



South Africa's potato grading regulations now used in Namibia

Article: Gawie Geyer and photo: Henry van Deventer

The Namibian Agro-Marketing & Trade Agency (AMTA) recently contracted Prokon to provide training to their personnel to conduct inspections on fresh fruit and vegetables on the three fresh produce markets situated in Windhoek, Rundu and Ongwediva in Namibia.

Mr Henry van Deventer, Prokon's Technical Manager, provided the two week training course from 22 February to 4 March 2016 to 30 AMTA personnel at the agency's training facility at Rundu.

As part of the course the AMTA personnel were taught to conduct inspections on potatoes delivered to the three Namibian markets. Because of the comprehensiveness and applicability of the South African potato grading regulations, it was used as basis for this part of the training.

In addition to the potato grading all personnel attending the course were trained in eleven other fruit and vegetable regulations and the inspection method thereof.

According to Mr Van Deventer the training course consisted of theoretical and practical training. At the end of the two-week course an evaluation and assessment was done to gauge the knowledge of the personnel on the course content. A certificate was also given to the attendees certifying that they have attended the course.

"Although the personnel had to take in a lot of information over the two weeks, I am fairly confident that they will be able to successfully conduct the inspections", he said in conclusion. ©