



## *DAERD and SASRI join forces to deliver Extension Services to Small-scale Growers*

**S**ASRI AND THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DAERD) HAVE BEEN IN PARTNERSHIP TO PROVIDE AN EXTENSION SERVICE TO THE KWAZULU-NATAL SUGARCANE SMALL-SCALE FARMERS SINCE 1994. TO DATE, THE PARTNERSHIP HAS COMBINED THE STRENGTHS AND RESOURCES OF SASRI WITH THOSE OF THE DEPARTMENT TO UNLOCK THE POTENTIAL OF THIS SIGNIFICANT GROUP OF FARMERS THROUGH SOUND AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL PRACTICES.

Earlier this year, this extension venture was given a new lease on life with the signing of a renewed

agreement that reflects a significant shift in the role of the two parties, and that recognises the maturation of their relationship since 1994. The Extension Venture Agreement with DAERD provides for joint provision of extension to the province's 33 742 small-scale growers. Through understanding the grower needs and priorities, extension specialists from both organisations will devise a series of extension programmes to establish an annual Programme of Work that will be jointly implemented. The current agreement will continue for five years. ✓



*SASRI and the Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Rural Development partnership to provide an extension service to the KwaZulu-Natal sugarcane small-scale farmers has been extended for a further five years.*