, books and clothing that were distributed to the 48 poverty stricken families.
- The newly formed Departmental Green Committee is making good inroads in sensitising staff on our carbon footprint and ways to deliver services in a more sustainable way.

### **Research on animals, plants, vegetables, alternative crops and resource utilisation**

- 5 research projects focusing on climate change executed.
- 72 research projects implemented which addresses a specific commodity's production constraints.



## **Our budget**

**Our budget for 2011/2012 was R517.192 million. The Department succeeded in spending 99.5% of the budget allocation. The Department reported a materially under-spending or saving of R2.63 million (0.5%) for the 2011/2012 financial year.**

### **BREAKDOWN OF THE BUDGET ALLOCATION:**

**Compensation of staff** = R226.567m  
Percentage of total budget = 44%

**Programmes** = R290.625m  
Percentage of total budget = 56%

Total = 100% = R517.192m

**Running costs:** The allocation per Programme includes costs earmarked for Goods and Services, Transfers and Subsidies and payment of Capital and Financial Assets.

### **BREAKDOWN OF ALLOCATION PER PROGRAMME (EXCLUDING COMPENSATION)**

1. Administration	R 36.817million
2. Sustainable Resource Management	R 17.156million
3. Farmer Support & Development	R 152.690million
4. Veterinary Services	R 30.453million
5. Research & Technology Development Services	R 23.228million
6. Agricultural Economics	R 3.833million
7. Structured Agricultural Training	R 19.857million
8. Rural Development	R 6.591million

# How did we do in 2011/2012?

**Services and outputs achieved:**



## Human capital development

- 128 students graduated in Agricultural Training (Degrees, Diplomas and Higher Certificates).
- 167 students completed accredited short courses.
- 12 agricultural advisors completed their 4 year and higher degrees.
- 79 learnership students graduated on NQF Level 1 to 4.
- 7 cellar workers received training in barrel management and maintenance in Burgundy, France.
- Hosted 8 French students for training in viticulture and wine making.
- 4 cheese-makers received training in Dijon, France.
- 8 extension officers received training in Burgundy, France.
- 1174 farm aids and 766 farmers attended non-accredited courses in project management and small farm production at CIAT.
- 4 schools visited to reach high school students and participated in 16 career expos and Community Outreach Programmes to market agriculture as a potential career and study field.
- 42 interns taken into employ to gain experience and to improve chances of obtaining jobs.

## Animal health, veterinary public health and food safety service

- 1 561 943 animals inspected.
- 73 192 vaccinations administered to prevent spread of animal diseases.
- 177 954 diagnostic tests performed on samples received.
- 160 117 sampling and testing done for animal disease surveillance.
- 109 856 specimens tested for Controlled/Notifiable diseases.
- 30 168 specimens tested for Non Controlled/Non Notifiable diseases.
- 433 abattoirs visited for monitoring, inspection, audit and Hygiene Assessment System evaluations.
- 228 export applications evaluated and certificates issued.
- 64 966 animals vaccinated against Rabies.
- 95 880 animals attended to during Primary Animal Health Care (PAHC) sessions.
- 46 111 animals tested for skin TB.
- 58 861 samples collected for bovine Brucellosis testing.
- 179 964 sheep tested for scab.

## Service delivery improvement initiatives

- The subdivisions of each Programme started or completed process descriptions and mapping of all their business processes.
- Special emphasis placed on training and development of staff and filling of posts to enhance service delivery.
- Standardised implementation framework developed which brought a holistic and coordinated approach to the implementation actions of all 3 spheres of government and to maximize the impact of government services in the selected rural areas/nodes.
- Compiled an ostrich industry standard manual which will assist producers to comply with EU standards and has lately assisted with biosecurity

## Service delivery improvement initiatives continue.....

- measures as a pre-requisite for entering the EU market.
- Prelim survey done which will be followed up with a more detailed survey aimed at identifying key focus areas to improve farmer support interventions to land reform farms.

## Other references

- Annual Report 2011/12 for more information on the actual / detailed achievements by the Department.
- Departmental Service Delivery Charter and the Service Delivery Improvement Plan for any service standards.

## How to contact us

**For more information, suggestions and/or compliments please feel free to contact:**

Head of Communication  
Private Bag X1  
ELSENBURG  
7607

Tel: (021) 808 5008 | Fax: (021) 808 5000  
Email: petrovr@elsenburg.com  
Website: www.elsenburg.com  
Provincial website: www.westerncape.gov.za