



agriculture
& rural development

Department:
agriculture
& rural development
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

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Honorable N Boyce
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WRITTEN REPLY

No. 174/2020 Mr C Pappas (DA) to ask the MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development:

The mission of the Department of Agriculture as stated on the Departmental website is:

“To advance sound agricultural practices that stimulates comprehensive economic growth, food security and advancement of rural communities”.

1. Has the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development conducted research and analysis into the state of food security/insecurity in KwaZulu-Natal;

Response: No,

*However, the province with the support of DAFF through South African Vulnerability Assessment Committee (SAVAC) conducted a Livelihood Baseline Study in 2016 and a provincial team called Provincial Vulnerability Assessment Committee (PVAC) was formed.

2. If yes, where can this report be accessed;

Response: KZN Livelihood FNS Baseline Study report is herewith attached

3. If no, why not;

Response: The DARD has never done research or investigation and analysis into the state of food security/

insecurity in the Province. To address and allocate food security interventions, the department relies on the General Household Survey that is done yearly by Stats SA. Such information is updated yearly.

4. How many households are classified as food insecure in KwaZulu-Natal (according to the latest available data);

Response: According to the General Household Survey (2018), 24,5% of the households in KZN are experiencing food inadequacy.

5. What programmes does the Department have to alleviate food insecurity;

Response:

6. At a commercial level;

Response:

The main programmes includes:

- Mechanization Services Programme– support is provided through the distribution of production inputs and mechanization services
- Community Investment Programmes – The support can be in a form of
 - Driptanks
 - Boreholes
 - Grazing Camps
 - Dams: scooping
 - Fencing of arable Lands

7. At a household level;

Response:

The main programmes targeting most vulnerable households and subsistence household producers include the following:

One Home One Garden and One Fruit Tree (10X10m)

The objectives of this programme are to ensure food accessibility, improve household food and nutrition security and provide for the constant supply of food. Profiled and

deserving households are provided with some or all of the following items depending on their needs:

- Implements (hand hoe, hand fork, watering can,)
- vegetables seeds
- fertilizers (However, households are encouraged to use kraal manure as part of organic farming)
- dry land crops seeds (indigenous or open pollinated)
- Fencing where required.

Community Gardens (0,5ha)

Where community members can collaborate to establish community gardens, they are assisted to establish such. Among other things, they are supported with implements (hand hoe, hand fork, watering can,), mechanization services, seeds/seedlings, fertilizers, fencing and irrigation

Institutional Gardens (0,5 -5ha)

Support in a form of implements (hand hoe, hand fork, watering can,), mechanization services, seeds/seedlings, fertilizers, fencing and irrigation is provided to institutions including creches and schools

Juncao Mushroom Production

This programme was established as a food security programme through the establishment of Food Security Gardens. The Package includes:

- Mushroom structure 10x5m with 4 - 5 trenches
- Mushroom substrates supply (From Cedara Base) for restocking 4 x a year @ 400 packs per trench
- Minimum yield per trench 200kg of fresh mushroom
- Training on mushroom cultivation (planting, harvesting, preparing, recording and basic housekeeping)

8. Does the Department have a long-term plan/strategy to ensure food security in KwaZulu-Natal;

Response: No

9. If yes, where can this plan be accessed;

Response: N/A

10. If no, why not;

Response: There is no Food Security strategy document as such. But, the department is in the process of reviewing the Agricultural Development Funding Policy to ensure that food security is well captured. This will ensure food security support is provided constantly especially to vulnerable households

11. How many people and households, on average, go without at least one meal every day in KwaZulu-Natal, respectively;

Response: According to the General Household Survey (2018), 24,5% of the households in KZN are experiencing food inadequacy.

12. How many of these are children or are child headed households;

Response:

According to the General Household survey (2018), in the KZN province, 24% of children are living with neither parents (father or mother).

13. How much has the Department spent on directly alleviate food insecurity since 2010;

Response: The Department has spent approximately R88 million on food security initiatives

14. How many people and households has this assisted respectively; and how

Response: There is approximately 1,4 million households who were supported with agricultural food production initiatives.

15. How many of those mentioned above have been tracked or monitored?

Response: The department through its Monitoring and Evaluation Component/Unit verifies the accuracy on the number of households supported. But there has not been an exercise of actually monitoring such beneficiaries.



Mr. S.D Sibande
HOD: Agriculture and Rural Development

Date: 26/08/2020



Mrs. B.N Sithole-Moloi
MEC: Agriculture and Rural Development

Date: