



Media Advisory
09 February 2016

The Free State Department of Agriculture and Rural Development will host the 6th annual Extension and Advisory Service Conference aimed at sharpening the skills of Extension officers and exposing them to new innovations that farmers could apply in improving their production.

This year's conference is held under the theme "Getting Agricultural Extension moving in the Free State". More than 100 Extension Officers and key stakeholders in the Agricultural industry are expected to attend the two- day conference.

The poor performance of Extension has been a serious concern to most of African countries. A radical approach to extension services was then adopted by the National Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) which is geared at revitalizing extension services as a whole.

The MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development, Oupa Khoabane will officially open the conference on the 10th of February 2016. He will again on the 11th of February recognize excellence by awarding extension officers who've done exceptionally well in the following categories:

1. **Top performer:** Agricultural Advisor
2. **Top Performer:** Extension Practitioner
3. **Top Performer:** Agricultural Assistant
4. Top Performing District
5. **Best paper** (Presented by the Districts)

The details of the conference are as follows:

Venue: Aldam Estate, Ventersburg

Date: 10th - 12 February 2015

Time: 09:00

For any further enquiries, kindly contact:

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