

Press release: 16 April 2024



At the launch of the Hortgro Legacy Foundation, from left to right Anton Rabe (Trustee), Nicholas Dicey (Trustee), Prof William Gumede (Patron) and Angelo Petersen (Chairperson of the Hortgro Legacy Foundation).

Deciduous fruit industry launches new foundation

The future of the South African deciduous fruit industry has just become brighter with the launch of the [Hortgro Legacy Foundation](#) (HLF) in Paarl today.

The HLF endeavours to unlock alternative income streams to augment traditional funding with donor and related contributions to ensure a sustainable future for the pome and stone fruit industries.

According to Hortgro Executive Director, Anton Rabe, commodity organisations must compete globally in a rapidly changing world and continually do more with less. "Climate change, and extreme weather events, will get worse. Locally, we are dependent on ourselves. We need to protect our people, producers and agri workers, and ensure that the right research and technology is in place to sustain the industry's future."

Angelo Petersen, HLF Chairperson said that the Foundation will focus on humanitarian welfare, environmental stewardship, social upliftment, research and innovation.

"Every individual can leave a positive mark on the world. By making a difference in even the smallest ways, we contribute to a legacy of hope and inspiration that can touch countless lives and shape a brighter future for all," Petersen said.

Nicholas Dicey, Hortgro Chairperson and HLF Trustee said that agriculture needs to negotiate rapid change, and industry organisations must have access to alternative income streams. "The Hortgro Legacy Foundation is in no way a duplication of existing structures. The focus will be on research, technology, and humanitarian welfare – within the sustainability sphere. We know that a strong agricultural sector will help create rural stability and socio-economic development – something our country desperately needs."

Become a HLF champion; follow us on social media and visit our website to find out more:

[Home | Hortgro Legacy Foundation](#) or contact us: hlf@hortgro.co.za

HLF at a glance:

- **Humanitarian Welfare:** We recognize that our industry thrives because of the people who toil in orchards, packhouses, and research labs. Their well-being is our priority. Through humanitarian aid, we will uplift communities, alleviate poverty, and ensure that no one is left behind.
- **Environmental Stewardship:** Sustainability is not just a buzzword; it's our responsibility. The foundation will invest in innovative technologies, research, and development that safeguard our environment. Water scarcity, climate change, and biodiversity loss demand urgent action. We pledge to be stewards of the land.
- **Social Upliftment:** Our success is intertwined with the prosperity of our communities. By creating opportunities for education, skills development, and empowerment, we aim to uplift those who need it most. Job creation, especially for our youth, will be a cornerstone of our efforts.
- **Research and Innovation:** The quest for knowledge drives progress. We commit to advancing research, fostering innovation, and building infrastructure. Our laboratories will be hubs of discovery, where we unlock the secrets of better fruit production, disease resistance, and sustainable practices.

Sagtevrugtebedryf stel nuwe stigting bekend

Die toekoms van die Suid-Afrikaanse sagtevrugtebedryf lyk meer rooskleurig met die bekendstelling van die Hortgro Legacy Foundation (HLF) vandag in die Paarl.

Die HLF poog om alternatiewe inkomstestrome te ontsluit om tradisionele befondsing met skenker- en verwante bydraes aan te vul en só 'n volhoubare toekoms vir die kern- en steenvrugbedrywe te verseker.

Volgens Hortgro se uitvoerende direkteur, Anton Rabe, moet kommoditeitsorganisasies wêreldwyd meeding in 'n vinnig veranderende wêreld en voortdurend meer met minder doen. "Klimaatverandering, en uiterste weersomstandighede, gaan erger word. Plaaslik, is ons op onself aangewese. Ons moet produsente en landbouwerkers beskerm en verseker dat die regte navorsing en tegnologie in plek is om die bedryf se toekoms te verseker."

Angelo Petersen, HLF-voorsitter, het gesê die stigting sal fokus op humanitêre welsyn, omgewingsrentmeesterskap, maatskaplike opheffing, navorsing en innovasie.

"Elke mens kan selfs met die kleinste gebaar, 'n positiewe impak op die wêreld hê en so 'n verskil maak. Só kan ons bydra tot 'n nalatenskap van hoop en inspirasie wat talle lewens kan aanraak en 'n beter toekoms vir almal verseker," het Petersen gesê.

Nicholas Dicey, Hortgro-voorsitter en HLF-trustee, het gesê die landbou sektor moet rats wees om met vinnige veranderinge mee te ding. Bedryfsorganisasies moet toegang tot alternatiewe inkomstestrome hê. "Die Hortgro Legacy Foundation is geensins 'n duplisering van bestaande strukture nie. Die fokus sal wees op navorsing, tegnologie en humanitêre welsyn - binne die volhoubaarheidsfeer. Ons weet dat 'n sterk landbousektor help om landelike stabiliteit en sosio-ekonomiese ontwikkeling te skep – iets wat ons land nou bitter nodig het."

Word 'n Hortgro Legacy Foundation ondersteuner, volg ons op sosiale media en besoek ons webtuiste: [Home | Hortgro Legacy Foundation](#) of praat met ons: hlf@hortgro.co.za

HLF in 'n oogwink:

- Humanitêre welsyn: Ons erken dat ons bedryf floreer as gevolg van die mense wat in boorde, pakhuse en navorsingslaboratoriums werk. Hulle welstand is ons prioriteit.

Deur humanitêre hulp sal ons gemeenskappe ophef, armoede verlig en verseker dat niemand agterbly nie.

- **Omgewingsrentmeesterskap:** Volhoubaarheid is nie net 'n gonswoord nie; dis ons verantwoordelikheid. Die stigting sal belê in innoverende tegnologieë, navorsing en ontwikkeling wat ons omgewing beskerm. Waterskaarste, klimaatsverandering en verlies aan biodiversiteit vereis dringende optrede. Ons belowe om rentmeesters van die land te wees.
- **Sosiale opheffing:** Ons sukses is verweef met die welvaart van ons gemeenskappe. Deur geleenthede vir onderwys, vaardigheidsontwikkeling en bemagtiging te skep, poog ons om diegene wat dit die nodigste het, op te hef. Werkskepping, veral vir ons jeug, sal 'n hoeksteen van ons pogings wees.
- **Navorsing en innovasie:** Die soeke na kennis dryf vooruitgang. Ons verbind ons daartoe om navorsing te bevorder, innovasie te bevorder en infrastruktuur te bou. Ons laboratoriums sal spilpunte van ontdekking wees, waar ons die geheime van beter vrugteproduksie, siekteweerstand en volhoubare praktyke ontsluit.



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