



1st Symposium on Sustainable Solutions and Future Farming

21-22 September 2021

Hosted by the University of Stellenbosch

Sustainable food production is one of the key factors identified by the FAO in the race to secure food security and eradicate hunger for all. Various initiatives are underway to investigate the role of sustainable practices in agriculture to increase crop yields and food nutrient density, while reducing the use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides. Key to the solution is a multi-disciplinary approach with buy in from all sectors in the food-production chain - starting with the role of the farmer/farming/producer. In this event we want to focus on sustainable solutions particularly for producing food and fruit for the future.

Themes

Laboratory Solutions for Sustainable Future Farming

Field Research Solutions for Sustainable Future Farming

Applied/Practical Solutions for Sustainable Future Farming

Guest speakers

Prof. Frederike Praasterink: The role/contribution of Future Farming Systems in Future Food Systems

Anke Kwast: Crop nutrition solutions for a decarbonized and nature positive food chain

Liaan Janse van Vuuren: The role/contribution of new technology in Future Farming Systems

Reserve your place for this virtual/online symposium and participate in a multi-disciplinary discussion on sustainable solutions for future farming, including soil health and food security.

Abstracts will be required for oral presentations.

Registration for the symposium will be required. Registration cost: R200 (\$15) per day.

<https://shortcourses.sun.ac.za/courses/c-17/2021-5755.html>

Enquiries can be sent to ssff@sun.ac.za.

Programme

Day 1		
Time	Speaker	Topic
9h00	Prof Frederike Praasterink	The role/contribution of Future Farming Systems in Future Food Systems
9h45	Q&A	
Theme	Laboratory Solutions for Sustainable Future Farming	
10h00	Dr. Tersia Conradie	Soil health in a South African context: What is available and what does it mean?
10h15	Lucan Page	NGS and correlation network analysis: determining biological sustainability of agricultural soil
10h30	Q&A	
10h45	Tea	
Theme	Field Research Solutions for Sustainable Future Farming	
11h15	Jani Burger	Quantifying the contribution of cover crops towards biomass production in a perennial orchard
11h30	Dr Heidi Hawkins	Carbon projects in range and wildlands can supplement farmer income
11h45	Dr Wendy Stone	Waste water as soil ameliorant
12h00	Q&A	
12h15	Lunch	
Theme	Applied/Practical Solutions for Sustainable Future Farming	
13h15	Liaan Janse van Vuuren	The role/contribution of new technology in Future Farming Systems
14h00	Q&A	
14h15	Piet van der Merwe	Practical solutions to sustainable soil solutions
14h45	Johniby Rabie	Asking the right question to find the true solutions
15h15	Q&A	

Day 2		
Time	Speaker	Topic
9h00	Anke Kwast	Crop nutrition solutions for a decarbonized and nature positive food chain
9h45	Q&A	
Theme	Field Research Solutions for Sustainable Future Farming	
10h00	Prof Stephanie Midgley	TBC
10h15	Lome Smit	Using a biopolymer (Zebaä) to improve the water use efficiency of potatoes
10h30	Q&A	
10h45	Tea	
Theme	Applied/Pactical Solutions for Sustainable Future Farming	
11h15	Dr Lindleen Mugwagwa	Agricultural waste as an alternative raw material for the development of active food packaging
11h30	Berno Greyling	The role of modelling in Sustainable Future Farming Solutions Fruit growth
11h45	Dr Elmi Lötze	Using Mini-rhizontrons to monitor root development
12h00	Q&A	
12h15	Lunch	
Theme	Applied/Pactical Solutions for Sustainable Future Farming	
13h15	FG Adriaanse	The use of technology to improve labour efficiency
14h00	Cornelius Oosthuizen	Ecological management of orchards and vineyards for effective crop protection
14h15	Q&A	
14h45	Wonder platform	Open discussion around major themes
15h15		General conclusion