



Context

- Agriculture is a major employer
- Previous research by Roberts in 1957 and Antrobus in 1977
- Farm labour markets have been reformed
- “lowest paid and most marginalised workers in South Africa” (Kassier *et al*, 2003:7)
- Land use change in Albany district

Research Questions

- Changes have occurred in farm labour employment and conditions?
- The driving forces?

Method

- Face-to-face interviews
- Questionnaire remoulded from Antrobus (1984)
- Focus: productivity; remuneration; working conditions; changes in farming etc.
- Sample consisted of 3 parts



Results

- Incline in proportion stock farming
- Decline in employment
- Larger proportion of casual workers, particularly male
- Decline in wages as proportion of current expenditure
- Fewer in-kind payments
- Shorter working week and year

Conclusion

- Demand decreased
 - Price-cost squeeze*
 - Government intervention*
 - Change in farming type*
- Supply decreased
 - Urban migration*
 - Social life*
 - Poor services*
 - Competition from PGRs*
- Driving force behind changes?