

Abel Lefifi

has agriculture in his blood

by Isabel Basson

“Agriculture is my calling,” says Abel Lefifi, training consultant at Skills for All.

He has had a love for agriculture since his school years. In 1992 he started working at the Die Boodskap training centre. Two years ago he joined the Intervet MPO Institute for Dairy Technology in their training programmes for farm workers. All the courses they offer are Seta-accredited.



Abel Lefifi, a dynamic teacher in the dairy industry

Abel presents courses all over the country together with the Institute. The courses he presents cover the following relevant topics:

- Calve care and calve rearing
- Parlour hygiene
- Heat observation and heat handling
- Feeding

“We want to teach the people the right methods, so they can do their work properly,” says Abel. They also teach the people in the language of their choice. This ensures that they understand exactly what to do. Abel is multilingual and can speak almost all of the eleven official languages. The courses are very practical, so that people can see how things have to be done and not only hear it. Information is also handed out in writing, in the form of notes.

The courses are often presented together with other organisations, such as Ecolab, who can add information on their specific products. Workers all agree that they learn a lot from Abel's courses. When the workers have successfully completed the course, they receive certificates. It is also useful to farmers to send their workers on these courses. The skills they learn can save a lot of money on the farm. The farmer can also leave more responsibility in the hands of their workers, saving him a lot of time and effort.

“I love training”, says Abel, and it is clearly visible when attending one of his lectures. They teach workers skills on very relevant topics. Farmers, who realise the benefit of Abel's lectures, get him to come back to their farms to teach new workers as well. It is therefore no surprise that, when asked if he would like to have a farm of his own, Abel replied. “No, not really. I don't want to stay on one farm, I will get bored! This way I get to see a lot of farms and help the people to be better farmers.” **UM**