

PROGRAMME	
Sunday 10 September 2023	
14:00 – 18:00	Reception of delegates and registration
18:00 – 21:00	Welcoming function
Monday 11 September 2023	
07:30 – 08:00	Late registration
08:00 – 08:10	Welcome – Mieke Daneel – President of the NSSA
08:10 – 08:20	Symposium arrangements – Driekie Fourie – Symposium Chairperson
08:20 – 08:50	Opening speaker: Prof Erik Holm
SESSION 1: BIOINDICATORS AND ECOLOGY CHAIRPERSON – Driekie Fourie	
08:50 – 09:30	Keynote speaker: Johann Strauss Conservation Agriculture - our ongoing road to sustainability
09:30 - 09:50	Below the green: Nematodes inform soil ecosystem dynamics for sustainable food production in South African agriculture – Gerhard du Preez
09:50 – 10:10	Nematode community analyses and ecosystem health in grain rotation systems using nematodes as bioindicators in the Free State, South Africa - Raymond Collett , G. du Preez, C. Jansen van Rensburg, M. Marais and H. Fourie
10:10 – 10:30	Nematodes in peatland – Bridging the gap - Chantelle Girgan , M. Marais, J. Le Roux and A. Grundling
10:30 – 11:00	Refreshments
SESSION 2: MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES CHAIRPERSON – Lené van der Walt and Sonia Steenkamp	
11:00 – 11:20	Overview of Nimitz® (fluensulfone), a unique nematicide – Schalk Burger and H. Hern
11:20 – 11:40	Banana fibre paper: too good to be true? - Danny Coyne , S. Haukeland, C. Oduor, C. Orage and C. Opperman
11:40 – 12:00	Achieving a competitive edge with the use of seed treatments in combating soilborne pathogens below and above ground - Kobus Venter , S. van Zyl, Y. Furniss and D. Fourie
12:00 – 12:20	Pre-plant nematode control with alternatives for EDB and standard post-plant control practices – Musa Mbatha , B. Ngubane, M. Ntshangase, G. Tefu and M. Daneel
12:20 – 12:40	The use of Salibro™ for the management of root-knot nematodes in cucurbits - Jeanne de Waal , Y. Stamatias and T.C. Thoden
12:40 – 13:00	Biopesticides for the control of <i>Meloidogyne</i> spp. authorization in the European Union and research findings - Nikoletta Ntalli (recorded)
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
SESSION 3: ENTOMOPATHOGENIC NEMATODES CHAIRPERSON – Nomakolwe Stokwe and Annika Pienaar	
14:00 – 14:20	Selection of a South African <i>Heterorhabditis bacteriophora</i> isolate for in vitro liquid mass production for the biocontrol of <i>Thaumatotibia leucotreta</i> – Nicholle Claasen , M. Dunn and A. Malan
14:20 – 14:40	Host-finding strategies of five South African entomopathogenic nematodes species - Innocent Rakubu , A. Katumanyane and B.P. Hurley
14:40 – 15:00	Effect of antimicrobial added to entomopathogenic nematode formulations – Subrina Schlesinger , M. Dunn and A. Malan
15:00 – 15:20	Formulation of entomopathogenic nematodes in Barricade® gel and potassium polyacrylate hydrogel – Sinetemba Zulu , T. Ramakuwela and M. Laing
15:20 – 15:40	<i>Steinernema yirgalemense</i> mass production: Development and proof of concept - M. Dunn and Antoinette Malan
15:40 – 16:10	Refreshments
POSTER SESSION CHAIRPERSON – Chantelle Girgan and Danny Coyne	
16:10 – 16:15	Isolation and characterisation of nematodes from blueberry farms - M. Ludick, Tshima Ramakuwela and L. Korsten
16:15 – 16:20	Preliminary study of plant-parasitic and free-living nematode diversity on Bambara groundnut – Charles Ngwenya , Z. Dube, M. Daneel, I. Guga, R. Mohlala, M. Timana, N. Mnyambo, N. Zulu and Y. Gurumani
16:20 – 16:25	Nematode assemblages in grain crop fields in South Africa – B. Mhlongo, G. du Preez and Hendrika Fourie

16:25 – 16:30	Assessing the progress or regression of grain crop rhizospheres utilizing nematodes as bioindicators - Dawid Conradie , R. Collett and H. Fourie
16:30 – 16:35	Concentration-Dependent response of <i>Meloidogyne javanica</i> to <i>Argemone ochroleuca</i> – Yvonne Gurumani , N. Mnyambo, C. Ngwenya, N. Zulu, M. Timana and Z. Dube
16:35 – 16:40	Impact of plant-derived and biocontrol products on root-knot and lesion nematode parasitism in soybean rhizospheres - J.J. van Dyk , R. Collett and H. Fourie
16:40 – 16:45	Mass culture of a South African <i>Heterorhabditis bacteriophora</i> isolate using <i>in vitro</i> liquid culture techniques - Nicholle Claasen , M.D. Dunn and A.P. Malan
16:45 – 16:50	Entomopathogenic nematodes for the biological control of mealybugs – Annika Pienaar
16:50 – 16:55	Understanding the variation in performance of <i>Maerua angolensis</i> and <i>Tabernaemontana elegans</i> in the management of <i>Meloidogyne javanica</i> and <i>Meloidogyne incognita</i> – Nkosingiphile Zulu , Z. Dube, N. Sithole, N. Mnyambo and Y. Gurumani
18:00 for 18:30	Games/Quiz evening
Tuesday 12 September 2023	
SESSION 4: ECOLOGY	
CHAIRPERSON – Zakheleni Dube and Gerhard du Preez	
08:30 – 08:50	Nematofauna from the Kalkfontein Dam Nature Reserve in the Free State Province - Candice Jansen van Rensburg
08:50 – 09:10	Terrestrial non-parasitic nematodes associated with bush tea (<i>Athrixia phyllicoides</i>) in South Africa – I. Guga, Akhona Mbatyoti and M. Daneel
09:10 – 09:30	Diversity and abundance of plant-parasitic nematode genera in South African pome fruit orchards - Lené van der Walt and S.G. Storey
09:30 – 09:50	Root-knot nematodes: a serious threat to emerging grain farmers - Lindokhule Qwabe , N. Ntidi and H. Fourie
09:50 – 10:10	Morphological and molecular characterisation of the major plant-parasitic nematodes associated with plantain and banana in Benin – Bonaventure Kenou , A. Affokpon, E. Coffi, K. Adeoti, E. Olajide and W. Bert
10:10 – 10:30	The influence of cassava crop management on incidence and diversity of plant-parasitic and free-living nematodes - Moses Timana , C.L. Ngwenya, I. Guga, R. Mohlala, M. Daneel, D. De Waele, N.M. Mnyambo and Z.P. Dube
10:30 – 11:00	Refreshments
SESSION 5: MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES	
CHAIRPERSON – Grace Tefu and Bonaventure Kenou	
11:00 – 11:20	Marigolds (<i>Tagetes</i> spp.) and brassicaceous cover crops as a tool for the management of lesion nematodes (<i>Pratylenchus</i> spp.) in apple orchards – Louis Fourie , N. Stokwe and R. Knoetze
11:20 – 11:40	Binding affinity and structure-reactivity relationship between cucurbitacin molecules and <i>Meloidogyne incognita</i> proteins - Zakheleni Dube , M.P. Ngoepe, N.M. Mnyambo, M. Tinama and M.L. Sebati
11:40 – 12:00	Suppressive soils against ring nematodes: Natural or induced? – Rinus Knoetze
12:00 – 12:20	Weed management to mitigate nematode damage and improve crop yield - Nancy Ntidi , H. Fourie and M. Daneel
12:20 – 12:40	A study of <i>Robustodorus arachidis</i> as a new emerging pest on groundnut in South Africa – Sonia Steenkamp , R. Knoetze and A. Swart
12:40 – 13:00	Integrated use of organic mulches in pome fruit orchards in the Southwestern Cape, South Africa – Andrico Fourie , R. Knoetze, M. Addison and N. Stokwe
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch
SESSION 6: WORKSHOP COVER CROPS	
CHAIRPERSON – Prabashnie Ramouthar and Mieke Daneel	
14:00 – 14:20	Benefits of cover cropping: an agronomist's perspective - Hendrik Smith
14:20 – 14:40	Nematodes and cover cropping: a nematologist's perspective – Gerhard du Preez
14:40 – 15:00	Challenges and rewards of cover cropping: a grower's perspective - Pieter Hollebrandse
15:00 – 16:00	Discussion
16:00 – 16:30	Refreshments
STUDENT POSTER SESSION 2: 16:00 - 17:00	
CHAIRPERSON – Gerhard Engelbrecht and Tshima Ramakuwela	
16:30 – 16:35	Evaluating different pre- and post-plant treatments for nematode control programs on Queen Pineapples – Minenhle Ntshangase , B. Mbatha, B. Ngubane and G. Tefu
16:35 – 16:40	Nematicides: A Biological Dynasty in the making - Marisa Meyer , G. Engelbrecht and N. Wright

16:40 – 16:45	The efficacy and selectivity of Salibro™ as a nematicide for the control of <i>Meloidogyne</i> spp. on carrots and cucumber under field conditions - Grace Tefu , M.S. Daneel, I. Guga and J.Y. de Waal
16:45 – 16:50	Can cover crops be part of the fight against root-knot nematodes? - Rachel Mohlala , D. Fourie, I. Guga, R. Knoetze, N. Ntidi and M. Daneel
16:50 - 16:55	Cover crops as part of integrated pest management (IPM) in the fight against root-lesion nematodes (RLN) in potato production - Itani Guga , R. Knoetze, D. Fourie, R. Mohlala and M. Daneel
16:55 – 17:00	Prevalence of <i>Meloidogyne</i> spp. in South African kiwi orchards - Prabashnie Ramouthar
17:00 – 17:05	South African Plant-Parasitic Nematode Survey - Mariette Marais , C. Girgan, A. Shubane and M. Mabena
17:05 – 17:10	Atlas of Namibia: Nematodes - Mariette Marais , T. Bird, E. van den Berg, A. Swart and C. Girgan
17:10 – 17:15	Host-status and host-sensitivity of Kickapoo white tepary bean to <i>Meloidogyne enterolobii</i> – T. Masenya, Amogelang Mabuela , T.E. Mdluli, S.S. Thosago, Z.P. Dube and M.L. Sebati
	Dinner – Free evening for delegates (socialisation/meetings)
Wednesday 13 September 2023	
SESSION 7: MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES	
CHAIRPERSON – MC Pretorius and Nancy Ntidi	
08:30 – 08:50	Screening of apple rootstocks for resistance against the most prevalent lesion nematodes (<i>Pratylenchus</i> spp.) affecting apple orchards in South Africa – Rinus Knoetze
08:50 – 09:10	Can cover crops reduce root-knot populations in tomato net-house production? – G. Mphahlele, P. Pieterse, W. Haddad and Mieke Daneel
09:10 – 09:30	Establishing an optimal application rate for microbial bio-control agents to manage <i>Meloidogyne hapla</i> on coffee - Celestine Oduori , K. Saikai, E. Wanjala, S. Njoroge, R. Murunde, D. Miano, J. Kimenju and D. Coyne
09:30 – 09:50	Battling plant-parasitic nematodes ravaging finger millet in Kenya and enhancing plant defence through priming – Cecilia Wanjau , W. Bert, N.N. Pili, P. Masinde and G. Gheysen
09:50 – 10:10	Application time affects the performance of medicinal plant extracts in managing <i>Meloidogyne incognita</i> – Nicholus Mnyambo , P. Rantho, M. Timana, C. Ngwenya, C. Khosa and Z.P. Dube
10:10 – 10:30	<i>Rhizobium leguminosarum</i> and <i>Meloidogyne enterolobii</i> interactive effects on growth and nodulation of retained cowpea varieties - Rivoningo Ubisi , T.P. Mkhwanazi, L.T. Kgotse and Z.P. Dube
10:30 – 11:00	Refreshments
SESSION 8: ECOLOGY AND BIODIVERSITY	
CHAIRPERSON – Rinus Knoetze and Mariette Marais	
11:00 – 11:20	The ladies of the National Collection of Nematodes - Mariette Marais , C. Girgan and A. Shubane
11:20 – 11:40	Morphological, molecular, and toxicological study of <i>Anguina</i> spp. associated with bacteria and insects found in the Western Cape and Gauteng Province – Tinyiko Chauke , D.P. Malatji, S.A. Subbotin, Z. Maseko, M.M. Mamabolo and A. Swart
11:40 – 12:00	Significance of nematode communities in citrus decline orchards - M.C. Pretorius , A. McLeod, H. Fourie and M. Daneel
12:00 – 12:20	Challenges and opportunities in nematode awareness drives among smallholder farmers: An extension officer's perspective - Nompumelelo Nobela , Z. Dube and G. Tefu
12:20 – 12:40	New nematode antagonistic fungi - a potential group to control <i>Meloidogyne hapla</i> - Milad Rashidifard , W. Maier & S. Ashrafi
12:40 – 13:45	Lunch
13:45 – 15:15	Biennial General Meeting (BGM)
15:30 - 16:30	
18:30	Gala dinner
Thursday 14 September 2023	
07:00 – 09:00	Breakfast, handing in of keys and departure
09:00 - 12:00	Excursion – Grootfontein caves for those interested