



**For Immediate Release**

**To: All Media**

**Date: 08 April 2024**

**Attention: All Media**

## **AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (ARC) EXTENDS SUPPORT TO DARDLEA IN RURAL COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT**

The Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA) is set to host two significant events on the 9th and 16th of April. These events mark the official handover of the Iphakeme/Sybrandskraal Grain Milling, Mdala Biodiversity Fence, and Amakhosi Food Security Projects to the deserving beneficiaries within rural communities. These endeavours are aimed at fostering community participation in food production, combating hunger and poverty, while also emphasizing the pivotal role of agriculture in job creation.

The ARC will be exhibiting at the event, demonstrating its diverse range of products and services, aiming to share valuable information with community members and farmers attending the events. By doing so, the ARC hopes to empower local stakeholders with the knowledge and tools necessary to thrive in agriculture.

The Agricultural Research Council (ARC) stands with DARDLEA as they work to improve the lives of our farming communities. Dr. Litha Magingxa, CEO of ARC, conveyed the organisation's commitment, stating, "As the ARC, we are dedicated to supporting initiatives that promote sustainability and inclusive economic engagement within the agricultural sector. These projects align perfectly with our mandate to bolster our farmers' capabilities and contribute to national food security."

These events serve as milestones in the journey towards sustainable development and empowerment within rural communities. The ARC remains resolute in its commitment to supporting initiatives that uplift South Africa's agricultural landscape and its people.

The scheduled events are as follows:

### **Iphakeme/Sybrandskraal Grain Milling**

- **Date:** April 9, 2024 (Tuesday)
- **Venue:** Sybrandskraal FPSU, Thembisile Hani Local Municipality, Nkangala District
- **Time:** 08h30

### **Mdala Biodiversity Fence and Amakhosi Food Security Projects**

- **Date:** April 16, 2024 (Tuesday)
- **Venue:** Klipfontein, Manala Kingdom offices Thembisile Hani Local Municipality
- **Time:** 08h30

## **ENDS**

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### ***Notes to the Editors***

#### **About the Agricultural Research Council**

The Agricultural Research Council is a premier science institution that conducts research with partners, develops human capital, and fosters innovation in support of the agricultural sector. The ARC provides diagnostic, laboratory, analytical, and agricultural engineering services, post-harvest technology development, agrochemical evaluation, consultation, and advisory services, food processing technology services as well as various surveys and training interventions. For more information visit the ARC website at: [www.arc.agric.za](http://www.arc.agric.za)