



MEDIA STATEMENT

FEMALE ENTREPRENEUR AWARDS HANDOVER

DATE: 11 MARCH 2013

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in the Free State handed over awards to Female Farmers during the event called Female Entrepreneur Awards under the theme 'Women Feeding Families'. The purpose was to acknowledge and rewards the efforts and contribution of women, youth and people with disabilities in matters of food security, job creation, economic growth and poverty alleviation.

The Female Entrepreneur of the Year project was established after the annual competition which was initiated in the Free State province, approved and implemented by the National Department of Agriculture in 1999. The initial objective was to encourage women to participate in the agricultural sector which was highly dominated by men.

The awards were handed over by the Free State Premier, Honourable Ace Magashule, MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development, Mr. Mosebenzi Zwane and the Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development, Mrs. Sindiswa Magwandana. MEC Zwane said continuous support for winners should be provided especially for projects that are prioritizing the issue of fighting poverty and creating job opportunities.

Premier Magashule added by the challenge of catering for the needs of the women, youth and rural communities in terms of programming, education and messaging should be addressed to ensure that they understand the value of Female Entrepreneurs and the establishment of Agricultural cooperatives.

The details of the categories and winners are as follows:

District and Provincial winners for Female Entrepreneur Awards 08 March 2013				
Best Female Worker in Agriculture				
Thabo Mofutsanyane	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Ntsekiseng Florence Motaung	R15 000-00	

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Fezile Dabi	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Nonbazanelo Maria Jonas	R15 000-00	
Free State	Provincial Winner	Nthabeleng Cilvia Sehlabaka	R50 000-00	
Best Subsistence Producer in Agriculture				
Xhariep	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Manini Rosy Mosole	R15 000-00	
Motheo	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Khauhelo Lebentlele	R15 000-00	
Lejweleputswa	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Seipati Joyce Mthombeni	R15 000-00	
Thabo Mofutsanyane	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Refilwe Fruits and Vegetables Project Cooperative Ltd	R15 000-00	
Fezile Dabi	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Mathabo Elizabeth Mahlatsi	R15 000-00	
Free State	Provincial Winner	Khauhelo Lebentlele	R75 000-00	

Top Entrepreneur in Agriculture : Smallholder				
Xhariep	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Popie Susan Jan	R20 000-00	
Motheo	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Malerato Mokoma	R20 000-00	
Lejweleputswa	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Corlia Fouche	R20 000-00	
Thabo Mofutsanyane	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Qihiwe Lenah Motleleng	R20 000-00	
Fezile Dabi	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Senekal Poultry Development Trust	R20 000-00	
Free State	Provincial Winner	Corlia Fouche	R125 000- 00	
Top Entrepreneur Processing				
Lejweleputswa	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Kutlwano Paper Making Cooperative	R20 000-00	
Thabo Mofutsanyane	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Rosy Molete Matlanyane	R20 000-00	
Fezile Dabi	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Sue-Lene Erasmus	R20 000-00	
Free State	Provincial Winner	Rosy Molete Matlanyane	R125 000- 00	

Top Entrepreneur Commercial				
Xhariep	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Colene Grevelink	R20 000-00	
Lejweleputswa	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Marie Scholtz	R20 000-00	
Thabo Mofutsanyane	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Elinda Catharina Meintjes	R20 000-00	
Free State	Provincial Winner	Elinda Catharina Meintjes	R125 000-00	
Top Entrepreneur Export				
Finalist	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Sandra Linde	R20 000-00	
Finalist	District Winner (Prov. Runner-up)	Margaret Beryl Jankielsohn	R20 000-00	
Free State	Provincial Winner	Sandra Linde	R125 000-00	
MEC Special Awards				
Free State	Provincial winner	Nomathumo Agricultural Co-operative	R50 000-00	

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