



BASIC LITERACY FOR COTTON PRODUCTION

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LOCATION: ARC-Industrial Crops, Rustenburg, RSA
SCHEDULED DATES: On request
COURSE FEE: Request a quote
BOOKS/ MANUALS: Plant protection notes & field guidelines
COURSE DURATION: Two (2) days

COURSE OUTLINE & DESCRIPTION

To provide basic skills and knowledge on cotton plant protection (plant pathology, entomology and nematology) in adult training

Entomology: Harmful cotton insects; beneficial cotton insects; different pest control measures; scouting techniques as well as the benefit and how to apply IPM in cotton farming

Nematology: Basic introduction to parasitic nematodes on cotton; recognizing nematode related symptoms in your crop and the importance of proper laboratory diagnostic services. The benefit of knowing the nematode status/populations of your soil before planting in order to manage parasitic nematodes according to specific principals.

Plant Pathology: Basic introduction to plant pathology and laboratory diagnostic services; recognition of major cotton diseases and the importance of proper laboratory diagnostics to identify diseases in the field.

Agronomy: Introduction to basic planting methods; fertilizer applications; importance of planting dates; cultivar recommendations.

Safety procedures: Reading and understanding the label on any container; interpretation of the pictograms on the label; the importance of correct dosage, application intervals and clean calibrated equipment. Personal safety measures such as alternatives to expensive protective clothing; washing of hands and clothes and safe storage of chemicals. Guidelines as prescribed by EURO-GAP are followed.

Field trip: Visit to a cotton field where all principals are demonstrated in practice. This will only be done during the cotton season.

Laboratory practical session: A laboratory is set up with a microscope and the necessary basic equipment to demonstrate diagnostic services.

Learning Outcomes Empowering technical trainers of small-scale cotton farmers to transfer scientific concepts of plant –protection subjects in adult-training format to small-scale cotton farmers

WHO SHOULD ATTEND? Current and prospective cotton farmers and extension officers

DELIVERY MODE: Presentations, lecture notes, field guidelines, practical and demonstration