

**CURRICULUM VITAE- RENIER CHRISTIAAN OLCKERS**

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Name	Renier Christiaan Olckers (Iaan)
Date of birth	24 March 1955
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Marital Status	Married
Profession	Agricultural Scientist/ Independent businessman and consultant
Specialisation	Farm/Rural Development
Nationality	South African
Years of experience	28

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**KEY QUALIFICATIONS**

Iaan Olckers has extensive experience in the development of policy and strategies in consultation with rural communities, government, private organisations and non-governmental organisations regarding access of new entrants into agriculture to ensure socio economic empowerment, job creation and poverty relief. He specializes in business planning and turnaround strategies, black economic empowerment, facilitating/co-ordinating development projects which includes the following: Development strategies, development of project concepts, socio and economic viability studies, settlement of new farmers, land potential studies and agriculture infrastructure.

Having been extensively involved in agricultural research and development, Iaan Olckers is able to lead and to contribute to agricultural development projects, agri-business development, and urban agricultural projects.

**Other skills:**

Pork production specialist

Landscape specialist

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## EXPERIENCE RECORD

### Department of Economics, Agriculture and Tourism: Western Cape

1979 to 1992

Agricultural Scientist: Animal Husbandry

Summary of related experience during this period:-

- Responsible for pig research and specialist extension.
- Vast experience in feeding and management programs for pigs.
- Management of pig research unit and control over various research programmes with maize, barley, wheat, triticale, fababeans, etc.
- Ten years involvement in the South African Pig Association, Pig Breeders Association, Pig study groups and Pig Technical Secretarial Committee.

### Department of Agriculture: Western Cape

1992 to July 2006

Agricultural Scientist: Farm/Rural Development

Summary of related experience during this period:-

- Involved in an agricultural study team who undertook the formulating of an integrated agricultural development policy and strategy for new/small farmers in the Western Cape.
- Responsible for the initiating, planning, implementing and evaluating of more than 350 agricultural projects in conjunction with rural communities. These projects entail socio-economic, agricultural land potential studies, agricultural development, planning of agricultural infrastructure, farm planning/development and the settlement of new farmers.
- Involved in technical and management aspects of the implementation of low-tech food production systems under sub-economic production conditions. Conducting research on various production methods under low-cost tunnel structures for urban and rural agricultural projects.
- Part of a team (co-ordinator) developing integrated agricultural development plans for rural communities such as Genadendal, Mamre, Ebenhaezer, Elim, etc.
- Specific experience in other countries/institutions:

Since 1993 attended various study tours/conferences to study development policies and strategies for small farmers, namely (a summary):

- Swaziland: Farming Systems for Research and Extension for small farmers.
- Fort Hare University: Intensive literature study around development strategies, training and extension for small farmers
- Namibia: Service strategies for small farmers - specifically the integration of different strategies (FSRE).
- Indonesia: Policy and development strategies, settlement systems for new farmers, agriculture farming systems, research and extension systems, funding and financing for small farmers/entrepreneurs
- Reunion: Policy for land reform, technical/financial/socio-economic support to previous disadvantaged people, role of project management in development projects.
- Malawi: Farming Systems for Research and Extension for small farmers.

- Germany: Food safety policies and strategies
- Management of Government land (Western Cape) - duties involved:
  - Land potential studies (socio-economic, sustainability, etc.)
  - Planning for establishing small farms
- Various aspects of project management in the RDP programme of the Western Cape ranging from community interaction, viability studies, planning of small scale farm units, selecting new entrants, develop and supply of suitable agriculture infrastructure for the support of developing communities.
- Twelve years of involvement in several Departmental committees which entails policy making and strategies for the RDP programme in the Western Cape.

### **AgriExpert CC**

August 2006 – Present

Summary of related experience during this period:-

- Part of a team developing overall development plans for rural communities such as Genadendal, Goedverwacht, Matjiesrivier and Elim, specifically developing strategic and operations plans for agricultural development.
- Planning and implementation, in partnership with MBB Consulting Engineers Inc, of the organic fresh produce industry in the Western Cape, with specific reference to packing, processing and establishment of new farmer projects to produce (organic) foodstuffs.
- Involved in business planning and workshops for the LRAD subsidy scheme, and successfully completed a number of commercial new farmer projects in the wine and other industries.
- Involved in the planning of regional agricultural development initiatives, such as Riebeek Valley Empowerment Project, and others.
- Involved in the planning and application for water rights in the agricultural sector.
- Involved in the planning and registration of waste water management.
- Specialize in BEE partnerships (planning, business plans and funding).
- Involved in the planning and development of rural areas.

### **EDUCATION:**

Institutions:	University of Stellenbosch
Degree:	B. Sc. Agric (Animal Husbandry)
Degree:	B. Sc. Agric Hons (Animal feeding)
Degree:	M. Sc. Agric (cum laude)

### **LANGUAGES**

	<b>Speak</b>	<b>Read</b>	<b>Write</b>
English	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent
Afrikaans	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent