

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME



28th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TREE PROTECTION CO-OPERATIVE PROGRAMME (TPCP) AND THE DST-NRF CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN TREE HEALTH BIOTECHNOLOGY (CTHB)



MONDAY 15 to WEDNESDAY 17 MAY 2017

FABI FACILITIES AND SANLAM AUDITORIUM – UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

MONDAY 15 MAY 2017

- CTHB Symposium, CTHB Core Team Members and students - separate programme
- Tour of FABI Facilities for overseas and other TPCP guests
- Board meeting of the Centre of Excellence in Tree Health Biotechnology
- Braai (barbeque) meal for CTHB Board and visitors at the UP Experimental Farm

TUESDAY 16 MAY 2017

08:00-08:30 **Tea and Coffee**

08:30-08:45 Welcome. **Prof. Mike Wingfield**

08:45-09:15 An ICFR perspective on forestry research in South Africa. **Prof. Colin Dyer, Director, Institute for Commercial Forestry Research (ICFR)**

09:15-10:00 The 28th TPCP year in review. **Prof. Mike Wingfield and the TPCP/CTHB research team**

10:00-10:30 Managing the growing threat of insect pests to plantation forests. **Dr Eckehard Brockerhoff, ScionResearch, New Zealand**

10:30-11:00 **Tea and Coffee**

11:00-11:30 *Sirex*, understanding diversity and biological control of invasive forest pests. **Prof. Bernard Slippers**

11:30-11:45 Progress in understanding the infection biology of the Acacia rust pathogen *Uromycladium acaciae*. **Dr Stuart Fraser**

11:45-12:15 Investigating the gall community of the invasive gall wasp, *Leptocybe invasa*: Distribution and roles. **Dr Brett Hurley**

12:15-12:30 Selection of nematode strains for *Sirex* biological control. The power of international collaborations in FABI. **Katrin Fitza**

12:30-13:00 **Group photo**

13:00-14:00 **Lunch for speakers and visitors, SANLAM entertainment area**

14:00-14:30 Mycorrhizae matter. **Prof. Tom Bruns, University of California, Berkeley, USA**

- 14:30-14:45 The rise of *Ceratocystis*: Threats to global forests and forestry. **Dr Irene Barnes**
- 14:45-15:00 Tree health diagnostics and extension during 2016. **Izette Greyling, Darryl Herron and Prof. Jolanda Roux**
- 15:00-15:15 The hidden *Phytophthora* spp.: Threats to the future of plantation forestry in South Africa. **Tanay Bose**
- 15:15-15:30 Chemical ecology collaborations in FABI. Growing opportunities for forest pest management. **Dr Jeremy Alison, Canadian Forest Service, Canada**
- 15:30-16:00 Tea and Coffee**
- 16:00-16:30 Update on pitch canker fungus research in South Africa. **Prof. Emma Steenkamp**
- 16:30-16:45 Host utilisation by the Sirex woodwasp. **Ludwig Eksteen**
- 16:45-17h00 Perspectives on the emerging *Eucalyptus* post-planting root disease syndrome. **Prof. Jolanda Roux**
- 17:00-17:30 Are the trees telling us something? Using genetics and tree ring analysis to detect climate adaptation and insect resistance. **Prof. Diana Six, University of Montana, USA**
- 18:00 Annual TPCP DINNER and “Hands Free Beer Slug” at TUSCAN BARBEQUE**

WEDNESDAY 17 May 2017

- 08:00-08:15 Tea and Coffee**
- 08:15-08:30 Review and commentary. **Prof. Mike Wingfield.**
- 08:30-09:00 A tree pathogen invades Europe: Lessons from our past. **Prof. Paolo Gonthier, University of Torino, Italy**
- 09:00-09:15 Progress towards improved management of the Eucalyptus snout beetle, *Gonipterus* sp.2. **Dr Michelle Schröder**
- 09:15-10:00 Rust never sleeps: Rust research at FABI. **Dr Alistair McTaggart**
- 10:00-10:15 Developing a Forest Pest Insect Molecular Database at FABI. **Dr Gudrun Dittrich-Schröder**
- 10:15-10:30 What's in a name? The importance of accurate taxonomy in forest pathology. **Prof. Wilhelm de Beer**
- 10:30-11:00 Tea and Coffee**
- 11:00-11:15 Progress in building BiCEP (Biological Control of *Eucalyptus* Pests). **Dr Simon Lawson, University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia**
- 11:15-11:30 Urban Forests: Sources of invasion for plantations. **Dr Trudy Paap**
- 11:30-12:00 Interactions between pine health and forest management practices: Examples from the southeastern USA. **Prof. Kamal Ghandi, University of Georgia, USA**
- 12:00-12:10 The upcoming Forest Science Symposium. **Sally Upfold, ICFR**
- 12:10-12:30 **GENERAL DISCUSSION AND CLOSURE**
- 12:45 Finger lunch and meeting of the Board of the TPCP**
- 12:45 Satellite meetings and research discussions**

THURSDAY 18 May 2017

Satellite TPCP and CTHB related meetings and field tour group departs.