



NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

WRITTEN REPLY

QUESTION 3046 / NW3410E

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES:

Mr M G P Lekota (Cope) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries:

QUESTION:

- a) What governmental drought relief measures are in place to assist the farming industry in the Little Karoo? **NW3410E**

REPLY:

1. The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) supported the funding application from the Western Cape Province for which a total of R78 million, was allocated for drought relief and response to fire incident in Knysna. The intervention was targeting all identified affected areas including Little Karoo which is within the Central Karoo District Municipality.
2. A total of 2200 farmers benefitted through feed distribution from the allocation and the implementation is still underway.
3. In the current financial year 2018/19, a funding allocation of R170 Million was approved by the National Treasury for the Western Cape Province to procure animal feed for the farmers affected by drought in all affected Districts including Central Karoo.
4. The Department provides early warning information for disaster risk reduction in the sector in the form of daily extreme weather warnings and monthly advisories. The advisories include drought coping strategies, water harvesting techniques, use of improved water saving irrigation method such as drip irrigation and eradication of invader plants at all times and others.

