



Nematological Society of Southern Africa

Nematologiese Vereniging van Suider Afrika

NEWSLETTER/NUUSBRIEF
NO/NR 49
APRIL 2007

CONTENTS

	Page
EDITORIAL	2
FROM THE PRESIDENT	2
NEWS FROM THE WESTERN CAPE	4
"AT LAST SOME" NEWS FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN SUGARCANE RESEARCH INSTITUTE	8
ESTHER VAN DEN BERG ATTENDED THE 3 RD MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL PANEL ON DIAGNOSTIC PROTOCOLS IN VALENCIA, SPAIN FROM 16-20 OCTOBER 2006	9
ANNOUNCEMENT BY PROF. BERTUS MEYER	11
CONSTITUTION	12
NOMINATIONS FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2007-2009	16
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP	17

EDITORIAL

Dear colleagues,

I think we are all looking forward to the symposium in May where we will be meeting old friends, make new friends and have great discussions. Please take note that there are some important announcements from our president. A nomination form for the executive committee is also available in this issue as well as the constitution (if you need to refresh your memory).

Congratulations to M C on the big step that he took.

See you all at the symposium.

Jeannie van Biljon

Newsletter editor

Jeannie van Biljon

Nematologist

ARC - Institute for Industrial Crops, Private Bag X 82075, Rustenburg, 0300, South Africa

Tel: (014) 536 3147 / Fax: (014) 5363113 (Int: + 27 14)

E-mail: jeannievB@arc.agric.za

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear member and interested person

At least for some of us a significant amount of our current thoughts and activities revolve around the fast-approaching 18th Symposium. If you have not heard about it, check out the web page: www.sanematodes.com. For the abovementioned reason this communication will also largely deal with our meeting soon in Port Elizabeth.

The d-date for submitting abstracts has passed and from now on new registrations will be regarded as late. However, do not let it put you off if you have not registered yet. It is going to be worthwhile to attend this symposium. We have record numbers in terms of attendance, international guests, talks and diversity of topics. As if that is not enough, we have arranged for a very able opening speaker that will discuss a very topical issue. Add to these the great

reunions, making new friends and acquaintances, election of a new committee, winning awards, great social programme.....what more do you want to loose by staying away???

I would like to just highlight a number of issues that are important to the Society, which will need your attention before or during the symposium:

- 1 We have a full programme and tight schedule. We therefore request, particularly presenters of oral contributions to prepare well in order to keep to the allotted 15 minutes + 5 minutes question time per presentation (the keynote speakers have 40 minutes in total).
- 2 There will be two workshops on separate days, which will each be one to one-and-a-half hour long. Very topical issues will be discussed (don't arrange your boat trip during those slots).
- 3 We are going to have the Biennial General Meeting on the Tuesday afternoon. This is an important event for the Society. Please decide to attend and be an active member of the Society. I am sure you could afford to devote 90 odd minutes every two years to your society!?! (The evening will be free, so you could still take that sunset cruise after all). Please, if you have any points or issues for discussion during the meeting, contact Driekie Fourie (fouriehd@arc.agric.za; +27-18-299 9352) or any of the EC members.
- 4 Apart from financial and organisational matters a new steering committee will also be elected. Those are the guys that attend to the details while the rest is minding their own business. A nomination form is published in this issue, for your convenience. There will be copies supplied in your symposium package as well. If you are concerned about your society's future, its activities and its value to you, please do not leave it to others to elect persons for its management.
- 5 For your convenience we also publish the Society's constitution in this newsletter issue. Kindly familiarise yourself with its contents because it has a bearing on the elections. It also explains the different categories of membership we have as well as certain procedures to be followed. Those include procedures for amending the constitution, should somebody wish to do so.
- 6 The symposium will be closed with a gala dinner on the Wednesday evening. Apart from the fact that this event is the social highlight, a number of awards are also going to be presented. It is a special event and I urge everybody to try and attend it. You will not be disappointed.

We as management and as practicing nematologists are looking forward to this 18th Symposium and assure you everything in our power is done to make it the most memorable NSSA event ever. The most essential contribution will, however, be the fact that there will be attendants!

Unfortunately we lost yet another old member of the Society. Soon after the previous newsletter was published, we learnt of the passing away of Llewellyn Koorts. I am sure the older members will remember him for his alertness, dedication and good humour. He also had a very good singing voice (yes, we partied in the early days too!). We are sad that he is now silent and our condolences to his loved ones and friends.

Best regards.

Alex Mc Donald

mcdonalda@arc.agric.za

NEWS FROM THE WESTERN CAPE

20 Till I DIE!

J. de Waal



Sheila Storey took the typical 'barefoot, pregnant in the kitchen'-saying to a whole new level, when 20 years ago she was not only pregnant and barefoot in the kitchen, but actually doing a nematode-extraction for one of the growers in the kitchen sink on top of all of that!

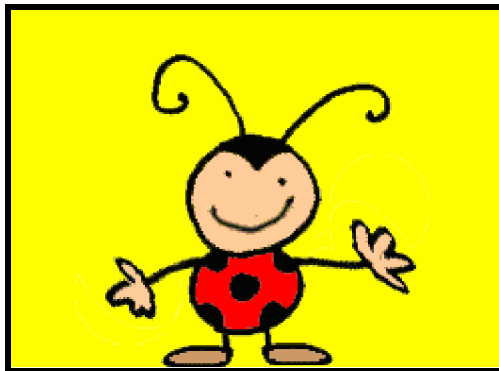
This is where Nemlab's fairytale-story began. Today Nemlab is a diagnostic laboratory in Durbanville, specializing in analysis of soil and root samples for the presence of plant parasitic nematodes and giving farmers recommendations with years of experience of what is going on in the field.

The company celebrated its 20th birthday in March, complete with balloons, a chocolate cake with candles, streamers and party hats! Everybody joined in the fun, and the party carried on way beyond everybody's normal bedtime! Once again proving that Nematologists know far more than just how to identify nematodes!

Congratulations Sheila on a very successful business, taking Nematology to new heights in South-Africa!



Caroline Mouton... Missing in action!





Caroline Mouton het haar Pratylenchus kultuur tydelik verruil vir verskillende geure jogurts, melk en room by Caledon se Melkery. Dis met groot jammerte wat ons van Caroline moes afskeid neem aan die einde van 2006. Caroline het vanaf 2004-2006 by die Plant Kwarantyn Stasie gewerk waar sy en Rinus vele grondmonster ontledings gedoen het en vele kulture aan die gang gehou het! Sy is wel van plan om in die Nematologie-kring te bly, en is stadig maar seker besig om haar vere reg te skut om moonklik 'n Nematode Diagnostiese Lab oop te maak in Caledon. Ons hou duim vas Caroline!

Veels Geluk!

Baie geluk aan Prof Meyer met sy 70ste Verjaarsdag! Al die Nematoloë in die Wes -Kaap wens vir Prof 'n jaar toe vol van als wat mooi is!



ARC Infruitec-Nietvoorbij, Stellenbosch

The very sad news from Infruitec-Nietvoorbij is the sudden death of Dawn Smith's husband, André, on 23 August, after suffering a heart attack. Dawn is Hans's left and right hand, without whom he would be lost. Our thoughts go out to Dawn and her two young daughters Chandrè and Simonè.

Hans Hugo, with major inputs from Antoinette Malan, completed a report for Winetech, the wine industry's research arm, on the occurrence of parasitic nematodes in irrigation water. The report also listed the gaps in our present knowledge and areas that need to be researched. At the report-back meeting Winetech showed some interest in these proposals and hopefully this will lead to some funded projects.

Nematologists were well represented at the 16th annual symposium of the Soilborne Plant Diseases Interest Group held at Stellenbosch 19-21 September 2006. Hans Hugo was the chairperson of the Nematode Discussion Group on the Tuesday afternoon, Alex McDonald was the chairperson of the 1st Session until his voice ran out of decibels and he was reduced to less than a whisper. As we all know is alcohol a sterilant so his condition can only be attributed to not swallowing enough wine the previous evening. Sheila Storey was the chairperson of the 3rd Session, which featured Shaun Berry and Patrice Cadet, both discussing different aspects of silicone and plant health. As there were nothing wrong with these people's voices, they obviously swallowed enough wine to keep their throats healthy. Mieke Daneel also made a valuable contribution in her presentation during the 2nd Session. Other nematologists that attended were Antoinette Malan, Sonia Steenkamp, Vaughan Spaul, Anelia Steyn, Jeannie van Biljon and MC Pretorius.

Retired Prof. Bertus Meyer is still very much unretiring and is a co-worker with Hans Hugo on a project on nematode damage and root pathology of apple roots. As the bulk of the work is done during the spring root flush of the trees, this work will keep them very much occupied until the end of November. Apart from that his time is filled to capacity with experimental field work looking at possible new and safer nematicides.

Hans Hugo - ARC Infruitec-Nietvoorbij

University of Stellenbosch

The Department of Entomology and the Conservation Ecology officially formed a merger on the 1st March 2006 and will onwards be known as the Department of Conservation Ecology and Entomology (ConsEnt). The new department will interact and integrate, but will still maintain the identity in the two fields.

A third year introductory undergraduate semester course in Nematology is presented at the University of Stellenbosch, which includes plant and insect nematodes. Emphasis is placed on the morphological characteristics which are of diagnostic value, this also forms the basis of the taxonomic classification of nematodes. General reproduction and biology of nematodes are discussed. Control of plant parasitic nematodes and the control of insects with the use of entomopathogenic nematodes are covered. Focus is placed on the biology, identification and control of plant parasitic genera of economic importance to agriculture. The lectures are combined with 14 practical sessions in which extraction techniques, symptomatology and live specimens of nematodes are being studied by stereo and light microscopy. At the end of the module the students should be familiar with the theoretical, as well as having a practical knowledge of plant parasitic nematodes and the biological control of insects by using nematodes.

Students attending the undergraduate semester course in Nematology are from Plant Pathology, Viticulture, Horticulture and Soil Sciences. As this semester course is attended by 32 students this year, two undergraduate students, Jeanne de Waal and Tiarin Ferreira, are employed as "demi's" to assist with the practical classes. Post graduate studies in Nematology resume on M.Sc. and Ph.D. level with either insect or plant parasitic nematodes as the topic of study. Jeanne will start her MSc in Entomology in 2007, and her thesis will be on the control of codling moth with entomopathogenic nematodes.

Jeanne de Waal

Tiarin Ferreira

AT LAST SOME NEWS FROM THE SOUTH AFRICAN SUGARCANE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

After much midnight oil being burnt we now have a very proud nematologist and a very proud microbiologist (with nematological leanings) who successfully defended their PhD's last December

in France. Shaun Berry's thesis is entitled "Diversity and dynamics of the plant parasitic nematode community in sugarcane agriculture : effect on the plant" and was accepted by the University of Montpellier. Jeh-han Omarjee's thesis is entitled "Interactions between Burkholderia populations, nematodes and sugarcane growth" and was accepted by the University of Lyon.

Looking forward to seeing you in PE.

Best wishes

Vaughan Spaul

***ESTHER VAN DEN BERG ATTENDED THE 3RD
MEETING OF THE TECHNICAL PANEL ON
DIAGNOSTIC PROTOCOLS IN VALENCIA, SPAIN
FROM 16-20 OCTOBER 2006***

Background

As signatory member to the World Trade Agreement on the Application of Sanitary Measures (WTO-SPS) as well as the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC), South Africa is obliged to participate in the standard setting processes which included the developing of diagnostic protocols for quarantine pests.

In the first meeting in York nineteen pests were identified for attention and at the second meeting in Malaysia only eleven were ready for discussion due to problems with authors. Three different protocols were reviewed in detail and the outcome was that none of these protocols were ready for handing in. It was decided that work on them should continue as well as on the rest of the protocols.

Spain Meeting

From 16-20 October the third meeting of the Technical Panel took place at the “Intstituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Agrarias” in Valencia, Spain. Seven panel members, two newly elected panel members and two authors of protocols attended the meeting:

Mariano Cambro –host and author, Jane Chard – IPPC Secretariat (UK), Gerhard Clover – (New Zealand), Brent Larson – IPPC Secretariat (Italy), Lum Keng Yeang (Malaysia), Ana Lia Terra (Uruguay), Jens-Georg Unger – steward of the Standards Committee (Germany), Esther van den Berg (South Africa) and the two new members, Hans de Gruyter (Netherlands) and Yin Liping (China) as well as Maria Lopez (author -Spain).



After in depth reviewing the panel decided that the Plum pox virus and the *Trogoderma granarium* protocols would be, after some editing, ready for processing further and would eventually go for the 100 days country consultation process. Four other protocols were reviewed briefly and it was decided to review the “Instructions to authors” once again to make it easier for the authors to understand. This was done in lengthy discussions after realizing that because of great differences amongst the various organisms not only one set of instructions will fit all. The new instructions will be finalized at the beginning of 2007.

Numerous other matters were discussed such as membership of drafting teams, outlay of the protocols, how to deal with the country comments when they start coming back etc. No new protocols were added to the list and it was decided to rather get a few accepted first before new topics being implemented. The panel also expressed their concern that with such lengthy procedures the authors may get tired of not getting their protocols accepted and printed and may not be interested to participate any more.

The two authors of protocols who attended the meeting was a great help to the panel as they could discuss on what and how they experienced the drafting of a protocol, the problems they experienced etc. It was then decided that in future, where possible, the meetings should be held in an area where some of the authors of protocols are stationed so that they can be invited to the meetings.

The two new members for fungi and botany were welcomed and some good input was received from them especially the one who has experience with EPPO protocols.

The work program for the next year was finalized and it was decided that the next meeting will be held at the end of September 2007, possibly in Buenos Aires, because of the presence of some of the authors in that area.

Some information on IVIA, the Institute where the meeting was held.

The Institute aims to stimulate, promote, and carry out projects, agreements and research contracts in the agro-food sector. The scientific work focuses on selection and breeding of plant material, plant nutrition and physiology, cultivation methods, plant protection, biotechnology, agricultural engineering and mechanization, post-harvest methods, agricultural economics and the study of soil and irrigation. These research subjects are basically applied to citrus and other fruit trees, horticultural and ornamental production, rice and natural resources.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY PROF. BERTUS MEYER

The upcoming NSSA symposium will be the last one attended by me. As I celebrated my 70th birthday in April, I have decided to retire from all nematological activities when the symposium is over.



CONSTITUTION

Name of Society:

THE NEMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Purpose:

To advance the science of Nematology in southern Africa in both its fundamental and applied aspects. To serve this purpose the Society shall act as an agency for the exchange of information, shall hold regular symposia and shall promote and extend knowledge in all phases of the subjects.

BYELAWS

1. General meeting

A general meeting shall be held at least biennially to coincide, whenever practicable, with symposia. Written notice shall be given to all members at least sixty (60) days before the date of the meeting.

A quorum shall be constituted by those members present and entitled to vote at a general meeting of the Society after proper prior notice of the meeting.

At general meetings of the Society all questions shall be determined by a majority vote of the members present in person.

2. Office bearers

The office bearers shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Symposium Chairperson and one (1) additional member. Only ordinary and/or honorary members shall be eligible for office.

Election of office bearers shall take place at the general meeting of the Society, and shall be for a period of two years. Office bearers shall be eligible for re-election.

The office bearers shall act as the Executive Body of the Society and shall serve the purpose and manage the affairs and business of the Society.

Meetings of the Executive Body shall take place at the time of general meetings of the Society, and at such other times as the Executive Body may deem necessary upon the discretion of the President, and after fourteen (14) days prior notice to every office bearer.

Three or more office bearers constitute a quorum at meetings of the Executive Body.

Every office bearer has one vote, but the President has a casting vote.

Vacancies in the Executive Body occurring between general meetings shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired term by majority of the remaining office bearers.

The President shall preside over general meetings and Executive Body meetings and shall present an annual report at general meetings of the Society.

The Vice-President shall preside in the absence of the President and shall perform the functions of the President when so acting.

The Secretary/Treasurer shall keep the minutes of meetings of the Executive Body and of general meetings, perform all secretarial duties of the Society and the Executive Body, serve notice of Executive Body and general meetings, keep the membership roll, collect the membership fees, administer and safeguard the funds of the Society and present a report and audited financial statement at the general meetings of the Society.

The Symposium Chairperson shall appoint a Symposium Organising Committee and be responsible for organising the forthcoming symposium. All funds collected for the purpose of a symposium belong to the Society. The Symposium Chairperson shall present a report and financial statement of the Executive Body at most sixty (60) days after the symposium.

3. Membership

- (1) Any person interested in nematology shall be eligible for membership, subject to the approval of the Executive Body.
- (2) There shall be three (3) classes of membership, viz. ordinary members, sustaining members and honorary members. A sustaining member shall be any person or body of persons contributing funds other than regular membership fees to the Society on a continuous basis. Any member of the Society can be granted honorary membership on the grounds of exceptional contributions to Nematology or to the Society over an extended period. A motivated nomination for honorary membership by any member of the Society must be seconded by any other member of the Society and handed in writing to the Executive Body timeously before a general meeting.
- (3) Ordinary membership fees will be determined by the general meeting. Minimum sustaining membership fees will be determined by the Executive Body.
- (4) Only members whose dues are fully paid and honorary members shall be entitled to vote at general meetings.

4. Newsletter

The Newsletter Editor shall be responsible to issue a newsletter for the Society at least three (3) times in two (2) years, to be distributed among members.

5. Amendment to the Bye-Laws

- (5) Written proposals for amendments to the Bye-Laws may be given to the Secretary/Treasurer by any member at least thirty (30) days before the general

meeting. Written notice of any proposals for amendments to the Bye-Laws shall be served on all members fourteen (14) days prior to the general meeting by the Secretary/Treasurer.

- (6) Amendments to the Bye-Laws may be made by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at the general meeting.

6. Dissolution

In the event of the dissolution of the Society, any assets that there may be shall be distributed by the Executive Body for scientific purposes.

NEMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA



Nominations for Executive Committee Members
2007-2009

		President	Vice-President	Secretary/ Treasurer	Newsletter Editor	Additional Member	Symposium Chairperson
Nominee	Name						
	Signature						
Nominator	Name						
	Signature						
Seconder	Name						
	Signature						

Date _____

Notes:

1. Nominations close after lunch on Tuesday, 7 May 2007.
2. Hand completed forms to Driekie Fourie at the symposium
3. Only those nominations signed by all parties involved will be valid.
4. All individual members of the NSSA are eligible for nominations and to vote.
5. Any current member of the EC may be re-elected.
6. At least one current EC member should preferably be re-elected.
7. The portfolio of Symposium Chairperson was introduced to separate symposium arrangements from regular NSSA matters.
8. Other portfolios on the EC need not be directly linked to the following symposium or venue.
9. Thank you for your participation.

NEMATOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
NEMATOLOGIESE VERENIGING VAN SUIDELIKE AFRIKA
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

I _____
(Name of applicant)

apply for membership of the Nematological Society of Southern Africa.

I am enclosing _____ US \$ for the period 19__ - __ (RSA member: R 50.00/annum;

Non-RSA member _____ US \$ 25.0/annum)

Please make cheque payable to:

Nematological Society of Southern Africa, and sent to:

Mrs Driekie Fourie Agricultural Research Council – Grain Crops Institute,

Private Bag X 1251, Potchefstroom, South Africa

Tel: (018) 299 6352 / Fax: (018) 294 7146 (Int: + 27 18)

NAME: Prof./Dr/Mrs/Miss _____

ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

_____ POSTAL CODE _____

% NO _____ AREA CODE _____ INT. CODE _____

FAX NO _____ E-MAIL _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____

PROFFESIONAL QUALIFICATIONS _____

PRESENT POSITION _____

INTERESTS/ CURRENT RESEARCH / EXTENSION _____

NEMATODE GROUPS _____

OLD MEMBER: Yes / No _____ SINCE _____

NEW MEMBER: Yes / No _____ DATE OF APPLICATION _____

SUSTAINING MEMBER: Yes / No _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____