



# SASTA NEWS

Newsletter of the SA Sugar Technologists' Association

December 2002

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## 77<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SASTA CONGRESS

### First Announcement

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The 77<sup>th</sup> Annual SA Sugar Technologists' Congress is to be held from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2003. The Opening Day and the Annual General Meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn, Durban Elangeni on the 19<sup>th</sup> August, while the Congress sessions will be held at Kwa-Shukela from the 20 – 22 August.

### CALL FOR PAPERS FOR CONGRESS 2003

Authors wishing to submit papers or posters for presentation at Congress 2003 are requested to note the following:

- DEADLINE for submission of **preliminary title and abstract** of ±250 words for **posters, papers and short communications** is **31 January 2003**.
- DEADLINE for submission of **full papers and short communications** is **31 March 2003**.
- DEADLINE for submission of **poster summaries** (± 1200 words) is **30 April 2003**.

### GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

Please find the updated guidelines on the website, or request an email copy by contacting the SASTA Secretariat.

## Membership Fees 2003

At the 2002 AGM, the President announced that membership fees would be increased in 2003. The rationale for this was largely to cover the escalating running costs of the Association. Since membership fees have not been changed for some years, it was deemed appropriate to institute the increases in 2003.

The SASTA Council has now approved the following fee structure for 2003

Full members	R150.00
Associate members	R170.00
Corresponding members	R300.00
Corporate members	R500.00
Retired members	R 40.00

### Corporate membership

Council has also approved some changes to the benefits that Corporate Members enjoy. These are designed to simplify the current provisions and also to encourage more members from the corporate sector to attend annual congresses.

From 2003 Corporate Member benefits will include:

- Provision for a single membership addressed to the appropriate Chief Executive Officer of the organisation; and
- Allowing all members of the organisation to attend the annual congress at member rates



# SASTA WORKSHOP

NOVEMBER 2002

## CLIMATE CHANGE - IMPLICATIONS FOR THE SA SUGAR INDUSTRY

Ninety-eight people attended the workshop held on the 28 November 2002. Presentations from the invited speakers were informative and left none of the delegates in doubt about the reality of climate change. Hannes Rautenbach, the head of the Meteorology Group at the University of Pretoria began the morning session by examining existing and probable future climate systems and conditions in Southern Africa. This was followed by an address by Bruce Hewitson, an Associate Professor in the department of Environmental and Geographical Science at the University of Cape Town. Bruce's talk investigated the usefulness of climatic projections that arise out of both global and regional models, and cautioned against the use of any one model to provide an adequate scenario. Roland Schulze from the School of Bioresources Engineering and Environmental Hydrology at the University of Natal in Pietermaritzburg, examined the agricultural impacts of anticipated climate change in South Africa, and concluded by evaluating possible pros and cons of potential climate change on sugarcane production, in particular. Rasack Nayamuth from the MSIRI described the approach adopted by the Mauritius sugarcane industry. His analysis of long-term data for Mauritius provided valuable insights into climatic trends in the region and served as a starting point for evaluating likely impacts on their industry. The final presentation for the morning was given by Bob Scholes from the CSIR. His view was that reduced sugarcane yields owing to increased temperature and reduced rainfall, would be compensated to some extent by the rise in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub>, which is essential for plant growth. He addressed some of the ways that the sugar industry could reduce its impact on climate and addressed cane-burning practices in particular. The morning workshop concluded with a thirty-minute discussion.

In the afternoon a closed session built on the information gathered from the morning presentations, to evaluate the possible impacts that climate change would have on our sugarcane industry. Thirty invited delegates representing both millers and growers broke into two groups to discuss a number of identified impacts. The significance of these likely impacts was evaluated, the adaptive strategies that should be adopted by the industry and also the need for research in specific areas was identified. Each of the likely impacts was given a priority rating in terms of the research effort required. Arising out of this workshop will be a short communication that will be presented at the forthcoming annual congress.

## CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

SASTA Council have become aware of several inconsistencies and omissions in the existing Constitution. Consequently the existing SASTA Constitution has been re-examined and modified in accordance with legal opinion. It is envisaged that a Special General Meeting will be called early in 2003 to inform members about these proposed changes.

## Noticeboard

- Laboratory manuals are available at R35 each (for members)
- SASTA ties: R25.00 each
- The CD of Congress 2002 Proceedings are now available (and include proceedings of workshops held in 2001) at R100.00 each

*All items are obtainable from the  
SASTA Secretariat*

## LOGO COMPETITION

Closing date 31 December 2002

Discover your hidden graphic talents

Submit your ideas for a

**NEW SASTA LOGO**

To the SASTA Secretariat

The winner will receive a cash prize.



# ISSCT WORKSHOPS

Full details of the workshops listed below are available on the ISSCT website: <http://issct.intnet.mu>

Section	Venue / Organiser	Theme	Dates
<b>Agricultural Commission</b>			
<b>Agricultural Engineering</b>	American Sugar Cane League (ASCL) & American Society of Sugar Cane Technologists (ASSCT) Thibodaux, Louisiana, USA <u>Contact:</u> Windell Jackson, Committee Chairperson Charles J. Melancon, Coordinator (ASCL) <a href="mailto:contact@amscl.org">contact@amscl.org</a> Denver Loupe (ASSCT) <a href="mailto:assct@assct.org">assct@assct.org</a> Eddie Meyer <a href="mailto:xengem@sugar.org.za">xengem@sugar.org.za</a>	Burnt cane v/s green cane mechanization: Agricultural engineering challenges	12 – 17 October 2003
<b>Agronomy</b>	Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute (MSIRI), MAURITIUS <u>Contact:</u> René Ng Kee Kwong <a href="mailto:RNKKwong@msiri.intnet.mu">RNKKwong@msiri.intnet.mu</a>	Opportunities in sugarcane cultivation to confront the new realities in the 21st Century	21 – 25 July 2003
<b>Biology Commission</b>			
<b>Entomology</b>	Sugar Industry Research Institute of the Sugar Industry Authority of Jamaica JAMAICA <u>Contact:</u> Trevor Faloon <a href="mailto:sirijam@cwjamaica.com">sirijam@cwjamaica.com</a>	New advances in pest management	23 - 27 November 2003
<b>Pathology</b>	ASSCT in collaboration with Louisiana State University Agricultural Centre and USA Dept of Agriculture Sugarcane Research Unit, Louisiana, USA <u>Contact:</u> Jeff Hoy <a href="mailto:jhoy@agctr.lsu.edu">jhoy@agctr.lsu.edu</a>	Advances and challenges in sugarcane pathology	11 – 16 May 2003
<b>Breeding</b>	South African Sugar Association Experiment Station (SASEX) KwaZulu-Natal, SOUTH AFRICA <u>Contact:</u> Karl Nuss <a href="mailto:nussk@sugar.org.za">nussk@sugar.org.za</a>	Sugarcane breeding: Basic elements and practical applications	4 – 9 May 2003
<b>Molecular Biology</b>	Centre de Coopération Internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD) Montpellier, FRANCE <u>Contact:</u> Angélique D'Hont & Catherine Remondat <a href="mailto:molbiol2003@cirad.fr">molbiol2003@cirad.fr</a>	Genome analysis and molecular physiology	7 – 11 April 2003
<b>Factory Commission</b>			
<b>Engineering</b>	Berlin Sugar Institute, GERMANY in collaboration with MSIRI, Mauritius <u>Contact:</u> Lutz-Guenther Fleischer <a href="mailto:P.Seifert@LB.TU-Berlin.De">P.Seifert@LB.TU-Berlin.De</a>	Energy management in raw cane sugar factories	7 – 11 Oct 2002
<b>Processing</b>	The Sugar Technologists Association of India (STAI) Goa, INDIA <u>Contact:</u> Vinay Kumar <a href="mailto:staidel@vsnl.com">staidel@vsnl.com</a>	New technologies for manufacture of quality sugar	10 – 12 Nov 2003
<b>Co-products Commission</b>			
<b>Co-Products</b>	BRAZIL Copersucar Technology Center Piracicaba, São-Paulo, Brazil <u>Contact:</u> Dr. Manoel Regis L. V. Leal <a href="mailto:regis@copersucar.com.br">regis@copersucar.com.br</a>	Ethanol production and use	9 – 13 July 2003