



ZIMBABWE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY



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ZAS to introduce Farmers market



Dr Anxious Masuka

PLANS to introduce a Farmers' Market and Wholesale at the Zimbabwe Agricultural Society Business Hub are underway as a way of decongesting Mbare Musika and offering farmers a convenient platform to market and sell their produce.

According to ZAS Chief Executive Officer, Dr Anxious Masuka, the COVID-19 outbreak has brought with it several challenges including the need to ensure a safe and reliable supply of food to consumers.

"Since the lockdown, Harare has had the Mbare Musika Market as the only central Fresh Farm and Horticulture supply location available to both farmers and residents. Social and physical distancing continue to pose challenges for the market. There has, therefore, been justifiable suggestions to decentralise their marketing of farm produce," said Dr Masuka.

Head- Works and Estate Services, Eng Enkelbert Makaure said ZAS already has in place the required COVID-19 safety measures such as hand

sanitisation, temperature checks as well as social distancing options.

"Our facilities will be subjected to regular disinfection. The main market will be located in the Glamis Arena which has an area of 30 000m² and can safely accommodate 400-500 stalls even with social distancing," said Eng Makaure.

The relevant authority is currently being sought from the City of Harare for ZAS to operate the farmers market.

Meanwhile, ZAS has also availed storage space within the Business Hub for organisations that require this service.

Head- Sales and Marketing, Cynthia Tapera said ZAS has adequate storage space for companies and individuals to utilise.

"We have secure surroundings with CCTV surveillance of the whole Business Hub in addition to 24hr security patrol," she said.

New show dates



SHOW SOCIETY	DATE
Bulawayo Agricultural Society	TBA
Kadoma Show Society	08 -10 October
Matabeleland South Agric Show	17 - 19 September
Mashonaland West Agric Show	14 - 18 October
Midlands Agric Show	01 - 04 October
Mashonaland East Agric Show	16-19 September
Matabeleland North Agric Show	17-20 September
Mashonaland Central	23 - 26 September
Lowveld	03 - 05 September
Zimbabwe Agricultural Society	26 - 31 October
Chipinge Agric Show	16-20 September
Manicaland Agric Show	30 Sept - 4 October
Masvingo Agric Show	24 - 27 September
Victoria Falls Show	24 - 27 September

The National Association of Agricultural Show Societies of Zimbabwe has revised the show dates for 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Details of how each show will be conducted shall follow. Below are the proposed new dates

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ZAS CEO Dr Anxious Masuka, Information, Publicity and Broadcasting Services Minister Monica Mutsvangwa, Overall Best Reporter winner Mthandazo Nyoni from Alpha Media Holdings and wife, Deputy Lands and Agriculture Minister Vangelis Peter Haritatos and ZAS President Mr Ngoni Kudenga at last year's Zimbabwe Agricultural Media Awards

Second edition of ZAMA awards set for August

THE second edition of the Zimbabwe Agricultural Media Awards (ZAMA) has been moved forward to 28 August this year due to the replanning needed to host the event in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown imposed by government.

The awards, which are organised by the Zimbabwe Agricultural Society, were first held last year on 28 June.

“While ZAS is known for hosting big showgoers’ events like the Zimbabwe Agricultural Show and the Farmers Festival, we have however noted the changes to our business model foisted upon by COVID-19 which is limiting gatherings of large crowds. To us this is an opportunity to incorporate technology while reasserting our role as one of the most significant agricultural sector players, bringing together stakeholders and the media.”

“We are committed to promoting capacitation of the media to enhance quality of reportage for the benefit of the agriculture sector stakeholders,” he said.

Sponsors and shortlisted nominees will attend the awards to be hosted in Harare but ZAS will ensure strict adherence to recommended COVID-19 guidelines. This year ZAS has introduced two new categories to the second edition of the ZAMA.

The newly introduced categories are the Horticulture Best Reporter Award and Sugarcane Best Reporter Award, which brings the number of award categories to 15 including the Overall Agriculture Sector Best Reporter Award. The full list of awards is:

1. Tobacco Sector Best Reporter Award
2. Cotton Sector Best Reporter Award
3. Wheat and Cereals Sector Best

Reporter Award

4. Sugarcane Sector Best reporter award
5. Oilseeds Sector Best Reporter Award
6. Small Grains Sector Best Reporter Award
7. Dairy Sector Best Reporter Award
8. Beef Sector Best Reporter Award
9. Small Ruminants Sector Best Reporter Award
10. Poultry Sector Best Reporter Award
11. Agriculture Finance and Development Best Reporter Award
12. Sustainable Agriculture and Climate Change Best Reporter Award
13. Agricultural Equipment, Mechanisation, Irrigation, Storage and Innovation Best Reporter Award
14. Horticulture Best Reporter Award
15. Overall Agricultural Sector Best Reporter Award

Dr Masuka says the changes have been made to accommodate two important agricultural sectors while widening the scope for reportage by journalists.

“We have introduced these two additional categories and have also separated Livestock Best Reporter Award to Beef Best Reporter Award and Dairy Best Reporter Award as these are two separate sub sectors that play a significant role in agriculture,” he said.

At the inaugural edition of ZAMA last year, Alpha Media Holdings reporter Mthandazo Nyoni won the Overall Agriculture Sector Best Reporter Award and three other sectoral awards at a glittering ceremony held in the capital.

The awards are generously sponsored by corporates, and a call has now been made to those. Reporters can now submit their entries. The judging process shall take place in July.

How To Wear A Mask



Face masks are only effective for protection if they are handled, worn, stored and disposed of properly. And experts continue to strongly urge everyone to maintain at least 2 metres of social distancing when possible—even with the use of face masks.

DO

 Wear a mask when you leave home

 Make sure it covers your nose and mouth

 Be sure that you can breathe through it

 Continue practising social distance

 Wash mask after use, if it's reusable

 Wash your hands after removing mask

DON'T

 Touch mask while wearing it

 Touch the front of the mask when wearing it

 Use on children under 2

 Wear it if you have trouble breathing