



PO Box 76297, Lynnwood Ridge, South Africa, 0040

Grain Building, 1st Floor, 477 Witherite Street
The Willows, Pretoria, South Africa, 0184

Tel. +27 12 807 6686, Fax. +27 12 807 5600
admin@agbiz.co.za, www.agbiz.co.za

Vat nr. 4920204684

Agbiz press statement
For immediate release

21 April 2020

Agbiz announces appointment of new general manager for Agbiz Grain

Agbiz is pleased to announce that Wessel Lemmer has been appointed as the new general manager of Agbiz Grain, a fully-fledged and dedicated desk under the Agricultural Business Chamber (Agbiz). He will assume responsibilities in July 2020 and will succeed Mariana Purnell, who is retiring at the end of June. Purnell has led Agbiz Grain since it was established by the 12 largest commercial grain-handling and storage companies in South Africa in November 2014.

Lemmer has a long track record in the agricultural industry gained over more than 30 years. He has been part of the Absa Bank team since May 2015 in the position of senior agricultural economist before being promoted to head: sector economics in Absa Retail and Business Bank. During that time his key responsibilities spanned across sectors including agriculture, wholesale, retail and franchise, manufacturing, renewables and tourism.

During his eight-year tenure at Grain SA as senior agricultural economist, he gained first-hand experience in the grain industry, focusing on research in the marketing environment, and negotiating and influencing actions and policies which affect the marketing and trade environments.

“We are excited to welcome Lemmer to the Agbiz family,” Agbiz CEO Dr John Purchase said. “His track record, vast experience in the agricultural space and in-depth industry knowledge make him the ideal candidate to build on the work and achievements of Mariana Purnell and the Agbiz Grain team.”

Enquiries:

Dr John Purchase

Agbiz CEO

john@agbiz.co.za

END