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Chair in Plant Health



Disease Management: Principles and Practices

This short course covers the basic principles and practise of plant disease management in commercial agriculture. The content of this course will lay the foundation for a better understanding of plant disease management principles and to advance knowledge in this field for further study in other courses.

Presenter: Bekker Wessels

Bekker Wessels is the CEO of Procrop (Pty) Ltd. Procrop is an independent company providing consultation in the field of crop protection to growers as well as several other institutions involved in primary agriculture.

Presenter: Gideon van Zyl

Gideon has been part of ProCrop as a technical consultant since 2016, advising ProCrop's client base and other interested parties in matters relating to plant disease control. Gideon is a Plant pathologist and researcher, with specific focus on application technology theory and implementation, one of the most important factors in optimal disease control. Gideon has multiple authorships and co-authorships on the topic of spray application.

Presenter: Prof Johan Burger

Johan Burger is a Professor in the Genetics Department at Stellenbosch University where he teaches molecular genetics at undergraduate level. His research team comprises of several postgraduate students, post-doctoral fellows and a senior researcher. Current research is focussed on the molecular characterisation of plant-pathogen interactions, and his research group is internationally recognised for their work on the aetiology of virus and virus-like diseases of grapevine and fruit crops.

Presenter: Philip Rebel

Philip has the responsibility of managing and conducting field research projects, providing technical advice to clients in his field of expertise, presenting industry training workshops and short courses, research novel technology and methodology relevant to crop protection as well as be of any assistance to ProCrop.

Presenter: Prof Adele Mcleod

Adele received BSc (Agric) and BSc (Agric) Hons degrees from the University of Pretoria, majoring in Plant pathology. She started her teaching and research career as a senior lecturer at Stellenbosch University Department of Plant pathology in 2004, which changed to an associate professor position in 2015.

Programme Day 1:

- Plants and disease
- Parasitism and disease development
- How Pathogens attack plants
- How plants defend themselves against pathogens
- Plant disease epidemiology
- Environmental factors causing plant disease
- Plant diseases caused by fungi and fungal like organisms
- Plant diseases caused by bacteria and mollicutes
- Virus and virus like diseases of fruit and vegetable crops

Programme Day 2:

- Nonchemical management strategies
- Chemical control of plant diseases
- Market access – Restrictions posed by pesticide use
- Fungicide resistance
- Planning of disease control strategies
- Control strategy for downy mildew in vines (Oomycete)
- Control of leaf rust in wheats (Basidiomycete)
- Control strategy for apple scab (Ascomycete)
- Bacterial speck and spot in tomatoes

Presenting type: In Person and Online

Date: 23-24 July 2024

Price: R6500 per person

For more information and registration:

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agritraining.co.za

[Click here to register for the course](#)