





AgriCentre Building Cnr. Dr. James Moroka and Stadium Rd Private Bag X2039, Mmabatho 2735

## DIRECTORATE: COMMUNICATION SERVICES

Tel: +27 (18) 389 5719/5684 Fax: +27(18) 384 4571 E-mail:Esetlhako@nwpg.gov.za

## **MEDIA STATEMENT**

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Att: Editors All Journalists All media houses

## HATCHERY TRAINING NOW AVAILABLE AT KGORA FARMERS TRAINING CENTRE

**Mahikeng**-Kgora Farmer Training Centre has recently added basic hatchery management training to a list of skills development courses offered at this centre for beginners and experienced farmers to improve their results. This follows the completion of a mini-hatchery project at this centre. This mini hatchery can produce up to two thousand (2000) chicks per week and it was established with the aim of training farmers who want to own hatcheries.

Aspiring farmers who attend this training will learn practical aspects of hatchery management that includes the biology of fertile egg production, fertile egg handling, setter and hatcher environment, processing dayold chicks and hatchery biosecurity.

With the range of excellent facilities at Kgora, the centre is able to offer on-farm practical work for participants during training.

Another project that has been recently completed at this centre is installation of 180 tons storage bins. These silos are fitted with an electronic conveyor for ease of loading and dispatch. This type of storage provides optimum storage conditions for the grain, by controlling the temperature, insects, mould, birds etc.

The silos will also be used for storage of grains produced by Kgora itself and to store feed and maize brought in bulk for future total mixed ration (**TMR**) for Kgora livestock.

Reacting to the completion of these projects at Kgora, MEC Desbo Mohono of Agriculture and Rural Development said she is happy that there is progress.

"We had a dream about this centre and I am glad today to say that dream is slowly but surely becoming a reality. This milestone represents yet another step of ensuring that this state owned farmer training centre is equipped with the modern infrastructure to train and develop local farmers.

"What makes me happier is the fact that farmers will be the biggest beneficiaries of these developments taking place at Kgora Farmer Training Centre. The main goal is to ensure that our farmers constantly learn new and old practices and adapt to changes in the sector, MEC Mohono said.

She went on to say she is confident that with this mini hatchery, more hatchers who would receive top-class training from "one of our training institutions would be produced".

The centre can only accept up to a certain number of participants at a time and it is operated on a first come first serve basis. Members of the public are urged to enquire with the local agricultural offices on skills development courses offered at Kgora.

With regard to the centre's contribution to the food security programme, Kgora often donates chickens to farmers for rearing and seedlings to different applicable projects across the province.

## **PHOTO CAPTIONS**

**IMG 1656** Seipati Motsuenyane hard at work at Kgora Farmers Training Centre's Mini-hatchery. The hatchery also forms a list of the newly completed developments. It can produce up 2000 chicks per week.

**IMG 1687** : The centre has installed 180 tons storage bins for storage of grains it produces.

## ends ##

Issued by the Communication Services Directorate Enquiries: Ms Emelda Setlhako Tel: 018 389 5684 / 5719 Cell: 060 745 4020 Email: ESetlhako@nwpg.gov.za Website:www.nwpg.gov.za/Agriculture/ Facebook:www.facebook.com/dard Twitter: @nwpg \_dard