CHAPTER 2

AGRICULTURE EDUCATION AND TRAINING AT THE COLLEGES OF AGRICULTURE DURING THE 2024 AND 2025 ACADEMIC YEARS

2.1 Introduction

There are eleven (11) public Colleges of Agriculture in the country namely: Cedara College of Agriculture, Cape Institute of Agriculture Training: Elsenburg (CIAT: Elsenburg), Fort Cox Agriculture and Forestry Training Institute, Glen College of Agriculture, Grootfontein Agricultural Development Institute, Madzivhandila College of Agriculture, Owen Sitole College of Agriculture, Potchefstroom College of Agriculture, Taung College of Agriculture, Tompi Seleka College of Agriculture and Tsolo Agriculture and Rural Development Institute. These colleges are distributed throughout the country; however, Northern Cape and Gauteng are the only provinces without a College of Agriculture. Colleges of Agriculture offer programmes / qualifications from Short Courses, Learnerships, Diploma, Advanced Diploma and Bachelor levels. During the 2024 academic year, seven (7) of the eleven (11) colleges offered programmes in the HET and FET band which are usually offered in a form of short courses, four colleges did not offer short courses in 2024.

These colleges are working hard to provide support to small and emerging farmers in the provinces and even outside their provincial borders within which they are located. These factors have brought about marked differentiation between the colleges in their programme presentation and in the introduction of short courses to address the needs of the farmers.

The following chapter presents various types of programmes, NQF levels, accrediting bodies, duration of the programmes offered and short courses completed at the Colleges of Agriculture. The chapter also presents the number of graduates produced in various programmes offered at these colleges.

2.2 Curriculum and programme offerings at the Colleges of Agriculture

Agricultural Colleges offer programmes that range from NQF level 1 – 7. Short Courses and Learnership programmes at NQF level 1 - 4 and Diploma in Agriculture at NQF level 6. In addition, Bachelor level programmes at NQF level 7 are offered by Cedara and CIAT: Elsenburg, programmes at Advanced Diploma level are offered by Fort Cox.

Colleges have attempted to design their programmes to suit the skills requirements of the particular agricultural industry in their respective locality. Each College is also located in a specific site and serves a niche area, which is comprised of localized agro-

ecological settings. Table 2 below gives an indication of ecological zone where each College of Agriculture is located.

Table 2: Ecological – Zone of Colleges of Agriculture	
Name of the College	**Agro - Ecological Zone/Area**
Cedara	Mixed farming
CIAT: Elsenburg	Wine and wheat production
Fort Cox	Forestry and citrus production
Glen	Cattle production
Grootfontein	Small stock production
Madzivhandila	Sub - tropical fruit production and horticulture
Owen Sithole	Sub - tropical fruit production and sugar cane
Potchefstroom	Highveld mixed farming
Taung	Intensive irrigated agricultural production
Tompi Seleka	Highveld mixed farming
Tsolo	Mixed farming and livestock

The type of partnerships that existed between some of the colleges and local higher education institutions still exists (e.g. CIAT: Elsenburg is linked with the University of Stellenbosch in providing Bachelor programmes related to local industrial needs in the Western Cape while Cedara is linked with the University of KwaZulu - Natal to also offer Bachelor programmes in the province of KwaZulu – Natal). Furthermore, colleges are working hard to provide support for small and emerging farmers in provinces in which they are located. These factors have brought about marked differentiation between the colleges in their programme presentation as well as in the introduction of short courses to address the needs of the farmers.

Colleges of Agriculture do not provide highly standardized programmes. There is flexibility because the Colleges orient their programmes/courses towards supporting the agricultural activities practiced in their regions (e.g. Potchefstroom College focuses on mixed farming as carried out in the highveld and adjacent regions and Taung College focuses on irrigation systems as a result of the demographic area of the college).

Even though the curriculum in the Colleges is not highly standardized as in the FET colleges, the survey reveals that agricultural colleges present programmes that cover the same broad fields of knowledge as those offered by the FET college curriculum; plant production, animal production, mixed farming and agricultural engineering.

Table 3 below indicates the knowledge fields and courses within which agricultural subject matter offered by the Colleges of Agriculture, general courses, specific subfields, specialized courses and an example of commodity courses;

Table 3: Knowledge fields and courses offered by the Colleges of Agriculture			
General courses	**Courses covering specific sub-fields**	**More specialized courses within sub-fields**	**Commodity courses include:**
Plant Production	Agronomy, Crop production, Horticulture Soil science Water management Plant propagation	Crop protection, Pasture management	E.g. Vegetable production, fruit production, viticulture, sugar cane, green-house management etc.
Animal production	Animal breeding Animal nutrition Animal production Animal health	Artificial insemination, Animal husbandry, Feedlot management, Small and large stock production	E.g. Beef cattle, dairy cattle, fish, mutton, pig, poultry, wool, goats, milk goats, broilers and Angora goats etc.
Agricultural Engineering	Agricultural implements, Mechanization planning, Electrical apparatus/motors, Surveying	Irrigation and drainage systems	
Agricultural Management	Marketing, Farm management, Community development, Financial management and Economics	Office administration, Land use planning, Farm accounting, Production factors, Entrepreneurial skills	
Other		Farm safety	

Agricultural Colleges offer courses at a more advanced level than the FET colleges, below is an example of programmes that are offered at a more advanced level at the Colleges of Agriculture;

- Animal Production includes Artificial Insemination
- Crop Production includes Greenhouse Management

- Farm Mechanics includes Agricultural Engineering
- Agricultural Management includes Agricultural Economics e.t.c.

The balance between theoretical and practical application within college programmes is considered important. Broadly, across the curriculum there is a 55 - 60% theoretical component with the rest being given to practical application, however, this is not necessarily the case for Universities and Universities of Technology. Colleges of Agriculture, therefore, provide more hands-on training in comparison to other FET and Higher Education institutions. Some colleges also offer non-formal training programmes, typically short courses for further education in the training sector.

Agricultural colleges are the only institutional type that exclusively offer agricultural programmes. This means that student choice of courses is strictly bound by what is offered by the institution. Colleges of Agriculture are, therefore, similar to FET colleges because student choice is defined by the boundaries of the institution or by the limits of the programme, unlike Universities and Universities of Technology that offer a variety of programmes within a single qualification where students can select from a wide range of options even outside the Faculty of Agriculture.

There is a similarity between FET Colleges and Colleges of Agriculture because their programmes are based on a relatively straightforward progression of students between curriculum levels. In the case of the FET colleges, a student enters at N1 and progresses over three years to N6 and in agricultural colleges, a student enters at either three-year National Diploma or a Bachelor level. In each case the completion of a strictly defined three-year programme leads to a single qualification.

Agricultural Colleges like FET colleges offer relatively ‘closed’ programmes, whereas the Universities and Universities of Technology present more open programmes which offer a wide variety of programmes to choose from. This means that it is possible for programmes in Universities and Universities of Technology to support higher levels of specialization than in the Colleges of Agriculture.

Agricultural programmes at the Colleges of Agriculture have a clearly defined shape and are relatively standardized, they are almost similar with regard to content in all the colleges. These factors make it highly possible to describe the actual curriculum within each programme/qualification and for student progression from one college to the other, which is not necessarily the case with Universities and Universities of Technology.

At the Colleges of Agriculture, Diploma, Advanced Diploma and Bachelor programmes are accredited by the HEQC of the CHE, whereas programmes from NQF level 1 to 4 (short courses and learnerships) are accredited by Umalusi /AgriSETA and others are non - accredited.

Table 4 below indicates the types of programmes offered in the individual colleges, the NQF levels, duration of the programme and accrediting bodies.

Table 4: Programmes offered by the Colleges of Agriculture				
College	**Programme**	**NQF level**	**Duration**	**Accrediting body**
1. Cedara	• Diploma in Agriculture	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Bachelor of Agriculture	7	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Short Courses	1 – 4	(1 – 14 days)	*
2. CIAT: Elsenburg	• Diploma in Agriculture: Plant Production	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Diploma in Agriculture: Animal Production	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Diploma in Agriculture: Cellar Technology	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Diploma: Animal and Plant Production	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Bachelor of Agriculture: Plant Production	7	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Bachelor of Agriculture: Animal Production	7	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Bachelor of Agriculture: Cellar Technology	7	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Bachelor of Agriculture: Animal and Plant Production	7	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Bachelor of Agriculture: Extension and Animal Production	7	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC

Table 4: Programmes offered by the Colleges of Agriculture				
College	**Programme**	**NQF level**	**Duration**	**Accrediting body**
	• Short Courses	1 – 4	(1 – 14 days)	*
3. Fort Cox	• Diploma in Agriculture: Animal Production	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Diploma in Agriculture: Crop Production	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Diploma in Agriculture: Agribusiness	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Diploma in Agricultural Engineering	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Diploma in Forestry	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Advanced Diploma: Horticulture	7	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Advanced Diploma: Forestry	7	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Advanced Diploma: Animal production	7	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Short Courses	1 – 4	(1 – 14 days)	*
4. Glen	• Diploma in Agriculture: Animal Production	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Diploma in Agriculture: Crop Production	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
5. Grootfontein	• Diploma in Agriculture: Animal Production	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC

Table 4: Programmes offered by the Colleges of Agriculture				
College	**Programme**	**NQF level**	**Duration**	**Accrediting body**
6. Madzivhandila	• Diploma in Agriculture: Animal Production	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Diploma in Agriculture: Plant Production	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Short Courses	1 – 4	(1 – 14 days)	*
7. Owen Sitole	• Diploma in Agriculture: Crop Production	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Diploma in Agriculture: Animal Production	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Short Courses	1 – 4	(1 – 14 days)	*
8. Potchefstroom	• Diploma in Agriculture: Mixed Farming	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
9. Taung	• Diploma in Agriculture: Irrigation Management	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
10. Tompi Seleka	• Diploma in Agriculture: Animal Production	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Diploma in Agriculture: Plant Production	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Short Courses	1 - 4	(1 – 14 days)	*
11. Tsolo	• Diploma in Agriculture: Animal Health	6	3 Years Full Time	CHE/HEQC
	• Short Courses	1 – 4	(1 – 14 days)	*

* Non - accredited

The challenge in all the colleges is accreditation of short courses, in most colleges these programmes are not accredited and are therefore more like information - sharing rather than training programmes.

2.3 Demographic breakdown of enrolment figures at the Colleges of Agriculture during the 2025 academic year

A total number of two thousand six hundred and fifty - nine (**2 659**) students were enrolled at the Colleges of Agriculture during the 2025 academic year. Table 5 below presents enrolment figures per College of Agriculture during the 2025 academic year.

Table 5: Enrolments per College of Agriculture in 2025

Name of the College	Number of enrolled students in 2025	Percentage (%)
Cedara**	**127**	**5**
CIAT: Elsenburg**	**566**	**21**
Fort Cox **	**316**	**12**
Glen	**150**	**6**
Grootfontein	**186**	**7**
Madzivhandilla	**245**	**9**
Owen Sitole	**172**	**6**
Potchefstroom	**309**	**12**
Taung	**216**	**8**
Tompi Seleka	**188**	**7**
Tsolo	**184**	**7**
Total	**2659**	**100**

** Includes information on Advanced Diploma and B Agric

Table 5 above indicates that during the 2025 academic year, CIAT: Elsenburg registered the highest number of students with 21% enrolments, followed by Fort Cox and Potchefstroom with 12% respectively. Madzivhandila and Taung contributed 9% and 8%. Grootfontein, Tompi Seleka and Tsolo enrolled 7% each. Glen and Owen Sitole contributed 6% respectively. The least number of enrolments were recorded at Cedara with 5% of the total number of college enrolments during the 2025 academic year.

Figure 1 below indicates that five of the eleven Colleges namely; CIAT Elsenburg, Fort Cox, Madzivandilla, Potchefstroom and Taung have registered more than two hundred students during the 2025 academic year. Figure 1 further shows that six of the eleven colleges namely; Cedara, Grootfontein, Owen Sitole, Glen, Tompi Seleka and Tsolo have registered less than two hundred students during the 2025 academic year. These enrolment figures include first, second and third year enrolments at the Colleges of Agriculture.

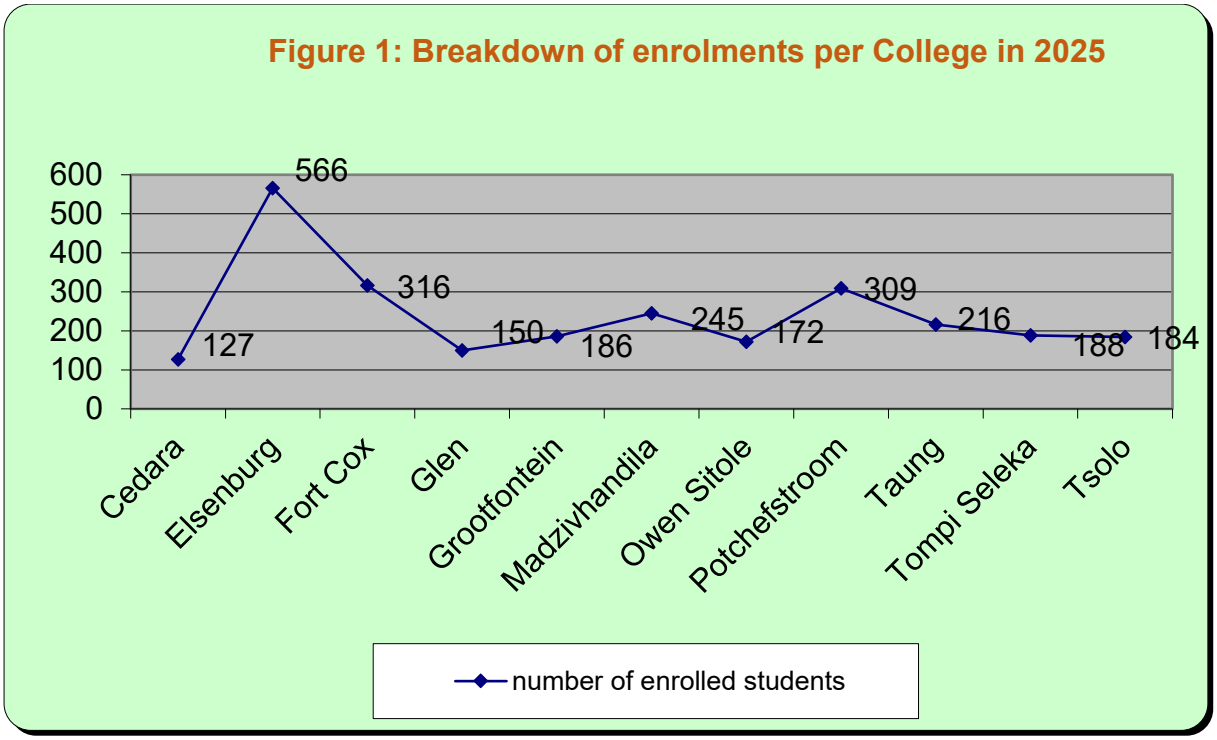


Table 6 below presents a demographic breakdown of enrolments per College of Agriculture during the 2025 academic year.

Table 6: Demographic breakdown of College enrolments by gender and race during the 2025 academic year

Name of the College	African			Coloured			White			Asian			Total	%
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total		
1. Cedara	64	56	**120**	0	1	**1**	1	1	**2**	3	1	**4**	**127**	5
2.CIAT: Elsenburg	62	82	**144**	38	37	**75**	238	103	**341**	1	5	**6**	**566**	21
3. Fort Cox	178	138	**316**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**316**	12
4. Glen	62	87	**149**	0	1	**1**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**150**	6
5. Grootfontein	65	42	**107**	12	5	**17**	35	27	**62**	0	0	**0**	**186**	7
6. Madzivhandila	108	137	**245**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**245**	9
7. Owen Sitole	82	90	**172**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**172**	6
8. Potchefstroom	177	116	**293**	2	2	**4**	9	2	**11**	1	0	**1**	**309**	12
9. Taung	131	83	**214**	1	1	**2**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**216**	8
10. Tompi Seleka	102	86	**188**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**188**	7
11. Tsolo	91	93	**184**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**184**	7
TOTAL	**1122**	**1010**	**2132**	**53**	**47**	**100**	**283**	**133**	**416**	**5**	**6**	**11**	**2659**	**100**

Table 6 above indicates that during the 2025 academic year, five (5) of the eleven (11) colleges have enrolled only African students with no Coloured, White or Asian students. These colleges are Fort Cox, Madzivhandilla, Owen Sithole, Tompi Seleka and Tsolo.

Figure 2 below indicates that during the 2025 academic year, African students dominated enrolments at the Colleges of Agriculture with 80%, followed by Whites with 16% and Coloured students with 4%. Asian students constituted less than 1% of the overall enrolments at the Colleges during the 2025 academic year.

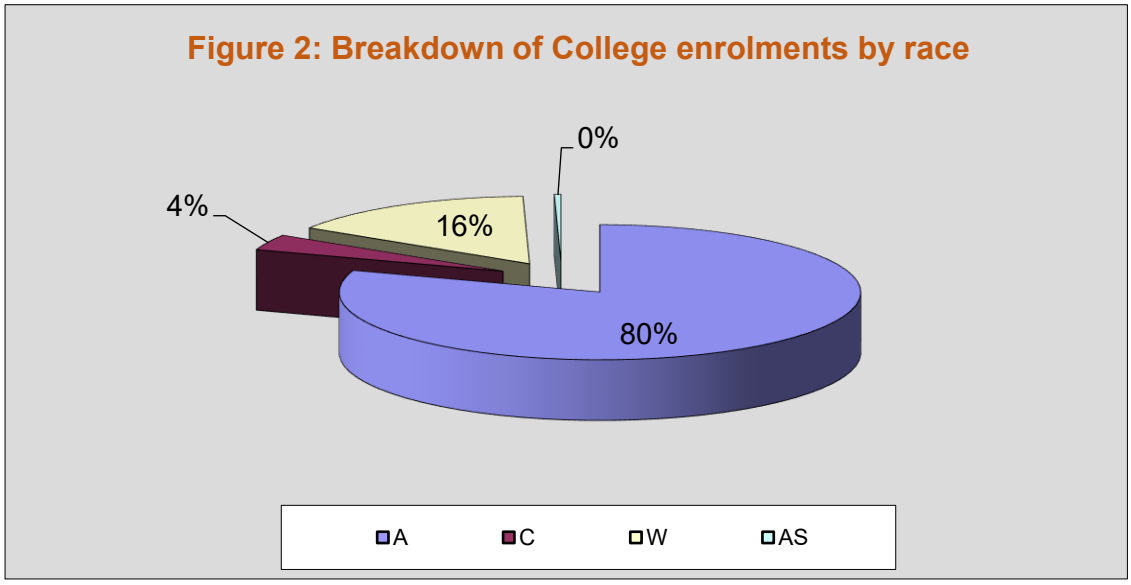
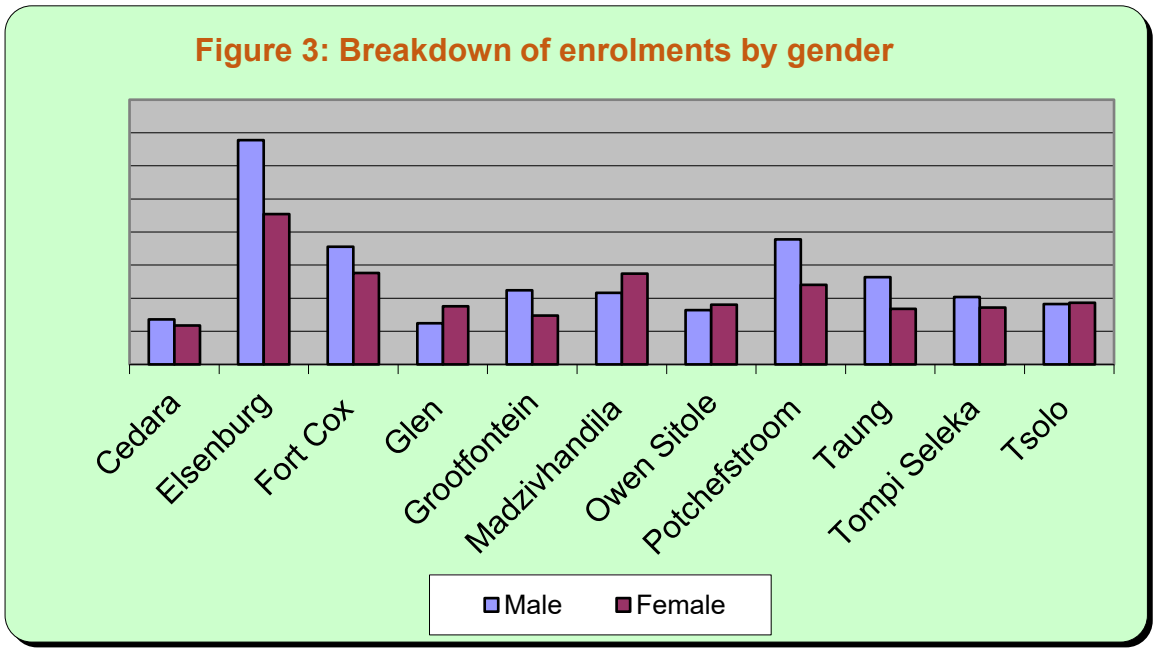


Figure 3 below shows that male enrolments dominated female enrolments at the Colleges of Agriculture during the 2025 academic year.



The information on figure 3 above indicates that the number of male enrolments in Cedara, CIAT: Elsenburg, Fort Cox, Grootfontein, Potchefstroom, Taung and Tompi Seleka colleges were higher than that of female enrolments, however, the situation was different at Glen, Madzivhandila, Owen Sithole and Tsolo where female enrolments outnumbered the number of male enrolments in 2025.

Figure 4 below shows that during the 2025 academic year, Diploma enrolments at the Colleges of Agriculture constituted 92% of the total number of enrolments while Bachelor and Advanced Diploma enrolments constituted only 8%

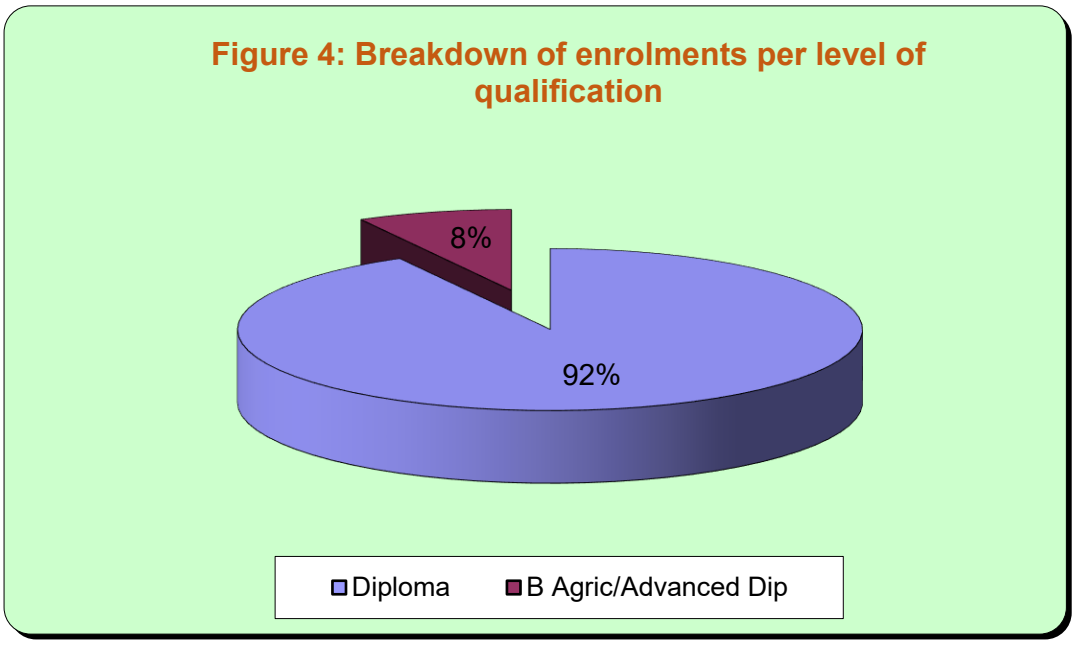


Table 7 below shows the total number of enrolments per level of qualification during the 2025 academic year. Diploma programmes were offered by most of the colleges, Bachelor programmes were offered by Cedara and CIAT: Elsenburg and Advanced Diploma programmes by Fort Cox.

Table 7: Breakdown of enrolments per level of qualification in 2025

Colleges	Number of enrolments per level of qualification				
	NQF 1 - 4	Diploma	Degree	Total	%
1. Cedara	0	116	11	**127**	**5**
2. CIAT: Elsenburg	0	372	194	**566**	**21**
3. Fort Cox	0	316	0	**316**	**12**
4. Glen	0	150	0	**150**	**6**
5. Grootfontein	0	186	0	**186**	**7**
6. Madzivhandila	0	245	0	**245**	**9**
7. Owen Sitole	0	172	0	**172**	**6**
8. Potchefstroom	0	309	0	**309**	**12**
9.Taung	0	216	0	**216**	**8**
10.Tompi Seleka	0	188	0	**188**	**7**
11. Tsolo	0	184	0	**185**	**7**
Total	0	**2454**	**205**	**2659**	**100**
%	**0**	**92**	**8**	**100**	

2.4 Completed Short Courses at the Colleges of Agriculture during the 2024 academic year

During the 2024 academic year Colleges have engaged in short course programmes on a large scale, colleges that offered short course programmes include Cedara, CIAT: Elsenburg, Fort Cox, Grootfontein, Madzivhandila, Tompi Seleka, Owen Sitole and Tsolo. The duration of short courses varied from one day to fourteen days.

Table 8 below presents the types of short courses offered by Colleges of Agriculture.

Table 8: Various short courses offered by Colleges of Agriculture in 2024

Technical Agricultural Skills	Cedara	CIAT: Elsenburg	Fort Cox	Grootfontein	Madzivhandila	Owen Sitole	Tompi Seleka	Tsolo
Agricultural cooperative management	X							
Advanced soil fertility	X							
Agri business plan		X						
Arc welding				X				
Animal diseases			X					
Artificial insemination	X	X						X
Animal nutrition			X					
Agricultural marketing					X			
Animal health						X		
Animal harvesting		X						
Apply crop protection and animal health products effectively		X						
Animal production efficiency keys		X						
Agri processing		X						
Beef production	X	X			X	X		
Bee production					X			
Biosecurity measures		X				X		
Bee keeping	X	X						
Bio – resource program	X							
Business management			X					
Book keeping					X	X		
Commercial crop production	X							
Chemical handling			X					
Crop production		X				X		
Climate smart agriculture			X					
Computer		X		X				
Code of conduct		X						
Co – operative development	X							
Conflict management		X						
Calf rearing and controlled cattle diseases	X	X						

Table 8: Various short courses offered by Colleges of Agriculture in 2024								
Technical Agricultural Skills	**Cedara**	**CIAT: Elsenburg**	**Fort Cox**	**Grootfontein**	**Madzivhandila**	**Owen Sitole**	**Tompi Seleka**	**Tsolo**
Calibration of spraying equipment		X						
Chainsaw operator		X						
Communication		X						
Dairy processing/production	X	X						
Digger loader		X						
Exporting			X					
Extract of oils			X					
Enterprise selection		X						
Equine studies		X						
Environmental health compliance						X		
Financial management					X			
Farm together co – operatives training	X							
Farm record keeping/budget	X							
Farm business management	X	X				X		
Fruits & vegetable processing	X							
Financial Management and marketing		X			X			
Fodder flow planning		X						
First aid		X						
Fire fighting		X						
Forklift operator		X						
Fruit trees grafting						X		
Food security: household profile		X						
Fencing		X						
Goat production	X	X				X		
Health and safety		X						
Human resource management policies and procedures		X					X	
Hydroponic Vegetable Production	X							
Hydroponics system						X		
Irrigation		X						
Integrated pest management		X						
Jam manufacturing	X							
Livestock production							X	
Livestock farmers day		X						
Leadership		X			X			
Layer production						X		
Maize production			X				X	
Maize and dry bean production						X		
Marketing principles	X							
Marketing		X					X	
Marketing & financial management	X							

Table 8: Various short courses offered by Colleges of Agriculture in 2024								
Technical Agricultural Skills	**Cedara**	**CIAT: Elsenburg**	**Fort Cox**	**Grootfontein**	**Madzivhandila**	**Owen Sitole**	**Tompi Seleka**	**Tsolo**
Mushroom production	X							
Meat processing	X							
Meat inspection								X
Meeting procedures		X						
Mohair classification			X					
Nursery practices	X							
Meat classification			X					
Nursery management					X		X	
Operate tractor	X							
Organic farming	X							
Oil making					X			
Use of agri implements		X						
Pasture management						X		
Pig Production	X	X						
Pest and disease control						X		
Potato and butternut production						X		
Plant propagation		X						
Plant manipulation		X						
Pig production		X			X			
Poultry Broiler							X	
Poultry production	X	X				X		
Recognize pests, diseases and weeds, water quality							X	
Safe use of chemicals	X	X	X		X			
Safety rep		X						
Species handling			X					
Sheep production		X				X		
Soil preparation		X						
Soil classification and land capability	X					X		
Soil fertility	X					X		
Small stock					X			
Strategic agric management		X						
Sound environmental practices		X						
Store and control agrochemical products effectively and responsibly		X						
TB & CA								X
Tractor operator		X						
Overview of animal industry		X						
Veld management	X					X		
Vegetable production	X	X			X	X	X	
Wool classification		X	X					
Wine Production			X					

Table 8: Various short courses offered by Colleges of Agriculture in 2024								
Technical Agricultural Skills	**Cedara**	**CIAT: Elsenburg**	**Fort Cox**	**Grootfontein**	**Madzivhandila**	**Owen Sitole**	**Tompi Seleka**	**Tsolo**
Water quality		**X**						
Wire fencing		**X**						

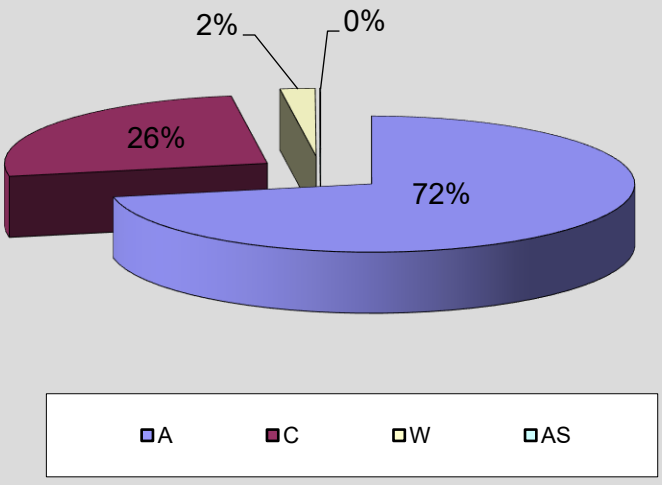
2.5 Demographic breakdown of completed Short Courses in 2024

Table 9: Breakdown of gender and race of completed short courses per College of Agriculture														
Name of the College	**African**			**Coloured**			**White**			**Asian**			**Total**	%
	M	**F**	**T**	**M**	**F**	**T**	**M**	**F**	**T**	**M**	**F**	**T**		
Cedara	366	518	**884**	2	0	**2**	6	2	**8**	4	0	**4**	**898**	**14**
CIAT: Elsenburg	429	294	**723**	992	659	**1651**	88	23	**111**	0	0	**0**	**2485**	**38**
Fort Cox	742	633	**1375**	33	9	**42**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**1417**	**21**
Glen*	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**0**	**0**
Grootfontein	6	2	**8**	9	7	**16**	23	0	**23**	0	0	**0**	**47**	**1**
Madzivhandila	183	106	**289**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**289**	**4**
Owen Sitole	418	487	**905**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**905**	**14**
Potchefstroom*	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**0**	**0**
Taung*	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**0**	**0**
Tompi Seleka	155	238	**393**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**393**	**6**
Tsolo	93	90	**183**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**183**	**3**
Total	**2392**	**2368**	**4760**	**1036**	**675**	**1711**	**117**	**25**	**142**	**4**	**0**	**4**	**6617**	**100**

***Information not available**

Table 9 above indicates that CIAT: Elsenburg dominated other colleges on the number of completed short courses during the 2024 academic year with 38%, followed by Fort Cox with 21%, Cedara and Owen Sithole with 14% respectively. The lowest percentages of short courses were completed at Tompi Seleka with 6%, Madzivhandila with 4%, Tsolo with 3% and Grootfontein with 1%. The following colleges did not offer short courses during the 2024 academic year; Glen, Potchefstroom and Taung.

Figure 5: Completed short courses by race



As illustrated in figure 5 above, Africans dominated people who completed short courses at the Colleges of Agriculture in 2024 with 72%, followed by Coloureds with 26%, Whites with 2% and Asians with less than 1% of the total number of completed short courses during the 2024 academic year.

Figure 6: Completed short courses by gender

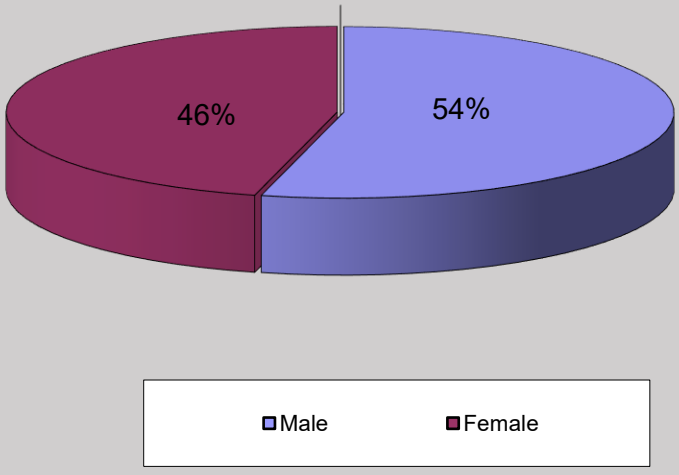
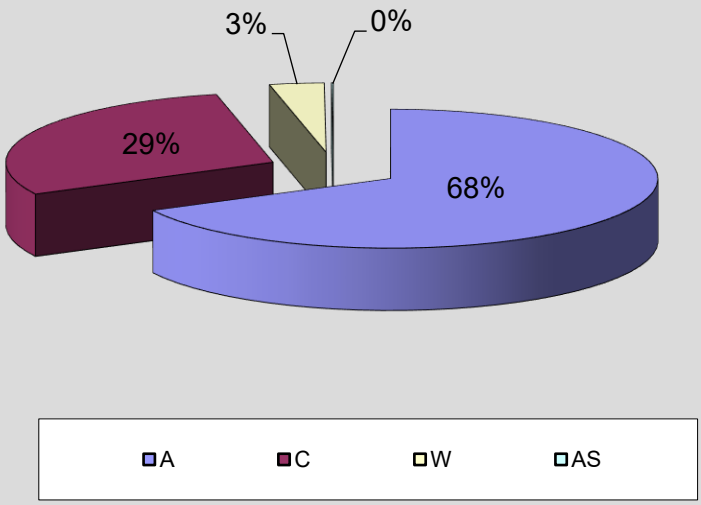


Figure 6 above indicates that males dominated the number of people who completed short courses with 54% whilst females constituted 46%.

Figure 7: Racial breakdown of males completing short courses in 2024



As illustrated on figure 7 above, African males dominated the number of males who completed short courses at the Colleges of Agriculture in 2024 with 68%, followed by Coloured males with 29%, White males with 3% and Asian males with less than 1% of the total number of males who completed short courses in 2024.

Figure 8: Racial breakdown of females completing short courses in 2024

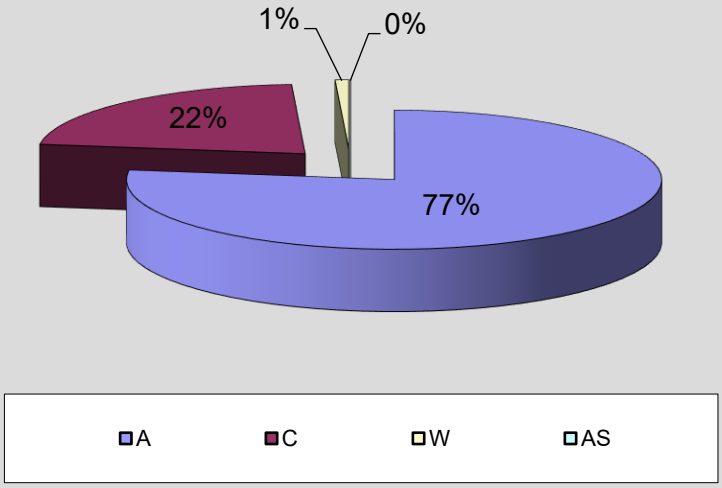


Figure 8 above indicates that African females dominated the number of females who completed short courses at the Colleges of Agriculture in 2024 with 77%, followed by Coloureds with 22%, White females with 1% and Asian females with less than 1% of completed short courses in 2024.

2.6 Graduate outputs at the Colleges of Agriculture during the 2024 academic year

A total number of seven hundred and twenty - eight **(728)** graduates were produced at the Colleges of Agriculture during the 2024 academic year.

Table 10 below presents the number of graduates produced per College of Agriculture in 2024.

Table 10: Graduate outputs per College of Agriculture during the 2024 academic year

Name of the College	Graduates in 2024	Percentage (%)
Cedara	31	**4**
Elsenburg	130	**18**
Fort Cox	113	**16**
Glen	78	**11**
Grootfontein	59	**8**
Madzivhandila	38	**5**
Owen Sitole	49	**7**
Potchefstroom	82	**11**
Taung	33	**5**
Tompi Seleka	46	**6**
Tsolo	69	**9**
TOTAL	**728**	**100**

During the 2024 academic year, CIAT: Elsenburg produced more graduates than other Colleges of Agriculture with 18%, followed by Fort Cox with 16%, Glen and Potchefstroom with 11% respectively. Grootfontein, Madzivhandila, Owen Sitole, Taung, Tompi Seleka, Potchefstroom, Owen Sitole and Tsolo produced more than 5% graduates each. The least number of graduates were produced at Cedara with 4% of the overall graduates at the Colleges of Agriculture during the 2024 academic year.

As depicted in figure 9 below, out of the eleven Colleges that produced graduates during the 2024 academic year, only CIAT: Elsenburg and fort Cox have managed to produce more than 100 graduates. The lowest number of graduates were produced at Cedara with 31 graduates, Madzivhandila with 38, Owen Sitole with 49, Taung with 33 and Tompi Seleka with 46 graduates.

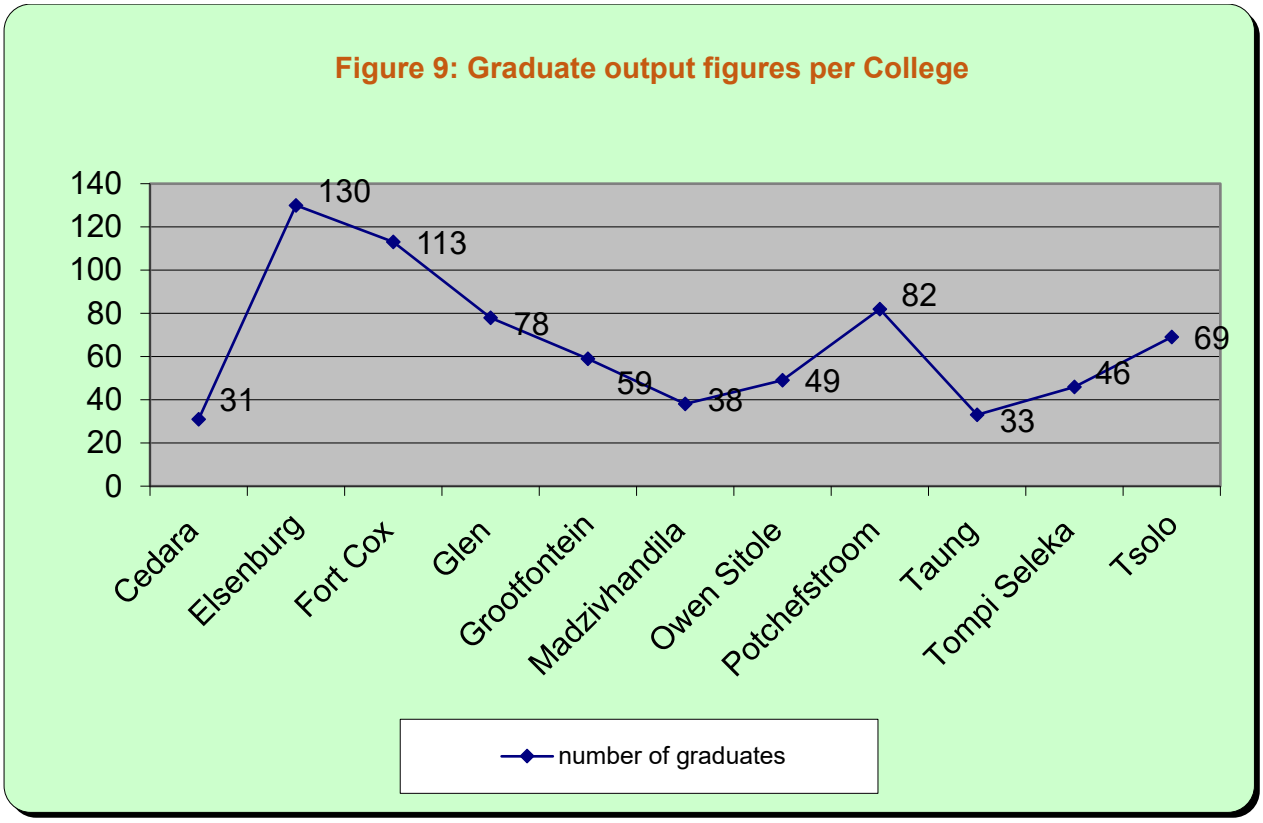


Table 11 below presents a demographic breakdown of graduate outputs per College of Agriculture.

Table 11: Breakdown of graduate outputs by gender and race in 2024

Name of the College	African			Coloured			White			Asian			Total	%
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total		
1. Cedara	13	15	**28**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	2	1	**3**	**31**	4
2. Elsenburg	11	7	**18**	9	6	**15**	73	22	**95**	1	1	**2**	**130**	18
3. Fort Cox	62	51	**113**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**113**	16
4. Glen	27	51	**78**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**78**	11
5. Grootfontein	21	15	**36**	2	1	**3**	13	6	**19**	1	0	**1**	**59**	8
6. Madzivhandila	13	25	**38**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**38**	5
7. Owen Sitole	22	27	**49**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**49**	7
8.Potchefstroom	43	37	**80**	2	0	**2**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**82**	11
9. Taung	19	14	**33**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**33**	5
10.Tompi Seleka	19	27	**46**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**46**	6
11. Tsolo	36	33	**69**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**69**	9
TOTAL	**286**	**302**	**588**	**13**	**7**	**20**	**86**	**28**	**114**	**4**	**2**	**6**	**728**	**100**

Table 11 above indicates that seven (7) of the eleven (11) Colleges have produced graduates which are predominantly Africans with no Coloured, White or Asian students. These colleges are Fort Cox, Glen, Madzivhandila, Owen Sitole, Taung, Tompi Seleka and Tsolo.

Figure 10 below shows that Africans dominated the number of graduates produced with 81%, followed by Whites with 15%, Coloureds with 3% and Asians with 1% of the total graduates produced during the 2024 academic year.

Figure 10: Breakdown of graduate outputs by race

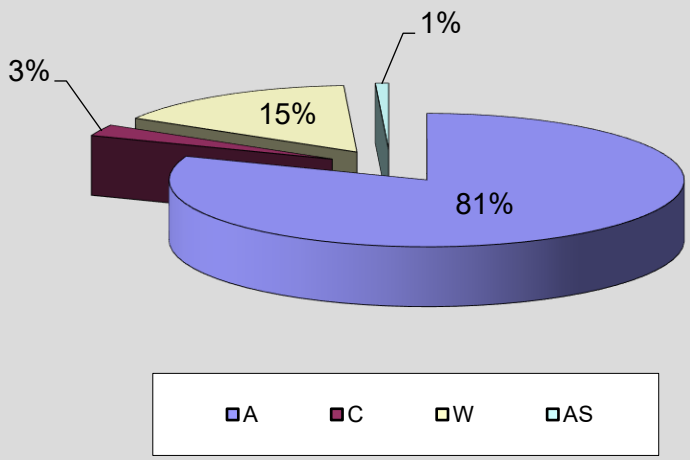
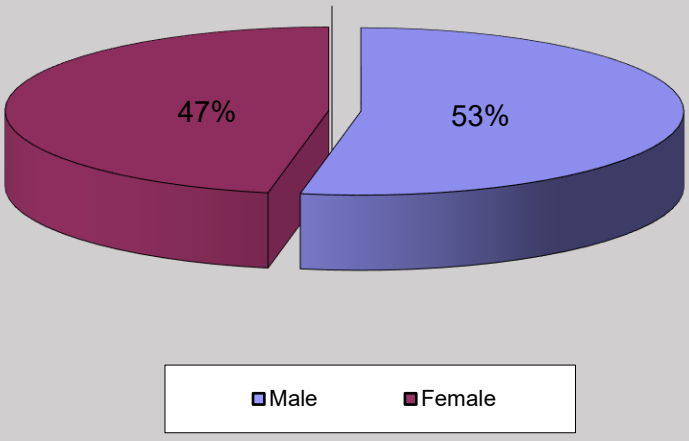


Figure 11 below illustrates that male graduates dominated the total number of graduates produced at the Colleges of Agriculture during the 2024 academic year with 53% whilst female graduates constituted 47%.

Figure 11: Breakdown of graduate outputs by gender



African males dominated the number of male graduates produced at the Colleges of Agriculture with 74%, followed by Whites with 22%, Coloureds with 3% and Asians with 1% of the total male graduates produced during the 2024 academic year. African females also dominated the female graduates produced during the 2024 academic year with 89%, followed by Whites with 8%. Coloured and Asian females constituted 2% and 1% respectively.

Figure 12: Breakdown of enrolments by gender per College

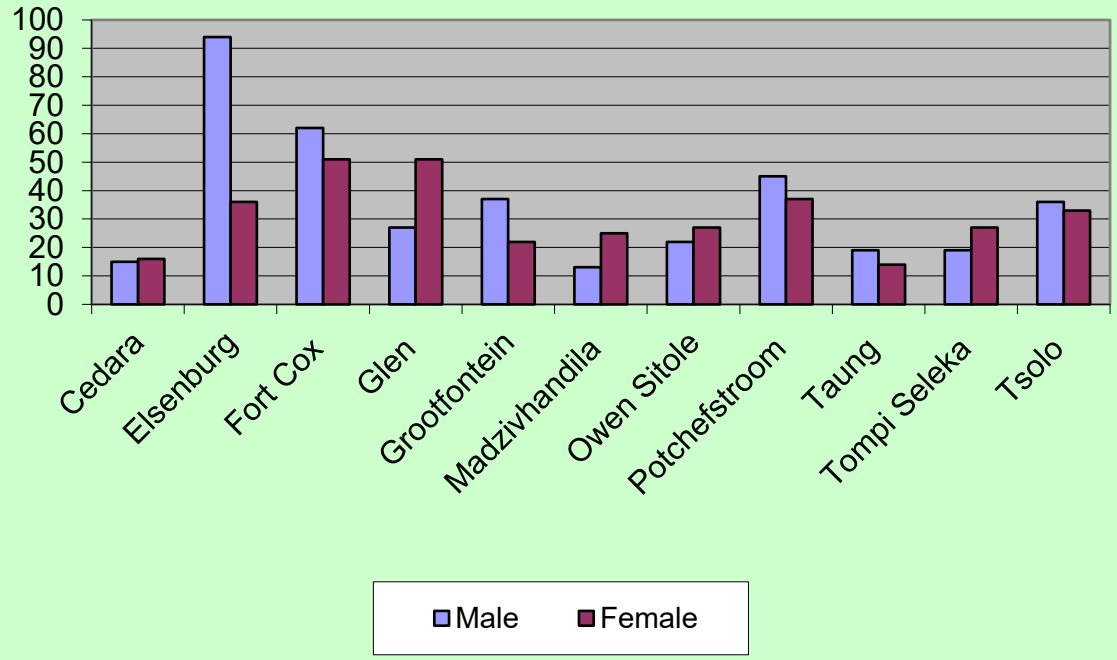
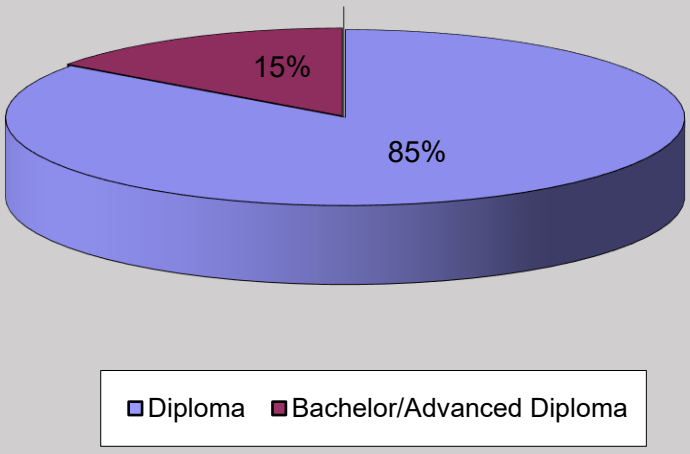


Figure 12 above indicates that there was a difference in numbers between male and female graduates produced in 2024. Six of the eleven colleges produced more male graduates than other colleges. These colleges are; Elsenburg, Fort Cox, Grootfontein, Potchefstroom, Taung and Tsolo. Nonetheless, the situation was different at Cedara, Glen, Madzivhandila, Owen Sitole and Tompi Seleka where female graduates outnumbered the male graduates produced during the 2024 academic year.

The data in figure 13 below depicts that Diploma graduates dominated the total number of graduates produced at the Colleges of Agriculture during the 2024 academic year with 85% whilst Advanced Diploma and Bachelor graduates constituted 15% of the total number of graduates produced.

Figure 13: Breakdown of graduates by level of qualification



The information on table 8 below shows the total number of graduates produced per level of qualification in 2024. The information further indicates that Diploma was offered by most of the Colleges, Bachelor programmes by Cedara and CIAT: Elsenburg and Advanced Diploma programmes by Fort Cox.

Table 8: Breakdown of graduates per level of qualification at the Colleges of Agriculture in 2024

Colleges	Number of enrolments per level of qualification			
	Diploma	Bachelor/Advanced Diploma	Total	%
1. Cedara	29	2	**31**	**4**
2. CIAT: Elsenburg	73	57	**130**	**18**
3. Fort Cox	66	47	**113**	**16**
4. Glen	78	0	**78**	**11**
5. Grootfontein	59	0	**59**	**8**
7. Madzivhandila	38	0	**38**	**5**
8. Owen Sitole	49	0	**49**	**7**
9. Potchefstroom	82	0	**82**	**11**
10.Taung	33	0	**33**	**5**
11.Tompi Seleka	46	0	**46**	**6**
12. Tsolo	69	0	**69**	**9**
Total	**622**	**106**	**728**	**100**
Percentage	**85**	**15**		**100**

As illustrated in table 8 above, more graduates were produced at CIAT: Elsenburg with 18%, followed by Fort Cox with 16%, Glen and Potchefstroom with 11% respectively. Other Colleges produced less than 10% graduates during the 2024 academic year.

2.7 Conclusion

Two thousand six hundred and fifty - nine **(2 659)** students enrolled at different Colleges of Agriculture during the 2025 academic year and seven hundred and twenty - eight **(728)** students graduated in 2024. Out of the 2 659 students that enrolled for different programmes at the Colleges of Agriculture, 80% were Africans, Whites constituted 16%, Coloureds with 4% and Asians with less than 1% of the total number of enrolments during the 2025 academic year. Out of the eleven colleges of Agriculture, six colleges continued to attract students from more than one racial group while five (5) colleges continued to register only African students.

Out of the seven hundred and twenty - eight **(728)** graduates produced in different programmes, 81% were Africans, 15% Whites, 3% Coloureds and Asians constituted 1% of the total number of graduates produced during the 2024 academic year. Generally, male students dominated the total number of both enrolments in 2025 and graduates in 2024 as it was also the case during the 2023 and 2024 academic years.

In addition to the Bachelor programmes, Advanced Diploma and Diploma programmes offered at the Colleges of Agriculture, the colleges also offered short courses at General Education and Training (GET) and Further Education and Training (FET) level(s). The short courses offered by the Colleges are more demand - driven and are aimed at addressing the needs of the farming community in their respective locations. Some short courses are accredited and others are not. The non - accredited programmes were offered in the form of short courses which are based on information sharing than on competency.

Most of the beneficiaries and participants who completed short courses were Africans with 72%, followed by Coloureds with 26%. Whites contributed 2% and Asians with less than 1% of the total number of completed short courses during the 2024 academic year.