



DR. HERMAN VAN SCHALKWYK

Herman van Schalkwyk was born in Johannesburg and grew up in Warden in the Eastern Free State where he matriculated in 1984.

Since 1 April 2016 he is the Managing Director of Suidwes. Suidwes is an agricultural business mainly specialising in the supply of inputs, mechanisation, finance and grain management.

Prior to his position at Suidwes, he was the Rector of the Potchefstroom Campus of the North-West University.

In 1990 he obtained his BCom degree at the University of Pretoria, after which he obtained his Honours degree (1991) and MCom cum laude (1992). In 1995 he also obtained his PhD in Agricultural Economics at the UP. Dr. van Schalkwyk started lecturing at the UP in 1993 after working at Standard Bank for two years as agricultural economist. He accepted an associate professorship at the University of the Free State in 1996. Two years later he became full professor and head of the Department of Agricultural Economics. In 2003 he was appointed as the dean of the Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences. In 2010 he became the Rector of the Potchefstroom Campus of the North West University.

Dr. van Schalkwyk is a well-known and prominent agricultural economist who has distinguished himself in several fields. Several publications have appeared in various scientific journals and numerous research and project reports came from his pen. He delivered more than 90 papers at local conferences and 47 internationally. He has also acted as promoter for 26 PhD students and study leader for 35 Master's students.

Dr. van Schalkwyk is also the editor and co-author of a book called: *Unlocking markets to smallholders: The case of South Africa*, which was published by the University of Wageningen in the Netherlands.

His involvement in many provincial and national institutions is highly acclaimed. Amongst others, he was appointed member of the National Agricultural Marketing Council by the Minister of Agriculture in 2007 and in 2008 as deputy chairperson of the Board of the Land Bank.

He also acted as chairperson of the Board of the Land Bank for a period of 18 months.

Dr. van Schalkwyk acted as a consultant for the World Bank and other South African institutions and as a specialist in Agricultural and related court cases.

He is a popular speaker and guest of honour at agricultural congresses and workshops and scores of articles for the popular media have flowed from his pen. In 2011 he was named National Agriculturalist of the Year of South Africa by Agricultural Writers SA.

As a part-time farmer he likes spending his leisure time with his wife, Rélyne and three sons on their family farm.