

**13th AGRIBUSINESS AFRICA CONFERENCE**

brought to you by *Farmer's Weekly* on 10 July 2019

PREMIER Hotel O.R. TAMBO, Kempton Park, SOUTH AFRICA

**2019 Conference Theme:**

**MARKET ACCESS: From Farm Gate to New Frontiers**

**PROGRAMME:**

**Wednesday 10 July 2019**

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07:00 – 08:45: Registration

08:50: Conference doors open and delegates lead into room

Programme Director: Tshepo Maeko, OMNIA Agribusiness Manager

09:00: Official welcoming address: Denene Erasmus, Editor of *Farmer's Weekly*

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**SESSION 1:**

**Improved access to domestic, regional and global markets is critical for agriculture to become an important driver of job creation and economic growth. The 2019 Agribusiness Africa Conference brought to you by *Farmer's Weekly* will bring together top speakers and a range of stakeholders from across the agriculture, agribusiness and trade platforms to delve into the dynamics of trade between farm gate and domestic, regional and international markets.**

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09:20 – 10:00: Keynote Speaker 1: International speaker (Tbc)

Topic:

***Short introduction by Speaker Sponsor***

10:00 – 10:30: Keynote Speaker 2: Speaker from an African country outside SA borders (Tbc)

Topic: Climate change

***Short introduction by Speaker Sponsor***

**Session 1 Sponsor:**

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10:30 – 11:50: Networking Tea break

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## **SESSION 2: BARRIERS TO MORE EFFICIENT RURAL AND DOMESTIC MARKETS**

This session will focus on local market access. The themes that will be discussed in this session will include accessing local informal markets, the South African produce markets and the South African retail sector. The session will also explore the barriers to establishing more efficient rural and domestic markets such as; insecure property rights, weak financial services and poor infrastructure.

11:00 – 11:20: Speaker 1: Mbali Mwako, CEO of Green Terrace Farm

Topic:

11:20 – 11:40: Speaker 2: Jaco Oosthuizen, CEO of the RSA Group

Topic:

11:40 – 12:00: Speaker 3: Dr Reuel Khoza, Producer

Topic:

12:00 – 13:00: Panel discussion 1

**MODERATOR: Wandile Shilobo, Economist AGBIZ**

**PANELLISTS:**

Speaker 1: Mbali Mwako, new entrant small scale producer.

Speaker 2: Jaco Oosthuizen, Fresh Produce sales agency in Africa.

Speaker 3: Speaker Tbc – Retail sector

Speaker 4: Dr Reuel Khoza, Producer and Businessman.

**Session 2 Sponsor:**

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13:10 – 13:50: Networking Lunch

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## **SESSION 3: BUILDING REGIONAL NETWORKS FOR IMPROVED MARKET ACCESS**

In many African countries there still is excellent growth potential in the food staples sector. Not only is there potential to increase the area under production, but the use of new technology and improved farming inputs and production practices can also help increase crop yields. However, productivity gains can mean little without expanded access to markets. According to the African Development Bank if local production and market access is not scaled up, food imports in Africa are expected to grow from US\$35 billion per year in 2015 to over US\$110 billion by 2025. This session will focus on solutions to strengthen value-chain linkages and intra-African trade. The session will also provide an expert update on the progress made to implement the African Continental Free Trade Area.

14:00 – 14:20: Speaker: Nelson Chisenga, Agricultural Economist, Zambia.

Topic: Tbc

14:20 – 15:30: Panel discussion 2:

**MODERATOR:** Lindie Stroebe, General Manager, PMA Southern Africa

**PANELLISTS:**

Speaker 1: Nelson Chisenga, Economist, Zambia

Speaker 2: Lucien Jansen, CEO of the Southern Africa's PPECB

Speaker 3: Nuradin Osmond, CEO AGCO Southern Africa

Speaker 4: Josh Hamman, Director Africa Development, AB InBev (SABMiller)

**Session 3 Sponsor:**

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15:30 – 16:10: Networking Tea break

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#### **SESSION 4: TOWARDS A BETTER DEAL FOR AFRICA IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE**

**This session will provide an analysis on how South Africa and other countries in sub-Saharan Africa are performing compared to their competitors in the Southern Hemisphere in terms of putting in place trade agreements for agricultural produce as well as with product development according to changing consumer preferences. Speakers will also provide insight into those dynamics that have delivered a sometimes-unequal playing field for African countries within the international agricultural trade environment.**

16:10 – 16:30: Speaker 1: Justin Chadwick, Manager Southern Africa Citrus Growers Association

Topic:

16:30 – 16:45: Speaker 2: Tbc (international speaker)

Topic:

16:45 – 17:40: Panel discussion 3:

**MODERATOR:** Denene Erasmus, Editor of Farmer's Weekly

**PANELLISTS:**

Speaker 1: Dr John Purchase, CEO of AGBIZ South Africa

Speaker 2: Justin Chadwick, Citrus Growers Association

Speaker 3: Tbc (Outside SA borders)

Speaker 4: Nigel Gwynne-Evans, Chief Director Africa Industrial Development, DTI

**Session 4 Sponsor:**

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**CLOSING of Conference Programme**

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17:40 – 17:50: Closing summary: Tshepo Maeko, OMNIA

17:50 – 18:00: Closing remarks: Denene Erasmus

Cocktail sponsor invitation Tbc

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**EVENING PROGRAMME**

**Venue: Exhibitors area**

**18:00 – 21:00: NETWORKING COCKTAIL: Sponsor tbc**

18:00: Pre-drinks served

18:30: Master of Ceremonies: Tshepo Meako, OMNIA

18:40 – 18:45: Welcoming: Denene Erasmus, Farmer`s Weekly

18:45 – 19:00: Sponsor address Tbc

19:10 – 19:20: Awards presentation

19:30 – 21:00: Networking - Drinks and Cocktail snacks served

*Programme subjected to be changed*