



UMZIMVUBU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

ATTENTION: ALL EDITORS / REPORTERS

MEDIA STATEMENT

01 APRIL 2026 – WEDNESDAY

LOCAL FARMERS TO BENEFIT FROM EXPANDED OPPORTUNITIES TO SHOWCASE PRODUCE AND ACCESS ONGOING MENTORSHIP SUPPORT

The Umzimvubu Local Municipality is proud to reaffirm its commitment to strengthening the local agricultural sector by creating meaningful platforms for both emerging and established farmers to showcase their produce. Through the annual Agricultural Show, held each April, the Municipality has sustained this initiative for over a decade, with this year marking its 13th anniversary. The event provides local farmers with an opportunity to exhibit a diverse range of fresh agricultural products, engage directly with consumers, and build valuable relationships with potential buyers, partners, and key stakeholders across the agricultural value chain.

This initiative forms part of the Municipality's broader strategy to support local economic development and promote sustainable livelihoods. By providing accessible market opportunities, the Municipality enables farmers to increase visibility for their products while contributing to food security and regional economic growth.

In addition to exhibition opportunities, the Municipality continues to invest in farmer mentorship and development programmes. These programmes are designed to equip farmers with essential skills in areas such as business management, production efficiency, market access, and compliance with industry standards. Through ongoing support, training workshops, and partnerships with agricultural experts, farmers are empowered to improve productivity and expand their operations in a competitive market environment.

The Municipal Manager emphasized the importance of these efforts, stating: "We remain committed to supporting our local farmers not only by creating platforms for them to showcase their produce, but also by ensuring they receive the necessary mentorship and guidance to thrive. Agriculture is a key pillar of our local economy, and by investing in our farmers, we are investing in the future sustainability and resilience of our communities," said Mr Tobela Nota, the Municipal Manager.

The Municipality also wishes to inform all stakeholders and attendees that, in light of current animal health concerns and in compliance with national biosecurity measures, there will be no livestock exhibited at this year's event due to the ongoing Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak.



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This precautionary step is necessary to safeguard the agricultural sector and prevent any potential spread of the disease. Despite this adjustment, the event promises to remain a meaningful celebration of local agriculture, innovation, and community collaboration.

“The Municipality encourages residents, businesses, and visitors to support local farmers and take full advantage of the diverse products and networking opportunities that will be available. As part of piloting Wool Value Addition Programme, we have provided shearing shed equipment (electrical wool shears), these are modern shears that can shear 300 sheep per day, unlike using the ordinary scissors”, expressed Cllr Zukiswa Ndevu, the Mayor.

Members of the media are invited to attend and cover the 13th Agricultural Show as the Umzimvubu Local Municipality celebrates more than a decade of supporting and preserving local agricultural practices.

Dates : 08th – 09th April 2026

Venue : KwaBhaca Auction Site, KwaBhaca

Time : 09:00

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