**CURRICULUM VITAE- RACHEL MKANDAWIRE**

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| 1. Family Name | Mkandawire |
| 1. First Names | Rachel Isabel |
| 1. Date of Birth | 2nd October, 1983 |
| 1. Nationality | Malawian |
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**University Education**

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| **Dates** | **University** | **Degree Obtained** |
| August, 2015- Current | University of Pretoria | PhD in Plant Pathology (Pending) |
| Sept, 2007-Sept, 2009 | Ghent University, Belgium | MSc (Plant Nematology), 2009 |
| Oct, 2002- Oct, 2006 | University of Malawi, Bunda College | BSc (Agriculture), 2006 |

**Language**

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| **Language** | **Reading** | **Speaking** | **Writing** |
| English | Excellent | Excellent | Excellent |
| Chichewa | Excellent | Excellent | Excellent |
| Chitumbuka | good | good | good |

**Membership of Professional Bodies:**

1. International Society of Nematology
2. Member of Nematology Society of Southern Africa

**Other skills:**

Computer skills in Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point, SPSS, Statistica, Genstat, SAS

A specialist in Nematology, Agronomy, Soil analysis, Soil Biology, Agriculture/Food Security, Monitoring and Evaluation

**Key qualifications:**

I have over 8 years of conducting research work in:

* Designing and conducting socio-economic baselines studies, including needs assessments
* Agronomic studies and conducting monitoring and evaluations
* Development of training manuals for agriculture and climate change

**Employment Record**

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| **Dates** | **Position Held** | **Employer** | **Summary of Key Responsibilities** |
| April, 2014- Present | Area Agronomy Manager | Premium Tobacco Company Limited, P.O. Box 40075, Lilongwe 4. | * Facilitating registration of farmers for input loan programme * Conducting field demonstrations * Facilitating loan recoveries * Providing agriculture extension advice to farmers |
| Dec,2013- February, 2014 | Agronomist | IITA-N2Africa, Chitedze Research Station, P.O. Box 30258, Lilongwe 3, Malawi | * Facilitating and processing and analysis of agronomy soil data * Compiling of rhizobiology data * Compiling early impact assessment data, progress reports, technical reports, training and extension material, Students’ reports. * Literature review for inoculation studies |
| May,2012-Oct, 2013 | Research fellow | Bunda College/Howard Buffet project  P.O. Box, 219, Lilongwe | * Developing research tools, * Design and analysis of experiments * Report writing * Supervising undergraduates students * Facilitating soil processing for different soil analysis |
| Dec, 2011-May, 2012 | Agronomist | ARET, P/Bag 9, Lilongwe | * Research program and design experimental designs * Report writing * Training farmers in good agricultural practices in tobacco production |
| Nov, 2009-Dec, 2011 | Part-Time Lecturer | Natural Resources College, P/bag 149, Lilongwe | * Teaching Diploma students and trainee of trainers * Supervising students’ field projects * Setting and marking examinations |
| June, 2009-March, 2007 | Research Trainee | World Agroforestry Centre- (SADC-ICRAF) | * Designing agronomic experiments * Collecting agronomic data * Designing participatory study tool |

**Professional Consultancy Experience**

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| **Date** | **Organisation** | **Positions** | **Key Responsibilities** |
| March, 2014-April2014 | International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT) | Consultant | * Conducted an end of phase evaluation of the Effectiveness of Grain Storage Project. The evaluation focused on a gender perspective. |
| Dec, 2013-Feb,2014 | IITA | Agronomist | * Report writing for end of Phase Project on selection of Rhizobia for use in legumes by smallholder producers. |
| Oct,2013-Dec,2013 | Millennium Consulting Group | Research Supervisor | * Developed study tools on consumer and market studies for Reserve Bank of Malawi * Report writing |
| June-July, 2011 | Salvation Army | Consultant | * Conducted a Mid-term Evaluation for a project on Combating Child Labour in Mchinji, Dedza and Lilongwe Districts |
| Sept, 2010- Oct, 2010 | Agricultural Research and Extension Trust | Consultant | * Training field research technicians in soil sampling, nematode extraction, identification, data collection, analysis and interpretation of nematode problems |
| Dec, 2010 - Dec, 2011 | Christian Aid | Consultant | * conducted baseline study on the role of Conservation agriculture for climate change mitigation * conducted an evaluation study on the effects of Conservation Agriculture on Soil chemical and Physical Properties. |
| April, 2011 | Concern Worldwide | Research Supervisor | * Did an end of phase evaluation of Rural Livelihood Promotion Programme |
| Sept, 2009 - April 2010 | Millenium Centre for Research and Developement | Research Supervisor | * Under The project Climate Adaptation for Rural Livelihoods and Agriculture (CARLA) took a participatory process and project document has been completed for possible funding by the African Development Bank to the Government of Malawi. In the study MCRD was (i) assessing current and future Vulnerability and Adaptation strategies (ii) developing a climate change adaptation strategy and investment plan. |
| Consultant | * Conducted a baseline study under the Norwegian Church Aid on Climate Justice/climate change and Variability, the study was funded by Norwegian church Aid. |

**Academic Publications**

1. Vos, C., Claerhout, S., **Mkandawire, R.,** Panis, B., De Waele, D and Elsen, A. (2012) Arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi reduce root-knot nematode penetration through altered root exudation of their host. Plant Soil, 354:335–345
2. Vos, C., **Mkandawire, R.,** Panis, B., De Waele, D and Elsen, (2012) Arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi affect both penetration and further life stage development of root-knot nematodes in tomato. Mycorrhiza, 22: 157-163

**References**

1. Dr Amos Ngwira, Department of Agricultural Research Services, P.O. Box 158, Lilongwe

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1. Inge Dehenin, European Master of Science in Nematology (EUMAINE):    
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2. Prof. Wim Bert, ICP Master of Science in Nematology (PINC):  K.L. Ledeganckstraat 359000 Gent, Belgium. Email: [wim.bert@ugent.be](mailto:wim.bert@ugent.be) , Phone : [+32 9 2645216](tel:%2B32%209%202645216) (tel), [+32 9 2645344](tel:%2B32%209%202645344) (fax)
3. Prof. H.R. Mloza, Bunda College of agriculture, P.O. Box 219 , Lilongwe

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