

Agra welcomes its new Directors

During Agra's Annual General Meeting, held on 27 November 2003, Peter Schonecke and Leon van Wyk were appointed as new directors for the northern and southern regions respectively.

The appointments were made after expiry of the six-year term of office of directors Deon Lensing and Jan Engelbrecht.

Born in Keetmanshoop, Leon van Wyk attended PK de Villiers High School and graduated with an MSc from the University of Stellenbosch in 1971. His professional career started at the Department of Agriculture in Windhoek, followed by a lecturing position at Neudam Agricultural College. Relocating to the south in 1971, Leon was active in the Municipality of Keetmanshoop. A part-time farmer since 1982, he turned to full-time farming in 2003 and has consistently been a Karakul pelts top achiever.

Immediately after graduating with a diploma in agriculture from Neudam Agricultural College in 1966, Peter Schonecke accepted a position at the Department of Agriculture and qualified as a soil conservation engineer during his employment. With the exception of one year, he was intensively active in the Kalkveld Farmers' Association and served as the chairman of the Regional Agricultural Union and a member of the Otjiwarongo Soil Conservation Committee. Peter furthermore served on the board of the Simmentaler Association of South Africa from 1978 to 1992 and has been a breed examiner since 1990.

The remaining Board is unchanged, with James Chapman and Johan Coetzee re-elected as Chairman and Vice-Chairman respectively. Previously serving as a member of the Supervisory Committee, Ryno van der Merwe succeeds Jan Oberholzer, who has retired, to the position of Board Secretary.

Hannes Nieuwoudt will serve as the Chairman of the Supervisory Committee for the seventh consecutive year and is joined by fellow member Siglinde Zensi from Grootfontein. The vacancy created by Ryno van der Merwe's election as Board Secretary will be filled in due course.

By virtue of their expertise, Jurgen Hoffman and Sara Shikongo were co-opted to the Board.