

On the 9th October, Mbuyiselo Plase celebrated their 10-year anniversary and the well-organized function was attended by the beneficiaries of Mbuyiselo Plase, as well as special guests and the media.

On 16 October 2015, Mbuyiselo Plase received their second and last recapitalization grant from the Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform (DRDAR), which funds will be used for the renovation of staff houses, cloakrooms, upgrading of the office and some production inputs for the 2016 crop.

The recapitalization funds that were previously received from the DRDAR were used for orchard development and planting of lemons in order to improve the variety mix on the farm, the purchase of a bakkie, water cart, cab tractor and a forklift, with the balance being allocated to production cost and upgrading the irrigation system.



So, in summary, these farms and farming businesses are running well and successful results are being achieved year on year. Much of the credit must go to the dedication and enthusiasm of the emerging farmers who have proven that they are capable and worthy of owning their own farming enterprises.

-AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS -

Health and Wellness Awards

On the 23rd October, a Nelson Mandela Bay Health & Wellness Awards function took place in Port Elizabeth, where the award for Wellness Impact was presented to the SRCC Primary Production Wellness Program. The Commendation for Wellness Award went to the SRCC Primary Production Team and Mrs. Lorraine Marais from SRCC was acknowledged as a Wellness Champion.

AgriSETA : Excellence Award

Sonwabo Ncera, who completed a post-graduate placement year with the Citrus Growers' Association (CGA) during 2014, was awarded in August 2015 as the runner-up for the AgriSETA Excellence Award in the category: Best Performer: Graduate Placement.

He started working at SRCC on the 1st of July 2015 as a Graduate Trainee in a permanent position. He has a B.Sc Agricultural Economics & Honours degree which he studied at the University of Fort Hare.

Through industry exposure, Sonwabo singled out SRCC as the company he would like to be part of and the Citrus Academy approached the SRCC who agreed to employ him.

He would like to further his studies and do a Master's degree in 2016.

