OPENING OF NEW LandCare
TRAINING FACILITY
AT WORCESTER VELD RESERVE

The Western Cape Department of Agriculture is proud to have seven research farms which serve as research hubs in our six districts. The extensive facilities on the farms are, however, not only used by Departmental research staff, but also utilised by other Departmental programmes and external clients. The need to have a training venue at Worcester Veld Reserve led to the sub-directorate LandCare to upgrade an old storeroom into a brand-new training venue. The venue will be used mainly as a training facility for LandCare student interns, but has been designed in such a way that it can be utilised as a small training venue by other programmes as the need arises.

This venue was opened on the 28th of October 2011 by Minister Gerrie van Rensburg, Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development, who also delivered the keynote address. The programme also included an overview of the veld research done at the Veld Reserve over the years, the history of the Veld Reserve and a tree planting ceremony. This also commemorated the Reserve, which dates back to 1935.

In the photo (below) the Head of Department, Ms Joyene Isaacs and Minister van Rensburg open the venue.

A tree was also planted to commemorate the event. Here (photo right) Hannes Botha, Chief Farm Manager of Worcester Veld Reserve assists Minister van Rensburg in planting the tree, with Neels de Jager, retired official of the Veld Reserve, in the background.