

Training in sugarcane agriculture:

Developing the potential of the SADC region




In addition to the attendees from the South African sugar industry, the recent Senior Certificate Course in February 2011 hosted 23 students from Swaziland, Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN SUGARCANE RESEARCH INSTITUTE HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN TRAINING FOR THE PAST 48 YEARS. SINCE THE FIRST SENIOR CERTIFICATE COURSE IN 1963, OVER 3 000 PEOPLE HAVE ATTENDED THE FIVE-WEEK SENIOR COURSE WHILE CLOSE TO 2 200 (SINCE 1975) HAVE ATTENDED THE THREE-WEEK JUNIOR COURSE.

These certificate courses have been instrumental in developing the capacity of the South African sugar industry while also serving as an important training resource for the southern African region. Since 1998, 610 students from SADC countries have completed the Junior and Senior courses. The demand for training seemed to diminish between 2004 and 2007, but since then has increased steadily.

The courses are highly regarded in the industry at large and most companies operating in the southern African region require their section managers to attend the Senior course as part of their Agricultural Trainee Programme.

For more details on the course content and to obtain application forms, visit the SASA website at <http://www.sasa.org.za/EDUCATION94.aspx> or email: educane@sugar.org.za 

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