



agriculture & rural development

Department:
Agriculture and Rural Development
North West Provincial Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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

CHIEF DIRECTORATE: CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE: COMMUNICATION SERVICES

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

MEDIA RELEASE

**Att : All Editors
: Media Houses**

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MEC Sambatha Empowers Emerging Farmers in Bojanala District with Strategic Agricultural Support

Koster – North West MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development, Madoda Sambatha, accompanied by the Head of Department (HoD) Thupi Mokhatla and the Bojanala District MMC for Agriculture and Local Economic Development (LED) Matshediso Mangwathe, conducted oversight visits to local agricultural projects in the Kgetlengrivier Local Municipality.

A key highlight of the visit was the inspection of infrastructure and equipment handed over to Kenneth Masilo, a lucerne and livestock farmer based in Swartruggens. Masilo received comprehensive support that included a tractor, mould board plough, centre pivot irrigation system, a newly constructed reservoir, a cold room, and the re-equipping of existing boreholes on his 500-hectare farm.

Originally a vegetable farmer, Masilo now also farms cattle, goats, sheep, and wildlife. He expressed deep appreciation for the Department's intervention, noting that the support has enabled him to access new markets, maintain profitability, and ensure a consistent feed supply for his livestock. "This support has turned my farm into a sustainable business. I can now meet market demands and secure better productivity," said Masilo.

As part of the Food Security Programme, MEC Sambatha also visited Reagile Township in Koster, where Ms Kefilwe Maimane received 120 Amberlink point-of-lay chickens, a three-tier layer cage, and 50 bags (50kg each) of layer mash feed. The initiative aims to enhance household food production and encourage women-led families to grow their own food, ensuring a steady supply of nutritious meals while generating income.

In another empowerment effort, Mr Thabiso Lekgetho, a military veteran, received 10 Boer goats and one breeding buck to boost his small-stock farming enterprise. The Onalerona Health Care Centre was also supported with a shade net to strengthen their community health and gardening projects.

These interventions reaffirm the Department's commitment to sustainable agricultural development and the economic empowerment of rural communities. "These interventions are part of our broader mission to build resilient local economies and ensure food security through targeted agricultural investments," said MEC Sambatha.

The Department continues to drive inclusive agricultural transformation across the province by equipping local farmers and cooperatives with the infrastructure, tools, and resources they need to succeed.

CAPTIONS

20251: MEC Madoda Sambatha visited Kenneth Masilo, a lucerne and livestock farmer from Swartruggens who received infrastructure support from the department.

20252: Originally a vegetable farmer, Masilo's support from the department included a tractor which he still uses.

20253: The Amberlink point-of-lay chickens have enabled Ms Maimane to feed her family and earn income by selling fresh eggs to local residents.

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The North West Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

For interviews, contact Spokesperson: Ms Emelda Setlhako

Cell : 060 745 4020

Email : ESetlhako@nwpg.gov.za

For enquiries contact:

Khutala Tshangela

MEC's Media Liaison Officer

Cell: 066 458 6915

ktshangela06@gmail.com

KTshangela@nwpg.gov.za

Website: www.dard.nwpg.gov.za

Facebook: www.facebook.com/nwpread