



NEWSFLASH

BREEDEKLOOF/WORCESTER REGIONAL AGRI
PRESTIGE AWARDS 2019



This year marks the eighth year that the Department of Agriculture has partnered with supermarket giant Shoprite to sponsor the awards. The competition acknowledges Agri workers across 11 categories and in 16 districts for the important and valuable contribution that they make towards the sustainability and growth of the agricultural sector within the Western Cape.



First Place Winners:

- General Worker - Valerie Alexander (Nuy Olive Farm)
- Tractor Driver - Marthinus Kerstoffels (Nuwerus)
- Spray Technician - Jeremias Liebenberg (Nuy Olive Farm)
- Technical Operator - Christopher Lee Loff (Ronderbosh Cellars)
- Social Development - Sina van Wyk (Esperance)
- Administrative Personnel - Sylvia Noni (Alvi's Drift)
- Foreman - Sampie Swarts (Stilewaters De Breede Boerdery)
- Junior Management - Francis Booysen (Nuwerus)
- Middle Management - Francios Cilliers (Willow Creek Products)

Best performing farm - Nuy Olive Farm

Best Potential Candidate - Valerie Alexander

Regional Prestige Agri Worker of the year:
Francois Cilliers

"Farmworkers play a significant role in the Western Cape economy and in agricultural production. They put so much of their energy into ensuring that there is food security, that there is foreign exchange coming into the country from exports, and that they can provide for their families," he said.

An independent study into the impact of the awards conducted in 2015 found that the awards inspired pride in agricultural workers, encouraged them to learn new skills and created positive perceptions around agricultural work.

Last year's winner, Isaac Ntoto said that winning last year's award resulted in a life changing experience for him. He travelled to the Netherlands and Germany as part of his prize, where he was exposed to agri logistic practices in those countries.

Winners of the regional awards will receive a cash prize, a certificate and trophy, and Shoprite vouchers. They will also go on to compete at the provincial awards to be held in November, where the overall Agri-worker of the year will be selected. The overall winner walks away with a R25 000 cash prize, an overseas trip valued at R60 000, an iPad, Shoprite vouchers, data and a place on the prestige Agri- worker board which meets with Minister Meyer each quarter to discuss issues in the sector.

Congratulations to all off our winners and participants! You make Worcester very proud!