



Have your say...

Dear colleagues.

We would like to remind you about the SUGGESTION BOXES that have been placed at Infruitec and Nietvoorbij. We would love to hear your comments and suggestions.



CCMA TRAINING



SWISS ROOIBOS PROJECT

Did you know...

The Old Cellar and Lapa area at Nietvoorbij can be hired out for private functions and events.

You can also hire the Heritage Garden for photo shoots!

Please contact the PRO for more information and rates.

Comments / Suggestions

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News



HRSC INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT LECTURE

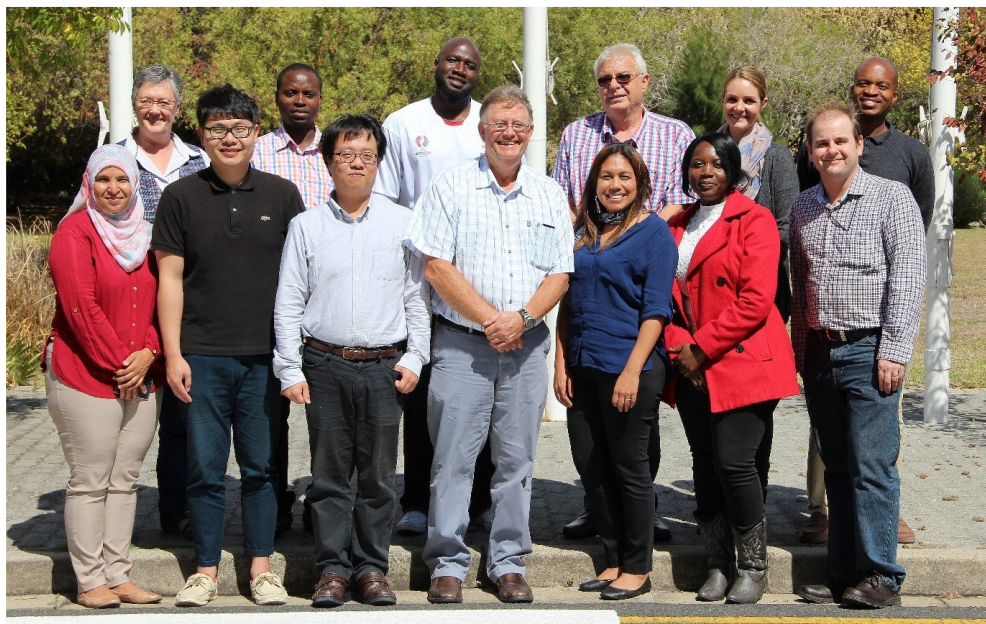
The Public Relations team attended the Annual Innovation and Development Lecture

hosted by the Human Science Research Council in Cape Town under the theme “Interrogating agricultural innovation systems from a small farmer perspective”. The guest speaker was Professor K.J. Joseph - the Ministry of Commerce Chair Professor at Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum in India. He is also the Vice-President of Globelics and the Editor-in-Chief of Innovation and Development. His lecture explored how small-scale farmers are integrated within an AIS and the extent to which the institutions are conducive for harnessing their innovation capabilities to address varied issues pertaining to agricultural development.



TAIWANESE COLLABORATORS MEET WITH ARC AND SAMRC RESEARCHERS

Prof. Lizette Joubert and Dr. Christiaan Malherbe attended a collaborative scientific meeting between the SAMRC, ARC and the National Health Research Institute of Taiwan (NHRI-Taiwan) on 15 March 2017. They presented their research on the formulation of nano-emulsions from rooibos and the development of gastro-retentive drug delivery systems from honeybush, respectively. Prof Christo Muller of the SAMRC and Prof Chih-Pin Chuu of the NHRI-Taiwan are the primary investigators on the project funded by the IRG - Taiwan / South African Research Cooperation Programme with Prof Joubert and Dr Malherbe as co-investigators. The visit marked the start of the second year of collaboration and follows on a visit by the SA team to Taiwan in November 2016.



Back from left to right: Prof Lizette

Joubert (ARC), Dr Charles Awortwe (SAMRC), Dr Lawrence Mabasa (SAMRC), Prof Johan Louw (SAMRC), Dr Tarryn Willmer (SAMRC), Dr Kwazi Gabuza (SAMRC). Front from left to right: Dr Rabia Johnson, Dr. Chih-Jen Lai (NHRI-Taiwan), Prof Chih-Pin Chuu (NHRI-Taiwan), Prof Christo Muller (SAMRC), Dr Carmen Pheiffer (SAMRC), Dr Ntevhe Thovhogi (SAMRC), Dr Christiaan Malherbe (ARC).

CAPE ORCHID SOCIETY

Congratulations to Abraham Vermeulen, who was awarded the title of Grand Champion at the 60th Anniversary Show of the Cape Orchid Society that was held from 7 to 9 April 2017 at Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens with his *Paphiopedilum Harrisianum*. Abraham also passed his final exam on being an accredited South African Orchid Council Judge.



STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY STUDENTS VISIT ARC INFROUTECH- NIETVOORBIJ

Ken Tobutt and researchers from Crop Development welcomed about 10 students, lead by Willem Botes Department of Genetics, Stellenbosch University, for an

informal presentation on fruit breeding and genetic resources of apple/pome fruit. The students were given an overview of some of our programmes. crossing and seedlings, pre-selection, Phase 1 field evaluation, Solomon's mapping, etc. We also had some fruit on display.

DRIED FRUIT DONATION FROM PIONEER FOODS

Infruited-Nietvoorbij thanks Pioneer Foods for their kind donation of dried fruit, which will be used at exhibits such as AgriMega Week and Nampo, National Science Week as well as information sessions / workshops at high schools etc. as part of our educational outreach and scientific awareness drive. Pioneer Food's valuable sponsorship assists in the promotion of the dried fruit / post-harvest industry. Dappie Smit, GM: Dried Fruit Technical Services says that about 60% of the dried apricots and peaches produced in South Africa are from ARC cultivars. That constitutes about 2427 tons of dried fruit or 13 349 tons of fresh fruit before it is dried. The value of these fruits at the farm gate will be about R75 million and double that or more once it has been processed, packed and exported. Pictured here is Ms Leonie Timmins (ARC) with Mr Louis Mostert (Pioneer Foods).



DST - NRF STUDENT FAREWELL



The Microbiology division hosted a farewell for their NRF students and handed over certificates for completing their internship from 1 April 2016—31 March 2017. Melanie Vermeulen (right) was very grateful for the opportunity and said that this was her 1st work experience in the field of microbiology, which is very different to the theory one learns. “It’s quite an experience being in an adult work environment, dealing with different personalities and working with supervisors”, said Vermeulen. One of her highlights was an MCC project in Franschhoek where she got to see a different side of wine-making and the actual bottling process. Melanie has been accepted to do her MSC in neo-natal infections (Medical Microbiology) at UWC.

One of her co-learners, Robyn-Lee Louw (left) was also very grateful to have gained more experience in a field she is comfortable in and felt that it assisted in her improving various techniques in microbiology. She also gained tons of experience in wine fermentation and found the fermentation trials very interesting. One such trial was a “smoke taint” project which she was part of - from inoculation to sensory evaluation. Louw says that the experience gained at the ARC is definitely a stepping stone in her career path.

SWISS ROOIBOS PROJECT ON SOIL TYPES AND HEALTH

Prof Jaco Le Roux of Botany and Zoology at Stellenbosch University and Dr Hannes Gamper of ETH in Switzerland did a presentation regarding soil health and biodiversity in rooibos soil. They are part of a collaborative research project on rooibos and the effect of drought stress. Members from the Heiveld Co-Op and Environmental Monitoring Group attended to gain more information. Producers farm both wild and cultivated crops, harvesting from January - March in the northern most part of the world that rooibos can be grown. “Heiveld Rooibos” is marketed and sold in bags of 50kg organic rooibos tea to mostly America and Europe.



CCMA TRAINING

Managing workplace discipline and incapacity. This course takes the form of a morning presentation or a one or two day workshop. It is designed to assist workers and managers to effectively manage discipline in the workplace.



The course overviews key elements of workplace discipline, which are relevant to both workers and managers.

The aim is not only to cover key aspects to the law and processes involved, but also to suggest best practices in that regard and practically assist in the daily use of labour law and CCMA processes.

SA CHEESE FESTIVAL 2017



We were once again on our feet, networking with clients at the ever popular South African Cheese Festival, IN Stellenbosch, which showcases the widest variety of cheese and complementary products.

The ARC highlighted our wonderful products and services and sold some of our exotic flavoured jams (plum and red wine being a huge hit with the crowd). This was beautifully paired with Cheddar and Gouda cheese varieties sent from ARC-API. A big thank you to all colleagues that assisted!

VIP guests that visited included Ms Bongiswa Matoti (DAFF) and Provincial Minister of Economic Opportunities, Alan Winde, (Ministry of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism).