EC gets Female Farmer of the Year awards

A 27-year-old woman from the Eastern Cape has rocked the national Female Farmer of Year Awards and became the youngest farmer to win the prestigious award of being the overall winner.

Bongiwe Kali a poultry farmer from Ntseshe village in Ngqamakhwe on Tuesday night made the province proud by beating all other participants from all the provinces in a glittering ceremony in Cape Town.

Earlier Kali had banged the Top Producer: National Market award.

Kali, who took-over the poultry business from her award-winning mother two year ago, produces 1 500 chickens a week and can pick up to 3000 eggs a day during the pick season.

Her late mother won the provincial Top Producer: National Market award in 1999. She changed her mother’s table eggs producing project to a chicken hatchery project, where she sell one-day-old chicks and gets orders of more than 100 per week.

The project, which employs twelve people, has about 3 hectares of land where the sunflower that helps to feed the chickens and chicks and cabbage and spinach is grown.

One of her incubators (a machine that hatches the eggs) was bought by the department of agriculture.

The department congratulates Kali on her great achievement and by holding the provincial flag high.

A media briefing will be held at the airport, upon her arrival with senior departmental officials.

For more information contact 073 2633 754 or 040 609 3965