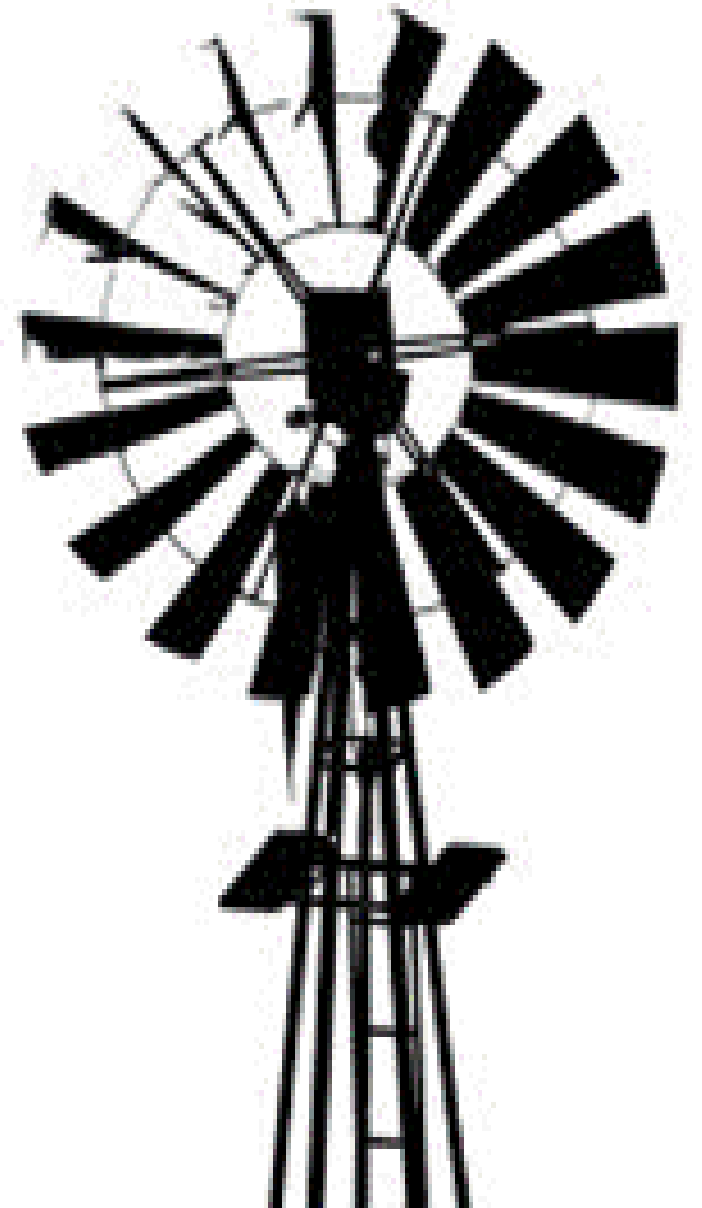


# DROUGHT INDABA

Chris van Zyl  
TAU SA

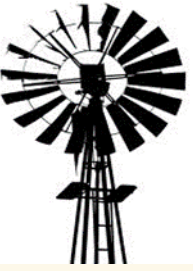


# SCOPE



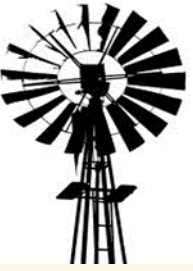
- Introductory comments
- Contributing factors applicable to agriculture
- Implications of extended duration
- Aid provided and support rendered
- Expectations





# INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

- Southern Africa is no stranger to droughts – most of the country is marginal agricultural land and is semi arid
- Droughts are not the sole form of disasters affecting primary food production
- Timely warning and appropriate response is critical – many times too little too late, or too much too late
- Droughts are not geographically localised, usually affects vast areas and covers a long period of time.
- Access to unpolluted water is critical for life and food production affecting the populace at large
- Valuable lessons have been learnt

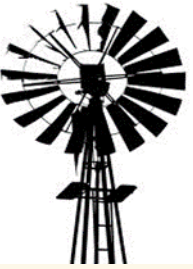


# INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS (Contd)

- Government must have the will and capacity to:
  - Predict
  - Plan (especially contingency plans)
  - Provide
    - Coordination
    - Integration
    - Logistics
    - Finance
    - Relief
- Localised ad hoc efforts should be regarded as temporary and nothing more than interim relief which cannot be sustained



# CONTRIBUTING FACTORS



- Loss of high potential agricultural land not properly restored after been mined
- Destruction of wetlands
- Water wastage due to inefficient or poorly maintained distribution systems
- Water pollution due to:
  - Unserviceable sewerage systems water purification systems
  - Opencast mining
  - Poor waste management

# IMPLICATIONS OF EXTENDED DURATION



- Cash flow – eventual bankruptcy
- Human health
- Job losses
- Drastic reduction of live stock levels
- Dry land crop production curtailed
- Surface-, catchment- and sub-surface water loss
- Food security
- Rural poverty





# AID PROVIDED AND SUPPORT RENDERED

- Fellow farmers
  - Agri SA and TAU SA disaster funds
  - Fodder
  - Relocation of live stock
- BIN (“Boere in Nood”)
  - Cooperation of Volvo
  - Transport and delivery of fodder
- Solidarity
  - Fundraising – Photograph competition
  - Meal vouchers
- Government



# EXPECTATIONS

- Constructive and inclusive recommendations
- Avoid mistakes by learning from past experiences
- Inclusive support and relief measures
- Interdepartmental and national liaison
- Action – timely support and assistance when and where it is needed
- Clear indication of accountability – COGTA or DAFF?





## EXPECTATIONS (Contd)

### Practical possibilities

- Support and promote lower rates and tariffs applicable to land, water and energy
- Purchase fodder from available sources and provide transport for distribution thereof
- Liaise with financial institutions to restructure bond- and loan arrangements
- Invest in all farmers – also the commercial food producers

FINIS

THANK  
YOU

