

UBISI NEWS



Workers at Bufland Farming Enterprise recently completed a course offered by the Milk Producers' Organisation's Institute for Dairy Technology. At the back (left to right) are Freddy Morokolo, Michael Mokonyane, Jan Matlou, Hans Moloantsoa, Jim Ditle, Patrick Manganya, Andries Maloto, Leon Eksteen (managing director), Joseph Maluleka. Middle: Lucas Chabalala, William Seanego, Thomas Mafafo, Jack Mfolo, Ronald Ramonetha. In the front are Phillimon Maluleke, Lucas Selemela, Lucas Ledwaba, Tshepo Mokgothadi, Hermans Masingi and Jan Sebothoma

Dairy courses on offer

The Milk Producers' Organisation's Institute for Dairy Technology offers a number of courses for farm workers and farmers. Courses include animal husbandry for beef and dairy cattle as well as goats. For more information, please contact Jas Wasserman on 082 490 2465, 012 843 5743 or e-mail jas@mpo.co.za.

Overberg farm worker 2009

The Sanlam Overberg farm worker of the year was announced on 16 September 2009 in Bredasdorp in the Western Cape. Colin Jonkers won the overall award and was also the winner in the junior management category. Colin works for the Hamilton Russel Vineyards at Hermanus, where he is responsible for vineyard maintenance.

Financial boost for deciduous fruit



The deciduous fruit industry's BEE plan to establish 600 hectares of fruit trees in the Western Cape over the next five years, was kick-started in Ceres with a R1,5 million contribution from the Western Cape department of agriculture. From left to right are Joyene Isaacs, head of department, Western Cape department of agriculture; Gerrit van Rensburg, Western Cape minister of agriculture and rural development; Trevor Abrahams, chairperson of the Deciduous Fruit Development Chamber and Anton Rabe, CEO of the Deciduous Fruit Producer's Trust – Press release

Potato farmer takes honours



Solly Ratjomane, a potato farmer from the Limpopo Province, was announced the winner of the 2009 Toyota New Harvest of the Year Competition and is now the proud owner of a new Toyota bakkie. Solly farms in the Dendron region. He started farming on a rented farm which he later purchased. Potatoes are cultivated under irrigation on 120 ha. Potatoes are planted in rotation with maize, tomatoes and dry beans. He successfully markets his potatoes under his own brand, Solly's Boerdery. He also has 242 Bonsmara and 78 Simbra cattle – Press release

Brush up on your technical skills

The training division of the South African Milk Processors' Organisation (Sampro), has developed a number of new "coaching manuals" for cheese-makers and powder makers' assistants. This is a continuation of a project funded by Milk South Africa.

These manuals form part of a programme on manufacturing assistance and will eventually cover a number of manufacturing technologies. The new manuals include semi-hard and hard cheese and spray dried powder. For more information, phone Sampro on tel 012 991 4164, fax 012 991 4134 or e-mail gerhard.venter@sampro.co.za.

Students head for France



Fifteen students, all farm workers from wine farms in the Western Cape, were selected by the provincial department of agriculture to travel to Burgundy in France, where they will focus on barrel maintenance and viticulture. Back (left to right): Joyene Isaacs, Western Cape department of agriculture, students Zinaschke Steyn and Mervyn Daniels, Western Cape minister of agriculture and rural development, Gerrit van Rensburg, Sheperd Khosana (student), Marius Pausle, chief director: structured agricultural training; French consul, Antoine Michon; students Marius Stevens and Bradley van Niekerk. Front (left to right): Students Thembile Ntloko and Appolis Waterboer – Press release 