



agriculture, rural development,
land & environmental affairs

MPUMALANGA PROVINCE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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MEDIA STATEMENT

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For Immediate Release

POSTPONEMENT OF THE MPUMALANGA INTERNATIONAL FOODMARKET LAUNCH

Mbombela - As part of our commitment to transparency, accountability, and responsible governance, the Mpumalanga Provincial Government wishes to inform the public and all stakeholders that the official launch of the Mpumalanga International FoodMarket (MIF) initially planned for July 2025 has been postponed. This decision follows the identification of a technical administrative oversight during the final stages of preparation. Specifically, the operational-specific by-laws which regulate the day-to-day functioning of the market are still in the process of formal adoption by the relevant Municipal structures.

In addition, the Certificate of Occupancy is currently being finalised as part of the remaining statutory compliance requirements. While procedural in nature, these compliance elements are essential to ensuring that the market operates in line with all legislative, safety, and governance standards. In the interim, the Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA) will continue its planned outreach programme, including scheduled roadshows and stakeholder engagements. These engagements aim to maintain momentum, deepen communication, and ensure farmers and stakeholders are fully informed and prepared for the revised market timeline.

A new official launch date will be communicated once all outstanding regulatory processes are fully concluded and the market is ready to commence operations in a sustainable and legally compliant manner. The Provincial Government remains fully committed to delivering a safe, functional, and transformative fresh produce market that advances agricultural development, food system integration, and economic inclusion across Mpumalanga. We thank all partners and stakeholders for their patience, cooperation, and continued support.

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ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, LAND AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

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