

Tips for coping with drought:

Domestic and home garden water use

- Conserve existing water supplies.
- Eradicate water weeds.
- Limit water waste and losses.
- Repair leaking pipes.
- Re-use water and retain high quality.
- Harvest water during rainy days.

SUGGESTED STRATEGIES:

A. Rain-fed crop production (Winter Crop)

Soil choice:

- Choose suitable soil type.
- Roughen the soil surface to minimize evaporation.
- Minimise compaction by reducing the passing of heavy machinery in the field.
- Prioritise fallow land.

Crop management:

- Adjust planting density accordingly.
- Consider a conservative fertilizing strategy during dry conditions.
- Use overhead sprinkler irrigation.

B. Stock farming

- Provide lots of drinking points.
- Enhance nutritional value of dry grazing/feed with licks
- Phosphorous deficiency is a major problem

C. Grazing

- Determine the carrying capacity of different plant associations.
- Do not overstock at any time to avoid overgrazing.
- Spread water points evenly.
- Provide suitable licks to make coarse, dry grasses more palatable.
- During drought:
 - ✓ Accelerate rotational grazing.
 - ✓ Identify and use areas that were not grazed/grazed less intensively last year.
 - ✓ Wean calves early – lactating cows consume much more.
 - ✓ Provide lots of drinking points.

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Cooperative Governance
Traditional Affairs

DISASTER AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

DROUGHT



- South Africa is a water scarce country and ranks as one of the 30th driest countries in the world.

- Prolonged lower-than-normal rainfall exacerbates drought conditions.

South Africa has water shortages, make every drop count!



- South Africa is a water scarce country and ranks as one of the 30th driest countries in the world.
- Prolonged lower-than-normal rainfall exacerbates drought conditions.
- Most of our water comes from rainfall therefore we are susceptible to sustained droughts.
- Climate change further exacerbates our weather patterns with many parts of South Africa experiencing below average rainfall.

I am responsible and we all have a role to play to conserve water!



- Households and businesses have to implement water-wise measures that include the re-use of water.
- Water loss is of concern and communities have to report water leaks to their local municipality.
- Leaky faucets waste water and should be dealt with immediately to save every drop.

- We all have a role to play in saving our most precious and life giving resource.
- Government alone cannot survive without the strategic partnerships by all stakeholders including responsible communities who use water sparingly.

We all need to save water



- We lose large amounts of water through leaks, wastage and illegal connections.
- The communities should report leaks and illegal connections to the local municipality.

Farming Management



- Farming communities to apply good farming practices.
- Always keep conservative stocking rates.
- Sell mature and marketable animals to help prevent overstocking and overgrazing.