



Media Release

For Immediate Release

To: All Media

Date: 25 July 2018

Attention: News Editors / Agricultural writers

The Agricultural Research Council creating new entrants in the Science and Agricultural sector.

Pretoria: The Agricultural Research Council (ARC) will participate in the National Science Week from 31 July - 04 August, 2018. The objective of the National Science Week is to create maximum awareness about science and agriculture as a career of choice for students. The National Science Week is also aimed at creating new opportunities and creating a pool of quality learners who will become scientist and innovators.

The CEO / President of the ARC Dr Shadrack Moephuli emphasised the importance of working and developing partnerships with private public institutions, universities and government department to develop new scientists. He said, "Through innovations, science and human capital investment we can achieve the Agricultural and Food Organisation's objective of feeding 9.2 billion people who will inhabit the planet by 2050".

The agricultural sector has a mandate of feeding nations, and it is against this background that the ARC is participating in the National Science Week and creating awareness to encourage new entrants into the agricultural research space. Agricultural research makes a huge contribution to improving crops and animal improvement so that the growing population can be fed and trading can continue to grow.

During the National Science Week the ARC will host 300 agricultural students from various agricultural schools, technical and vocational colleges and universities from around Gauteng and Limpopo over a two day period, Tuesday, 31 July and Wednesday, 01 August 2018. These students will visit the three of the ARC's research campuses namely, Vegetable and Ornamental Plants, Onderstepoort Veterinary and Animal Production.

As part of the engagements of the days the ARC CEO will address the students and share with them the perspective of youth development and the intervention to promote agriculture as a career of choice.

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Notes to the Editors

About the Agricultural Research Council

The Agricultural Research Council is a premier science institution that conducts research with partners, develops human capital and fosters innovation in support of the agricultural sector. The ARC provides diagnostic, laboratory, analytical, agricultural engineering services, post-harvest technology development, agrochemical evaluation, consultation and advisory services, food processing technology services as well as various surveys and training interventions. For more information visit the ARC website at: www.arc.agric.za