

PRIZE WINNERS

2025 SASTA CONGRESS

AGRICULTURE AWARDS

Poster Prize

Position First Prize

Author/s **Robyn Jacob**, S Singh, and S Joshi

Poster title Identification and Validation of Molecular Markers for Resistance to *Eldana saccharina* Walker (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae)



Position Highly Commended

Author/s **Sinenhlanhla Radebe**, S McFarlane, R Stranack, I Thompson, R Maduray, J Torlage, J Edmonds

Poster title Creating A Multi-User Digital Data Collection System for Ratoon Stunt (RSD)



Student Award

Position First Prize

Author/s **Tumo Makhetha**, S Joshi, E Albertse and M Ghai

Poster title Analysing The Expression of Insecticidal Proteins in Genetically Modified Sugarcane



Kynoch Award

Position Tie First

Author/s **Phillemon Sithole** & D Clark

Poster title Characterising Past Climate Change in the South African Sugar Industry: Preliminary Findings for Temperature and Rainfall, 1980–2024



Position Tie First

Author/s **Ingrid Thompson**, R Stranack, S McFarlane, I Basdew, S Merile, T Velem

Poster title Introducing Digital Data Collection for Biosecurity Surveys at the South African Sugarcane Research Institute (SASRI)



Kynoch Award	Position	Highly Commended	
	Author/s	Natalie Hoffman , D Clark, M Kadwa, A Paraskevopoulos, R van Heerden, D Wilkinson and P Botha	
	Poster title	A Data-Driven Approach to Support the On-Farm Management of Sugarcane Varieties in The KwaZulu-Natal Midlands Region.	

FACTORY AWARDS

Poster Prize	Author/s	S Ngcobo, Anayshree Naicker , Y Naidoo, D Walthew, N Myeza	
	Paper title	The Analysis of Lime on Melt by Double Alkalinity Titration	

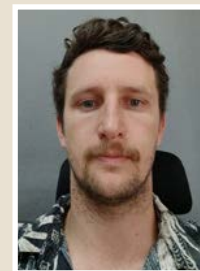
Operational Paper Award	Position	First Prize	
	Author/s	Mduduzi Dlamini , M Dlamini, R Kugara, T Kunene	
	Paper title	The Benefits of Installing Mud Belt Filters in Simunye Sugar Mill in the 2024/25 Crushing Season	
	Position	Highly Commended	
	Author/s	Charel Wilke , F Marais, B Rawlins	
	Paper title	Boiler Equipment: Typical Anomalies and Their Efficiency Consequences	

Cecil Renaud Prize	Author/s	Nishan Maharaj , J Reddy, Z Rambukus	
	Paper title	Killing-the-Joule: Enhancing Energy Efficiency Through Strategic and Practical Initiatives at Hulett Refinery	

Robin Renton Memorial Award

Author/s **Brad Rawlins**, F Marais, E De Villiers

Paper title CFD Study on Bagasse Spreader Airflow and Deflector Plate Configurations: Impacts on Fuel Distribution and Boiler Performance



Talbot-Crosbie Prize

Position **First**

Author/s **Brad Rawlins**, F Marais, E De Villiers

Paper title CFD Study on Bagasse Spreader Airflow and Deflector Plate Configurations: Impacts on Fuel Distribution and Boiler Performance



Position **Highly Commended**

Author/s **Darius Bezuidenhoudt**, M Stevens, W Yeo, M Gokool

Paper title Energy Savings Utilising Dimple Tube Technology



Position **Highly Commended**

Author/s **Sayed Rahiman**, Y Mbuthuma, D Love, S Davis

Paper title A Review of Sucrose Solubility in Impure Cane Sugar Solutions Used in Raw Sugar Factory Pan Stations



Papers marked with ★ have been nominated for the 2025–2027 Jubilee Award