



DEPARTMENT of
AGRICULTURE

Provincial Government of the Western Cape

The shift towards more sustainable farming practises

Session chairperson: Dr. Ilse Trautmann

Conservation and Agriculture

Cape Partners' Conference

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Some pointers

- Sustainable agriculture seeks to make use of **nature's goods and ecosystem services** while producing **an optimal yield** in an economically, environmentally, and socially rewarding way, **preserving resources** for future generations
- Making the **transition** to sustainable agriculture for farmers and agricultural producers is a **process**.

Sustainable agriculture aims to:

- **Use** natural resources at the rate they are replenished
- **Manage** biodiversity in such a way that resources are sustained
- **Minimize** the impact of agriculture on the wider environment

Agriculture and biodiversity – some questions?

- **Our farming actions = sustainable production? In balance or no balance?**
- **Farming in a sustainable relationship with biodiversity/resources? Heading for a divorce??**
- **Are we aware of our on-farm biodiversity footprint?**
- **Are we innovative? Are we trend-setters in sustainable farming?**
- **Agriculture and biodiversity go hand in hand – but do we notice it?? Strong vegetation is a defence against erosion, predatory insects help to control pest insects like aphids, and bees pollinate crops. Stats – pollination service by bees worldwide estimated at 153 billion euros!**

Our speakers

- **Tom Mclaughlin**
- **Trenly Spence**
- **Cherie Forbes**
- **Gerhard Pretorius**
- **Anita Wheeler**
- **Dr. Christo Marais**

Enjoy the session!