

## ENTRIES/NOMINATIONS

- \* Provincial nomination process should close by the end of June.
- \* Provinces have the right to make use of any method of receiving the entries (apart from the postal services).

## RE – ENTRIES

- \* Finalists who did not win any of the categories will be allowed to re- enter the same category after one year.
- \* A winner is not eligible to enter the same category in two consecutive years.
- \* Winners who won at a higher level such as Top Entrepreneur: Export Markets are not expected to re – enter the competition.
- \* Winners should wait for a year to lapse before they can re – enter in a different commodity.

For more information,  
please contact the Female Entrepreneur  
Coordinators

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**FEMALE  
ENTREPRENEUR  
AWARDS/COMPETITION**



WE BELONG



WE CARE



WE SERVE



## FEMALE ENTREPRENEUR AWARDS /COMPETITION

### We recognize Women's potential in farming

The Female Entrepreneur of the Year Awards/Competition is a project initiated by the former National Department of Agriculture in 1999.

The objective of the awards is to encourage and increase the participation of women in agricultural activities. The Female Entrepreneur Awards is an instrument through which women's efforts and contributions to the fight against poverty, in matters of food security through backyard and large- scale production as well as value –chain activities can be acknowledged.

This project is an annual event and is run on a partnership with the private sponsors.

The event commences at provincial level and culminates with the National Female Entrepreneur of the Awards taking place at the end of Women's month.

### CRITERIA FOR CATEGORIES

For female entrepreneurs to be eligible to enter for this competition, they must have their own businesses. In the cases of partnerships, ownership of women should be 80% and companies must be registered in their names.

In instances where management is in the hands of many people, a business establishment will be entered as a legal entity collectively representing the group and winnings must be shared equitably.

**People who have been receiving government funding in Top Entrepreneur categories for the past three years are not eligible to enter.**

### CATEGORIES FOR THE ENTRIES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

#### 1) Top Entrepreneur: Export Markets

- \* At least 60% of the business should be export of produce and have proof of the transactions
- \* Demonstrate a degree of innovation and creativity in improving existing farming systems
- \* Produce for exports markets – with products distributed

across provincial boundaries & international outlets

- \* Demonstrate good sense and innovation in financial management
- \* Create and retain jobs in the enterprise and add value to the community
- \* Show commitment to care for natural resources and ensure sustainability of these resources

#### 2) Top Entrepreneur: Commercial(individuals or groups)

- \* Sell to local & national markets and have proof of the transactions
- \* Manage a fairly organized storage/cold storage facility for produce
- \* Deliver products of high quality in order to be attractive to consumers
- \* Demonstrate a degree of innovation and creativity in improving farming methods
- \* The group should have defined membership and roles within a properly constituted entity.
- \* Demonstrate a good sense of record/bookkeeping

#### 3) Top Entrepreneur: Smallholder

- \* Sell to local markets
- \* Manage a fairly organized storage facility for produce
- \* Produce to sell for economic growth
- \* Demonstrate the ability to work as part of a cohesive team for at least 1 year
- \* Illustrate commitment to care for the natural resources and ensure sustainability of these resources and also responsible use of production inputs, e.g pesticides, fertilizers and vaccines.

#### 4) Top Young Entrepreneur

- \* A group/individual must sell to local and national markets
- \* Demonstrate community involvement.
- \* Demonstrate the ability to work as part of a cohesive team for at least 1 year.
- \* Produce to sell for economic growth.
- \* Demonstrate a good sense of record/bookkeeping.
- \* Deliver products of high quality in order to be attractive to consumers
- \* Illustrate commitment to care for natural resources and ensure sustainability of these resources and also

demonstrate responsible use of production inputs e.g pesticides, fertilizers and vaccines

#### 5) Best Subsistence Producer

- \* Caters only for household and the local village markets on small plots
- \* Demonstrate innovation and creativity in improving food production.
- \* Have commitment to care for the natural resources and ensure sustainability of these resources and also demonstrate responsible use of production inputs e.g pesticides, fertilizers and vaccines.
- \* At least 80% of the operation must be owned by women

#### 6) Best Female Worker(Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries)

- \* Recognises outstanding service in these sectors.
- \* Farmers, foresters, fisheries and fishing companies to nominate one worker for entry.
- \* Only people who do operational work are eligible to enter.
- \* The worker must not own any farm/entity.
- \* The worker must not be related to the farmer.
- \* Male –owned farms are also allowed to nominate the best female worker

#### 7) Overall Female Entrepreneur of the Year

- 1) The winner in this category will be chosen from the winners in the Top Entrepreneur categories: Export , Commercial, Smallholder and the Youth
- 2) The following criteria will be used to award the winner on a scale of 1 to 10 points on individual bullets:

- \* Sound financial management skills
- \* Prospects for growth
- \* Hands –on approach
- \* Investment in research
- \* Job creation
- \* Skills transfer
- \* Usage of new technology
- \* Community/social investment contribution
- \* Youth participation and exposure
- \* Support for contribution to Millennium