

WE ARE HIRING

a fresh start



MPUMALANGA
INTERNATIONAL
FOOD MARKET

Senior Cold Store & Ripening Technician

Reference: MPU-NELS-26308789-20260818-4

Closing Date: 31 August 2026

1. About Us

Mpumalanga International FoodMarket (MIF), is a new platform for connecting production, opportunity, and demand - creating a fresh start for farmers, traders, buyers, job seekers and the national food economy. It is not simply another place for work, but a modern workplace and hub for human connection.

2. Job Specification

Personnel (1x) to serve as Senior Cold Store & Ripening Technician (SCSRT), to oversee cold storage and fruit ripening operations within MIF.

3. Core Responsibilities

- Cold storage Management: Oversee the operation of cold rooms, freezers, and temperature-controlled storage facilities to ensure optimum storage conditions are maintained; Continuously monitor temperature, humidity, airflow, and refrigeration systems to ensure cold chain integrity; Implement and monitor stock rotation procedures, including First-In, First-Out (FIFO) principles.
- Ripening Operations: Manage and supervise banana and fresh produce ripening programmes to achieve consistent quality and market readiness; Develop and implement ripening schedules based on product requirements, customer demand, and operational objectives; Monitor and control temperature, humidity, ventilation, and ripening conditions within ripening chambers.
- Team Leadership and Supervision: Provide leadership, technical support, and guidance to Cold Store Technicians, Ripening Technicians, and support staff; Allocate duties, monitor performance, and ensure compliance with operational procedures; Support staff training and skills development relating to cold chain management, ripening processes, and food safety compliance.
- Equipment and Facility Management: Oversee routine inspections, maintenance, and servicing of refrigeration, ripening, and monitoring equipment; Ensure equipment operates efficiently and arrange corrective maintenance where necessary.
- Stakeholder Engagement: Liaise with producers, traders, buyers, and operational departments regarding storage and ripening requirements; Attend industry meetings, conferences, pre- and post-harvest engagements, and stakeholder visits when required.
- Reporting and Administration: Prepare and submit daily, weekly, and monthly reports relating to storage conditions, ripening activities, inventory management, and quality performance.

4. Required Qualifications & Skills

- Experience: 3 to 5 years' experience in cold storage operations, fruit ripening, fresh produce handling, food processing, or a related environment, including supervisory responsibilities.
- Qualifications: Grade 12 (Matric). A Diploma or Degree in Agriculture, Horticulture, Food Technology, Post-Harvest Technology, Refrigeration Engineering, Logistics, or a related field will be advantageous.
- Communication: Excellent verbal and written communication skills with the ability to engage effectively with internal and external stakeholders.
- Attention to Detail: Strong focus on quality control, record keeping, and compliance.
- Problem Solving: Ability to resolve operational challenges and make sound decisions.
- Technical Skills: Strong understanding of refrigeration systems, cold chain management, ethylene ripening processes, and inventory management.

5. Job Application

MIF has partnered with the Department of Employment and Labour to facilitate and handle all job applications through the Department's Employment Services of South Africa (ESSA)

6. How to apply

- If you have an Active ESSA Online Account, visit the portal and click on Search Opportunity using the Reference Number listed above and submit the application.
- To create an Active ESSA Online Account, visit the link <https://essa.labour.gov.za/EssaOnline/WebBeans/> and follow the guidelines listed below.
 1. Capture the email address
 2. A password will be sent to your email address
 3. Use your ID Number as a **Username**
 4. Copy the password received and paste or type it on the log in the screen
 5. Complete all sections on ESSA

NOTE: The above is the only channel available to access job opportunities at MIF.



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