

P.O. Box 95
Lenyenye
0857
11 January 2015

I am a PhD Plant Pathology student at the University of Pretoria. I did my undergraduate, honors and masters in Plant Pathology under the Department of Microbiology and Plant Pathology at the University of Pretoria. My undergraduate studies had subjects in microbiology, plant pathology, zoology, biochemistry and genetics. Because of the wide undergraduate scope, I have a strong background of plant diseases affected by both micro-organisms and insects.

My Masters consists of four working chapters which are 1.) Identification of *Alternaria* spp. isolated from *Helianthus annuus* L. (sunflower) seeds and leaves using morphological and molecular techniques 2.) Etiology of *Alternaria* spp. of sunflower 3.) Evaluating the seed vigor and health of *H. annuus*. My PhD follows up the masters studies by further studying the infection processes of *Alternaria* spp. using scanning electron and light microscopy, determining the source of inoculum of *Alternaria* in the field and also evaluating fungicides and bio-control agents as a possible control mechanism for Alternaria blight

While doing my masters, I have worked under the Department of Science and Technology (DST) as an intern at a science centre called Sci-Enza (A science centre at the University of Pretoria). At Sci-Enza we dealt with science communication and promotion. I had two management posts, where I established and ran a chess club which will be representing the University of Pretoria at Alice for the University Sports tournament in December 2011. Secondly, I was a mentor of grade 11 learners where I taught them about my project and guided them through it, and they had to do it and present it at the Gauteng Expo 2011. My learners got a silver medal at this year's expo. I have also been a tutor and a practical demonstrator in a couple of first and second year modules (Botany, Microbiology and Molecular biology) in the faculty of Natural and Agricultural sciences.

Apart from academia, I have worked under both the CSC and the admin building. Our focus was on compiling and distributing satisfaction surveys and evaluation forms for the CSC, as well as helping out with CSC general inquiries. In the past few years at the University of Pretoria, I have been involved in several welcoming day events, as well as open day events.

I am a young dynamic scientist and as I have mentioned above I have excellent interpersonal skills and multitasking abilities as I have also been involved with other activities such as, serenade (Tuks champions 2007), soccer (top goal scorer for Sonop Tehuis 2010-2011), outreach teams (@Elim 2005-2013 and House Jacaranda), national chess tournaments (as a chairperson TuksChess 2012-2013) and I am currently part of the house committee of Jacaranda (portfolio is vice-chairperson and sports)

Regards,

Godfrey Kgatle

Curriculum Vitae

Personal Details

Date of birth : 13 march 1986
License number : Yes
Gender : Male
Marital Status : Single
Nationality : South Africa
Home Language : Sepedi
Other Languages : English, Afrikaans, Si-Tswana and Isi-Zulu
Health Status : Good
Criminal Records : None

Contact details

Postal Address : P.O. Box 95
Lenyenye
0857
Cell phone Number : 0794895966
E-mail Address : godfrey.kgatl@fab.up.ac.za or godfrey.kgatl@gmail.com

Educational Qualifications

High School Attended : Capricorn High School
Highest Grade Passed : Grade 12
Matric Subjects : English HG
Afrikaans HG
Mathematics HG
Physical Science HG
History HG
Geography HG
Biology HG
Year Matriculated : 2004

Tertiary Qualifications

Name of Institution : University of Pretoria
Qualifications : BSc (2008), Hons (2009) and MSc Plant Pathology (2012).
Majors : Plant Pathology, Microbiology, Entomology, Botany and Cell and Molecular biology
Short Courses : Short Course on Seed Science
Pursuing : PhD Plant Pathology (2013- to date)

Work Experience

1.) Employer name : Sci-Enza Science Centre
Period : 2010 – 2011
Position : Intern (2 year contract)
Responsibilities : 1.) UPWS 2010/2011 mentor – mentored 12 Grade 11s to be great plant pathologists in the future by teaching and guiding them through a research investigation. They won gold (2010) and silver (2011) Gauteng North Science Expo. 2.) Chess manager- I established The Sci-Enza Chess Club which liaised with TuksChess. Players from these teams were managed by me and they represented the Tuks at various intervarsity and Guateng tournaments. TuksChess were 2nd in the 2012 Gauteng Chess League. 3.) Sci-festival involvement- Outreaches to the community to create science awareness to the community focusing on high school and primary school learners 4.) Science show conducting: to excite learners about science

2.) International Seed Testing Association, TESTA Project

Period: 2013 – 2014
Position: Research Assistant
Responsibility: Update a database of ALL plant diseases of crops that are relevant to ISTA research. I researched on diseases that the ISTA was aware of and further searched on new diseases that could impact the agricultural industry. The purpose of this research is to be able to put up good quarantine protocols and structures to avoid the spread of new diseases across the globe.

3.) FABI Outreach and UP With Science

Period: February – June 2014
Position: Mentor and student support
Responsibility: UPWS 2014 mentor – mentored six Grade 11s by teaching and guiding them through a research investigation, “**What is killing our Jacaranda trees.**” Various fungi and bacteria were isolated from the barks and roots of the tree, identified and researched upon to determine if they were the cause of the death of Jacaranda trees in Pretoria.

4.) Guest lecture at the Seed Science Course (CE@UP)

Position: Guest lecture
Period: November 2013
Responsibility: I gave a lecture on part of the course. My focus of the lecture was on the genetic aspect of seed breeding.

5.) Tutor and practical demonstrator for various modules at the University of Pretoria:

Tutors have appointments and guide and teach students in the respective subjects. Tutors are expected to be in the fields they tutor in. Practical demonstrators help the lecturers during practicals to make sure that students follow the correct protocols in order for the students to obtain the best results possible. I was a tutor in the following modules:

- Microbiology (MBY 161 and 261: from 2008-to 2012)
- Botany (BOT 161 and BOT 261: from 2008-to 2012)
- Chemistry (from 2012 to 2012)
- Molecular & cell biology (MLB111:2008-2012)

6.) Employer name : FABI (Forestry and Agricultural Biotech Institute, UP)

Position : Sirex Biocontrol lab, Lab technician.
Period : 2012 to 2013
Responsibility : The Sirex wasp has a symbiotic relationship with the *Amylostereum* fungus. This relationship can destroy up to 80% of a pine forest. Research has proven that the nematode *Deladenus siricidicola* can be a useful biocontrol agent by making the wasps infertile. FABI produces these nematodes in bulks and is inoculated onto the Sirex larvae in the pine forest in South Africa. Recent results have shown this to be an effective control measure and thus helping pine forest make their profit

7.) Employer name : Govender Seed Pathology Lab University of Pretoria

Period : 2011-to date
Position : Seed Analyst and Lab Manager
Responsibilities : Evaluating seed lots from seed companies by identifying the pathogens found on the seeds and by determining the germination potential and the seed health of the seed lot. Survey in farms, isolations and identification (symptom, morphological and molecular) of diseases. Etiological studies of the diseases are also conducted. Evaluating bio-control agents as a new option for disease control.

8.) Employer name : University of Pretoria

Period :2008-2010
Position :Marketing and advertisement, General enquiries and registration.

9.) Employer name : TuksRes (House Jacaranda)
Period : 2013-2014
Position : Vice-Chairperson and Sports
Responsibilities : A healthy body is a healthy mind, I create opportunity for my fellow res mates to engage with the sporting codes offered by the university. I am currently working on establishing/erecting an outdoor gym at Jacaranda House. In the absence of the Chairperson, I take that role and my duty would be to insure that the res activities such as (security, IT-lab, discipline, socials, academic showcases etc) run smoothly.

10.) Employer name : TuksChess (University of Pretoria)
Period : 2012 – to date
Position : Chairperson.
Responsibilities : Organize intervarsity games, internal and open tournaments. We are now working on starting a TuksChess junior academy as there has been a great demand from primary and high school learners that would love to be a part of the growing TuksChess team which was re-established in 2010. TuksChess has been involved in the USSA chess national tournament since it's established and we have had 3 players represent the country ever since.

Conference Paper Presentation

1. SAASTEC 2010: Saldanha. **The incentive of a chess club in a science centre.**
2. South Africa Society of Microbiology (SASM) 2011: Cape Town. ***Alternaria* sp.: A new pathogen of sunflower?**
3. Microscopy Society of Southern Africa (MSSA) 2011: Pretoria. **A study of the infection *Alternaria* sp. on *Helianthus annuus* seeds and leaves.**
4. South African Society of Plant Pathology (SASPP) (2013): **Etiology of *Alternaria helianthicola* on sunflower.**
5. AETFAT 2014. Stellevbosch. **The morphological, molecular and protein (MALDI-TOF) identification of *Alternaria* species on sunflower (*Helianthus annuus* L.) in South Africa.**
6. ISTA 7th Seed Health Symposium 2014. Edinburgh, Scotland. **The influence of seed infection by *Alternaria* spp. on sunflower (*Helianthus annuus* L.) seed germination and control using fungicides as a bio-control agent.**
7. SASPP 2015. Bloemfontein. **A survey of *Alternaria* species on sunflowers in South African production fields.**

Merit Awards

FABI 2014 award: Best FABI student science communicator (“getting the message to the people”)

Golden Key South Africa 2013

Gauteng Science-Expo Gold-2010 and Silver 2011 (Plant Pathology Group)

Chess: (1.) TuksSports Bursary Award **(2.)** Chess Res League 2014 (House Jacaranda): Runners – Up **(3.)** TuksChess Vice-Chairperson 2011-2014 **(4.)** Gauteng North Chess League: Second Prize (2012: TuksChess) **(5.)** Provincial colours for chess (2002-2004) when I represented the Limpopo Chess team at Cape Town in the National Chess Tournament. **(6.)** Captain and best chess player at Capricorn High School (2004)

Serenade: 2007 Winners of the ATKV Serenade at the University of Pretoria (Sonop Christelike Tehuis) and National Runners up.

Soccer: (1.) 2006 Winners (@Elim) of the One Way Christian Soccer league **(2.)** 2010 and 2011 Sonop SoccerTop Goal scorer

Hobbies :Music, sporting & fishing

References

Name :Ms Rudi Horak

Positions :Sci-Enza

Contact Number (Tel) :012 420 2865

E-mail : Rudi Horak@up.ac.za

Name : Sibongile Maswanganye

Positions : TuksSports Manager

Contact Number (Tel) : (012) 420 6061

E-mail : sibo.maswanganye@up.ac.za

Name :Prof Terry Aveling

Positions :Lecturer for Plant Pathology/Supervisor/TESTA:ISTA

Contact Number (Tel) : 012 420 3264

E-mail :terry.aveling@up.ac.za

Name : Dr. C. Booysen

Positions : Senior Pastor @Elim

Contact Number (Tel) : 0827428271

E-mail :elimchurch@mweb.co.za

More references are available on Request