

Course: The Collection and Curation of Insect Specimens

Entomological endeavour, be it in medical and veterinary science, crop protection, natural resource management or citizen science, relies largely on the accurate identification of insect specimens. Many research projects are compromised or fail, due to a lack of skills in the basic techniques required when collecting and preserving insect specimens. An appreciation of the importance of well-preserved material is critical to the integrity of data generated and the reliability of results. Due to the overwhelming diversity of insects, the skills required in obtaining specimens suitable for identification are varied and often quite technical. Appropriate training and practise are required to master these techniques.

This course, developed by staff at the South African National Collection of Insects, is aimed at students, technicians and researchers and will be presented again in February 2020.

Enquiries:

Vivienne Uys

Phone: 012 8088285

E-Mail: Uysv@arc.agric.za



Course detail:

Dates:
18-20 February 2020

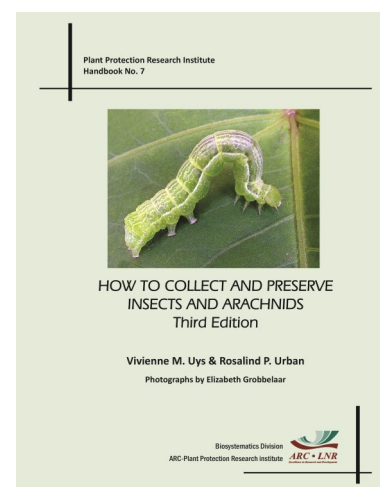
Venue:
PHP Training Centre,
Biosystematics,
Roodeplaat

Entry requirements:
Graduate level

Included:

- Presentations and practical sessions
- Manual: "How to collect and preserve insects and arachnids" PPRI Handbook No. 7. Third Edition
- Morning and afternoon tea and light lunch

Course fee: R5 500 (VAT included).



Objectives of the course:

The course deals with the various techniques and methods used in the collection, preparation, preservation and curation of insect specimens for scientific study.

Learning outcomes:

1. Appreciation for the necessity of properly prepared insect material for scientific study
2. Mastering the basic techniques used for preserving insect specimens

Outline of course content:

1. Insect Functional Morphology
2. Collecting Methods
3. Killing & Temporary Storage
4. Practical sessions: Preservation of Insect Specimens
5. Labelling, accessioning & dispatching specimens
6. Curation & Permanent Storage

