

BEECON 2021:

In celebration of the South African Beekeeping Industry's centenary year, the annual SABIO BEECON in partnership with SAMAC will be taking place in six regions rather than just one location as has been the rule before. This is both in response to the national state of emergency due to the COVID-19 lockdown regulations as well as to meet beekeepers in as many areas previously uncovered by national beekeeping conferences as possible. Thus, essentially taking BEECON to the beekeepers. In response to the hardships brought on by the current pandemic, we are also aiming to make attendance free to all delegates. As the events will focus on macadamia pollination participation is not limited to SABIO members. We hope that as many beekeepers and macadamia growers possible will attend these events.

The four topics covered will be:

1. *The effect of honeybee pollination on macadamia crop yield* – Dr Hannelie Human
2. *Environmentally friendly management of macadamia pests: Can it be achieved?* – Dr Schalk Schoeman (SAMAC)
3. *Maximizing pollination in Macadamia* - Michel Lenferna
4. *Additional forage to sustain pollinators and bee populations to maximize pollination* – Inge Lotter or Dr Andriaan du Toit

PROGRAMME AND PROTOCOLS

All COVID-19 protocols will be observed and in cases where numbers of delegates exceed the number of people that are allowed according to the relevant lockdown regulations, multiple groups will attend the 4 topics covered and rotate amongst speakers. The events will be held in situ in orchards as open air practical presentations further minimizing the health risks for delegates.

Preliminary program for farm days:

9:00 – Registration, Coffee and rusks
10:00 – 11:00 First Presentation
11:00 – 12:00 Second Presentation
12:00 – 13:00 Lunch (Boerewors rolls & Cold drink)
13:00 – 14:00 Third Presentation
14:00 – 15:00 Fourth Presentation
15:00 – General Q&A

*****Levubu program starts at 08:00**

8:00 – Registration, Coffee and rusks
9:00 – 10:00 First Presentation
10:00 – 11:00 Second Presentation
11:00 – 12:00 Third Presentation
12:00 – 13:00 Lunch (Boerewors rolls & Cold drink)
13:00 – 14:00 Fourth Presentation
14:00 – General Q&A