



## GREATER TZANEEN MUNICIPALITY

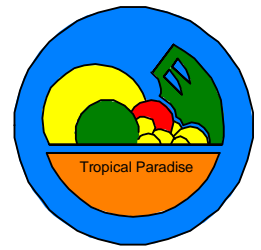
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### MEDIA RELEASE

## GTM to hosts its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Agricultural Expo

The Greater Tzaneen Municipality will host its 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Agricultural Expo from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 2016 at Letaba Showground. The Agri Expo was born out of the Land Reform and Forestry Summit which the municipality hosted in 2013. In 2014 GTM staged its inaugural Agricultural Expo which recorded 1000 attendees and 52 exhibitors over a three day period. The Agri-Expo was coordinated through an events management company in 2014 but in 2015 the municipality coordinated the Agri-Expo internally through an Events Coordinating/Management Committee. In the 2015 Expo the municipality recorded just over 1000 visitors.

In the 2015 Agric Expo the municipality hosted an Agri Youth Imbizo which saw 90 learners from 21 local schools and 32 young farmers from 22 agricultural projects participate. At least 150 people among them farmers, aspiring farmers and students attended various workshops as part of the expo in the same year. GTM also hosted a gala dinner attended by about 200 guests and a Mayoral networking breakfast. The Agri- Expo is a platform for stakeholders in the agricultural sector to interact, exchange ideas, transact and copy best practices in the sector. It is also a platform for upcoming farmers and established commercial farmers to interact and learn from each other. The Expo is also used as a marketing vehicle to promote Tzaneen as an agricultural hub in the province.

In this year's three day event the Mayor, Councillor Maripe Mangena will host a charity Golf Day on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September at Tzaneen Country Club from 8am, a networking breakfast on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September at Hotel@Tzaneen from 8am and Gala dinner also on 22<sup>nd</sup> of September at Hotel@Tzaneen from 6pm. Also on the 22<sup>nd</sup> the municipality will host the Agri Youth Imbizo at Letaba Showground Hall B from 8am. GTM will also host workshops on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of September on Agro-processing, global warming, export markets, funding, insurances etc. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September the municipality will take 180 learners from various schools on a tour of ten (10) farms specialising in areas such as processing, livestock farming, crop production, citrus etc.

This year Expo is sponsored by the South African Local Government Association (SALGA), Komatie Fruits (Bosveld Sitrus). The Agric -Expo partners are Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA), Greater Tzaneen Economic Development Agency (GTEDA) and the Letaba Herald. The Expo is supported by ZZ2, Department of Education, Department of Rural Development and Land Reform (DRDLR), Agricultural Research Council (ARC), the Department of Agriculture Fishers and Forestry (DAFF), Limpopo Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (LDARD), Limpopo Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (LEDET), Mopani District Municipality (MDM) as well as universities and agricultural colleges.

### For Immediate release

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