



Western Cape
Government

Agriculture

BETTER TOGETHER.

**ALTERNATIVE CROPS RESEARCH FUND –
UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF “SMALLER CROPS” FOR A MAJOR IMPACT ON
JOB CREATION AND ECONOMIC PROSPERITY**

Rounds 1 to 5

Cherry AGM

Dr. Ilse Trautmann

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Background on fund – launched in 2014

The aim is to support the research efforts of the smaller industries in assisting them to obtain the necessary research and market information to ensure their sustainability and competitive edge.

- Alternative crop industries not organised due to their size and number of producers.
- No statutory levies and research fund allocation.
- Only bigger crops like rooibos and honeybush organised into legal entities.
- These crops are niche, could secure a niche market share and create jobs and generate economic opportunities.
- Main objective of this fund was therefore to support these industries to get organised and start a research portfolio, addressing the most important research needs.
- Fund to the value of R3 million was launched in 2014. During the 2014/2015 financial year, the Programme Research and Technology Development (RTD) was the sole funder, but in 2015/2016 the Programmes Farmer Support and Development and Agricultural Economics Services became funding partners with R1 million, respectively. Since last year – RTD funding alone.
- Hortgro acting as funding coordinator.
- Only projects submitted via industry organisations are considered. Set of criteria adhered to.

Round one (2014/2015) allocations



Synopsis of project funding – 2014/2015

Total allocation: R2 278 678

Industry	Number of projects	Total allocation per industry
Honeybush	Quality grading Industry survey Overberg arthropod research	R723 223
Cherries	Phytosanitary package Industry statistics	R122 500
Cape Flora	Chemical registration Replant disease	R1 082 955
Persimmons	Market access Legal entity Industry statistics	R145 000
Figs	Legal entity Industry statistics	R80 000
Pomegranates	Market access Legal entity Industry statistics	R125 000
Total	15	R2 278 678

Round two (2015/2016) allocations R1828 003



Synopsis of project funding – 2015/2016

Total allocation: R 1828 003

Industry	Number of projects	Total allocation per industry
Honeybush	Quality grading Statistics	R220 113
Cherries	Rootstocks Minor crop registration	R327 890
Cape Flora	Chemical registration Growth manipulation	R334 000
Persimmons	-	-
Figs	-	-
Pomegranate	Chemical breakdown data	R240 000

Synopsis of project funding – 2015/2016

Total allocation: R 1828 003

Industry	Number of projects	Total allocation per industry
Berries	Industry statistics Legal entity	R80 000
Prunes	New cultivars and sites	R327 000
Guavas	Evaluation of new selections	R299 000
Total	11	R1 828 003

Round three (2016/2017) allocations R1 864 056



Synopsis of project funding – 2016/2017

Total allocation: R 1864 056

Industry	Number of projects	Total allocation per industry
Honeybush	Quality grading Statistics	R407 600
Cherries	Industry stats	R20 000
Cape Flora	Chemical registration Leaf blackening Growth manipulation Industry stats Leucospermum	R741 000
Pecan nuts	Industry stats	R20 000
Figs	-	-
Pomegranate	Irrigation Industry statistics	R255 456

Synopsis of project funding – 2016/2017

Total allocation: R 1864 056

Industry	Number of projects	Total allocation per industry
Berries	Industry statistics Chemical registrations	R420 000
Total	12	R1 864 056

Round four (2017/2018) allocations R944 994



Synopsis of project funding – 2017/2018

Total allocation: R 944 994

Industry	Number of projects	Total allocation per industry
Cape Flora	Leaf blackening Growth manipulation	R295 000
Berries	Pollination	R164 163
Pomegranates	Irrigation and tree performance	R235 831
Honeybush	Keurboom moth	R250 000
Total	5	R944 994

Round five (2018/2019) allocations

R2 199 876,00



Synopsis of project funding – 2018/2019

Total allocation: R2 199 876

Industry	Number of projects	Total allocation per industry
Cape made kitchen	1	R100 800
Cherries	Increase cherry production potential through adaptability indexing of new cultivars in different South African growing areas	R188 940
Berries	Varieties and pollination	R180 579
Prunes	Propagation and evaluation of new cultivars	R230 000
Figs	Phytosanitary package	R100 000
Hortgro	Industry stats	R120 000

Synopsis of project funding – 2018/2019 cont.

Industry	Number of projects	Total allocation per industry
Heuningbos	Insect pests	R219 897,00
Olives	Brine treatment Survey of fungi Cultivar resistance to <i>Colletotrichum acutatum</i>	R430 630
Cape flora	Soil treatment of Leucospermum	R123 199
Pecans	Water requirements	R145 000
Pomegranates	Irrigation	R235 831
Guavas	Guava selections	R125 000
Total		R2 199 876,00



FUNDING IN SUMMARY

Synopsis of project funding – 5 cycles

Total allocation: R9 115 606

INDUSTRY	ALTERNATIVE CROPS FUND (2014 – 2017)					
	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	Total
Honeybush	R723 223	R220 113	R407 600	R250 000	R219 897	R1 820 833
Cherries	R122 500	R327 890	R20 000	-	R188 940	R659 330
Cape Flora	R1 082 955	R334 000	R741 000	R295 000	R123 199	R2 576 154
Persimmons	R145 000	-	-	-	-	R145 000
Figs	R80 000	-	-	-	R100 000	R180 000
Pomegranates	R125 000	R240 000	R255 456	R235 831	R235 831	R1 092 117
Berries	-	R80 000	R420 000	R164 163	R180 579	R844 742
Prunes	-	R327 000	-	-	R230 000	R557 000
Guavas	-	R299 000	-	-	R125 000	R424 000
Pecan nuts	-	-	R20 000	-	R145 000	R165 000
Olives	-	-	-	-	R430 630	R430 630
Other	-	-	-	-	R220 800	R220 800
Total	R2 278 678	R1 828 003	R1 864 056	R944 994	R2 199 876	R9 115 606

Challenges

- # Some alternative crops associations are not legal entities, and also do not have administrative capacity.
- # Reporting – quarterly was problematic – now every six months.
- # The Western Cape Dept of Agriculture should always be acknowledged in any publications or presentations as funder/co-funder.
- # We do not fund individuals or companies – an industry will be funded as the information should be for the benefit of the industry as a collective.
- # Site visits have to be conducted.
- # ARC – funding of staff cost problematic ito affordability.



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cherry!



Thank you

Contact Us



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Dr. Ilse Trautmann

Research and Technology Development

Tel: 021-8085012

Fax: 021-8085335

ilset@elsenburg.com

www.elsenburg.com