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## PRELIMINARY SOYBEAN AND SUNFLOWER CULTIVAR EVALUATION RESULTS RELEASED

*Petru Fourie, Research Coordinator & Production Cost Analyst, Grain SA*

» The Agricultural Research Council (ARC) just announced the preliminary soybean and sunflower cultivar evaluation results of the trails. The objective of the information is to evaluate the potential of cultivars in different environmental conditions, to finally determine which cultivars are the best adapted in a specific production regions.

Click on the link to view the document:

- Preliminary soybean recommendation for the 2015/16 production season  
[http://www.grainsa.co.za/upload/report\\_files/Soja-aanbevelings-15-16.pdf](http://www.grainsa.co.za/upload/report_files/Soja-aanbevelings-15-16.pdf)
- Preliminary sunflower cultivar evaluation report for the 2014/15 production season  
[http://www.grainsa.co.za/upload/report\\_files/Sonneblomkultivaraanbevelings-2015.pdf](http://www.grainsa.co.za/upload/report_files/Sonneblomkultivaraanbevelings-2015.pdf)

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## PIKETBERG AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

*Liana Stroebel, Provincial Coordinator: Western Cape, Grain SA*

Piketberg Agricultural Association held an informative meeting on Thursday, 27 August. Speakers included Mr Andries Theron, vice chairperson from Grain SA who urged producers to proactively participate in their regions and the industry and to stay involved. Mr Theron emphasised that land reform can be managed with close cooperation and participation; that he is optimistic about the new cultivars being developed and that this research must be built upon good governance. Further, Theron encouraged producers to take ownership of the marketing of their grains and consider best marketing practices.

After this, members visited several trials on Mr Abrie Richter's farm near Pools. These included trials of the Western Cape Department of Agriculture, Sensako Agricol and of Mr Richter's own trials. It is encouraging to see the interest in conservation agriculture practices and the degree of interaction, questions and ideas which were exchanged among the members. Best practices within the group are shared amongst members for their and the industry's benefit.



*Mr Andries Theron, Vice Chairperson, Graan SA address guests*



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## 67 MINUTES FOR MANDELA DAY

*Alzena Gomes, PRO, Grain SA*

» On 18 July, Nelson Mandela's birthday, people from across South Africa act to support Nelson Mandela's cause for change. The campaign aims to show the importance of good deeds in our daily lives, from the smallest to the most significant. Its objective is to encourage individuals to act to change the world while creating a universal movement for good cause.

Bramley Children's Home provides 24 hour care to 54 children who have been removed from their families or do not have family members to care for them. Boys and girls from 5 to 19 years from different cultures and churches live in three houses in Groenkloof, Pretoria. Services rendered include physical, emotional, educational and spiritual care. Once again, Grain SA turned to the Bramley Children's Home in support of this year's campaign. Donating 16 soccer kits with the help of XCO Sport, the boys' soccer team were kitted out from top to toe, each receiving a soccer shirt and shorts, socks, caps, a tog bag and soccer togs.

Delighted with their soccer kits, the boys could not contain their excitement and kitted out immediately. Ready for the afternoon's game, Ms Magda Vermaak, Social Worker at the Bramley Children's Home thanked Grain SA and XCO Sport for the kind donation. "We cannot wait to support them in the next game in their new kits", she said.



*The boys could not wait to fit their new soccer kits*



*The team kitted ou tand ready for the next big game*

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## CONTAIN PESTS AND DISEASES - READ MORE ABOUT IT IN THE LATEST SA GRAIN/GRAIN

*Estie de Villiers, Editor, SA Graan/Grain*

»Agricultural chemicals are one of the producer's biggest expenses. Although the cost does not amount to that of fertilizer or diesel, it is one of the most important inputs to ensure a good harvest. It also requires expert knowledge for effective and responsible use in order to protect crops against pests and diseases.

SA Graan/Grain knocked on the doors of some gurus in the industry to provide readers with the latest information on crop protection products and to help producers with their pest and weed control planning.

We also paid a visit to the 2015 Grain SA/Syngenta Grain Producer of the Year finalists and you can meet the finalists in the Grain SA/ABSA Subsistence Farmer of the Year, Grain SA/Syngenta Smallholder Farmer of the Year and the Grain SA/ABSA/John Deere Financial New Era Commercial Farmer of the Year competition.

The magazine (with a beautiful cob on the cover) should reach our readers' mailboxes during mid-September.

Remember: The magazine is also available in flipbook format on the Grain SA website at [www.grainsa.co.za](http://www.grainsa.co.za)

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## Stay inspired...

"Organic farming appealed to me because it involved searching for and discovering nature's pathways, as opposed to the formulaic approach of chemical farming. The appeal of organic farming is boundless; this mountain has no top, this river has no end."

*~ Eliot Coleman, The New Organic Grower: A Master's Manual of Tools and Techniques for the Home and Market Gardener*

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