

Grant Terblanche

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

I am a motivated and passionate MSc Biotechnology student with a focus in Genetics. I obtained my undergraduate degree in BSc Biotechnology (2022) with a cumulative average of 79% and passed my BSc Hons Biotechnology (2023) degree with distinction, obtaining a 78.63% average. I am currently elucidating host–specificity factors through sequential gene knockouts in the phytopathogenic fungus, *Ceratocystis*, under the Forestry Agricultural Biotechnology Institute (FABI).

EDUCATION

University of Pretoria

January 2024 – present

MSc Biotechnology with a focus in Genetics

January 2023 – December 2023

BSc Hons Biotechnology with a focus in Genetics (*Cum laude*)

January 2020 – December 2022

BSc Biotechnology degree; majored in Human Genetics, with an additional focus in Microbiology and Biochemistry

St John's College, Johannesburg

January 2015 – December 2019

Matric: University Entrance (5 Distinctions*), 80% average

English*, Afrikaans, Mathematics*, Biology*, Physical Science, Information Technology*, Life Orientation*, AP Mathematics.

Played first team soccer, second team rugby and cricket. Awarded colours for academics and half colours for service in which I completed over 150 hours of community service.



Pretoria, South Africa

grantmarc23@gmail.com

SKILLS

Problem solving

Critical thinking

Strong statistical analysis skills

Scientific writing

Scientific communication

Laboratory proficiency

Bioinformatics and data analysis

CLC Genomics Workbench

Linux

R Studio

Pymol

SQL Databases

Java

Microsoft Office Suite

Time management

Attention to detail

Results oriented

Self–learner

Public speaking

EXPERIENCE

Tutoring

2021 – present

Maths tutoring for high school students. Statistics tutoring for University Students taking first and second year statistics. Employed as a full–time tutor for the University of Pretoria, having tutored first year genetics (2023) and third year genetics (2024–present).

Laboratory work

2022 – present

3.5 years of Laboratory experience with proficiency in:

- Reagent and buffer preparation
- Media preparation
- DNA extraction and quantification
- PCR
- Sequencing
- Gene cloning
- Fungal and bacterial culturing
- Protein purification
- Molecular techniques
- CRISPR–Cas9 design and implementation
- Gene knockouts
- PEG–mediated protoplast transformation
- Bioinformatic analysis and phylogenetics
- Laboratory protocol and etiquette

Lab manager

2024 – present

I am lab manager for TEW laboratory at the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute, which entails:

- Ordering and stock keep
- General laboratory management and up–keep
- Handling PO's
- Lab safety and inductions
- Monthly meetings
- Conflict resolution
- Removal hazardous waste
- Laboratory optimization and general maintenance

CERTIFICATES and AWARDS

NRF bursary and funding

2024–2025

SRC Merit Certificate for Academic excellence
2024

Honours merit award
2023

FABI/TPCP bursary
2023, 2024

Golden Key Lifetime member
2020–present

FLY@UP award
2020, 2021, 2022

Gold President's Award
2021

St Johns Award
2019

Half colours service
2019

Academic Certificates
2015, 2016, 2018

Head–boy Montrose Primary School
2014

Provincial Cricket
2012–2014

HOBBIES & INTERESTS

Scientific trends

Fitness and hiking

Artificial intelligence

Chess

Finance and business

Immunology and Virology

Next–generation advances in genetics