

Farmers from community food gardens shine at Shoprite and Checkers' Market Day

More than 30 local community food gardens sold their fresh and organically grown produce directly to the public at selected Shoprite and Checkers supermarkets on Wednesday, 7 June 2023.

[Launched in 2017](#), the retailer's Market Day serves as an opportunity for small-scale food gardens supported by the Shoprite Group, to gain valuable retail experience and to generate some additional income.

Dudu Radebe from the Dithaka Dikopane Cooperative in Walkerville, Gauteng, said that they thoroughly enjoyed Market Day. "We were delighted to sell our fresh vegetables directly to the public at the Checkers Southgate supermarket. The response from the community was fantastic, everyone was excited to sample our produce and we cannot wait for more such opportunities."

"As small farmers we struggle to find markets, but the large customer footprint at Shoprite and Checkers enables us to sell to more customers," said Mpho Mutaung from the Carroll Shaw Memorial Centre in Randfontein.

"This was our first Market Day and a valuable experience," added Victor Zambuko from Our Garden in Brackenfell, Cape Town.

The following gardens participated in the [Shoprite](#) and [Checkers](#) Market Day – selling beans, beetroot, cabbage, carrots, onions, potatoes, spinach, tomatoes and more.

EASTERN CAPE:

- Siyalima Asidlali Co-operative – Shoprite Mount Ayliff
- [Star Uplifting Centre](#) – Shoprite Kingwilliamstown
- Wathint' Abafazi – Shoprite Ziyabuya, Gqeberha

GAUTENG:

- [Carroll Shaw Memorial Centre](#) – Checkers Tamboe Mall Randfontein
- Dithaka Dikopane Cooperative – Checkers Southgate, Johannesburg
- Mahata Mmoho Agricultural Cooperative – Checkers Hyper Vanderbijlpark
- [Mmakgomo Agricultural Co-operative](#) – Checkers Pretoria North

FREE STATE:

- Dikonyana Community Based Care Center – Shoprite Heidedal, Bloemfontein
- Free State Rural Women Assembly Agroecological Hub – Shoprite Botshabelo Mall
- [Ntsoanatsatsi Community Garden](#) – Shoprite Setsing, Phuthaditjhaba
- [Qholahwe Garden Project](#) – Shoprite Mandela Park, Phuthaditjhaba

KWAZULU-NATAL:

- God's Acres – Shoprite Raisethorpe, Pietermaritzburg
- Iqabungelihle Community Garden – Checkers Durban North
- Siyazondla kwaPhindangene – Shoprite Ulundi
- [Thubelihle Special Opportunity School](#) – Shoprite Ladysmith
- [Velemseni Farming Group](#) – Shoprite Estcourt

LESOTHO:

- Action Lesotho – Shoprite Leribe, Butha-Buthe
- St Cecilia Orphanage Home – Shoprite Sefika, Maseru

LIMPOPO:

- Marubini Multi-Purpose Women’s Primary Cooperative – Checkers Makhado Crossing
- Ndlovu Care Group – Shoprite Dennilton, Groblersdal
- [Ratanang Agricultural Cooperative](#) – Shoprite Mankweng, Polowane
- [We Can Women's Development Cooperative](#) – Shoprite Paledi, Polokwane

NORTH WEST:

- Bakgatla Ba Mosetlha – Shoprite Temba
- [Nthabiseng Skills Training Centre for the Disabled](#) - Checkers Rustenburg

MPUMALANGA:

- Ploughs and Feathers Co-operative – Checkers New Hazyview Junction
- Sibonile Agricultural Co-operative – Shoprite Acornhoek Mall, Nelspruit
- Timbavati Project – Shoprite Acornhoek Plaza, Nelspruit
- [Too Fresh Produce Cooperative](#) – Checkers Ermelo

WESTERN CAPE:

- Mthimkhulu Community Development Programme – Shoprite Kleinmond
- Our Garden – Checkers Protea Heights, Brackenfell
- Siyazama Community Garden – Checkers Somerset West

The Shoprite Group is committed to ensuring food security and currently supports [more than 200 community food gardens](#) and over 3 500 home gardens, which impacts almost 55 000 beneficiaries. In the past year, more than 2 700 community members were trained in sustainable food gardening and the gardens collectively produced a harvest of more than 31 500 kg, providing almost 100 000 meals.

END

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