

284. Hon. W Pretorius (DA) Asks the Hon. MEC responsible for DARD: Ms. E Rockman.

Regarding AgriParks in the Free State:

1. How many Agri-Parks have been established by the Department in the Free State, and what are their full address details?
2. When was each Agri-Park established?
3. How much has been spent on each Agri-Park?
4. Is each Agri-Park operational? If not, what are the reasons for it not being operational?
5. If operational, what specific products or goods are being processed at each Agri-Park?
6. How many people are currently employed at each Agri-Park and what is their ideal employment capacity?

RESPONSE 04/11/2024

1: According to the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform there are two (2) Agri-Parks established namely Sprinfontein and Thabo Mofutsanyana-SEZ) and six (6) Farmer Producer Support Units (FPSU) established namely Makholokoeng FPSU, Odendaal FPSU, Zastron FPSU, Ficksburg FPSU, Sediba FPSU, and Kroonstaad FPSU.

2: The Agri-Parks programme was initiated in 2015. Sprinfontein Agri-Park was initiated (2015) and Thabo Mofutsanyana-SEZ-Agri-Park (2015) and the six (6) Farmer Producer Support Units (FPSU) namely Makholokoeng FPSU was initiated (2019), Odendaal FPSU (2019), Zastron FPSU (2020), Ficksburg FPSU (2022), Sediba FPSU (2019), and Kroonstaad FPSU (2019).

3: Table 1, below provide details of what the money has been spent on per Agri-Park and FPSU per annum:

Name of Agripark established				Expenditure to Date			Totals
2019/20	2020.2021	2021/2022	2022/23	2023/24	2024//25		
Makholokoeng FPSU	R 5 600 00.00	R 650 000.00	R 894 000.00	R0.00	R0.00	R0.00	2 104 000.00
Odendaal FPSU	R 1 885 995.55	R 7 847 908.30	R 3 287 877.00	R 2 614 700.69	R2 884 218.72	R 149 422.20	18 669 313.00
Zastron FPSU	R0.00	R 3 445 360.32	R 2 496 017.05	R 1 330 000.00	R0.00	R97,408.10	7 368 785.00
Ficksburg FPSU	R0.00	R0.00	R0.00	R 471 967.00	R0.00	R0.00	471,967.00
Sediba	R 5 499 349.20	R 3 407 865.00	R 6 314 130.00	R70,000.00	R840,000.00	R75 265.24	16,206,609.00
Springfontein	R0.00	R0.00	R436,185.00	R197455.33	R0.00	R119,850.87	753,491.00
Kroonstaad FPSU	R2,053,539.33	R6,424,234.05	R1,082,000.00	R882,538.74	R967,858.54	R152,296.80	11,562,468.00
	R9,998,885.00	R21,775,367.00	R14,510,209.00	R5,566,663.00	R4,692,078.00	R594,243.00	57,137,876.00

4 and 5: table 2, below provides information on the Agri-Parks and FPSUs that are operational and non operational and the specific products or goods that are being processed.

Name of Agripark established	Project Description	Operational/Not operational	Reasons	Commodities
Makholokoeng FPSU	Construction of Mechanisation centre and Weighbridge in Makholokoeng Refurbishment of a Packhouse in Makholokoeng FPSU	Operational	N/A	Grains (beans potatoes, grains)
Odendaal FPSU	Construction of Odendaalsrus Mechanisation Center Appointment of a contractor for the construction of the security guard house at Odendaalsrus FPSU Matjhabeng Local Municipality with Lejweleputswa	Not operational	Water and electricity connection still outstanding on site. Lack of machinery and implements to meet high demand from local farmers. Conflict amongst beneficiaries	Grains
Ficksburg FPSU	Appointment of a contractor for the construction of Ficksburg Mechanisation center (FPSU) Appointment of a contractor to undertake the construction of Sediba Irrigation Scheme upgrading and storage facilities offices in Thaba Nchu	Partially operational	Conflict amongst beneficiaries	Fruit & Veg

Sediba	Construction of Security Guard House in Sediba	Not operational	The FPSU is closed by Sediba community due to conflicts within the community	Red meat, Lucerne
Springfontein	Construction of Springfotein bulk services and multipurpose warehouse Construction of Kroonstad Mechanisation Center	Not operational	Non consensus on operations of the Agri-hub	Red meat & Venison
Kroonstaad FPSU	construction of the security guard house at Kroonstad FPSU Moqhaka Local	Partially Operational	N/A	Grains
Zastron FPSU	Construction of the Farmer Production Support Unit (FPSU), bulk services, admin and training facility and mechanisation and logistics centre in Zastron.	Operational	N/A	red meat venison

6: Table 3, below provides the number of permanent and temporary jobs created in respective areas of production and/or processing:

Permanent Jobs	Numbers	Temporary Jobs	Numbers
Security	51	Temporary Tractor Drivers	8
Tractor Drivers	10	Packers	22
Admin Official	10	Jobs created during harvesting	150
Total	71		180