# Just a Spoonful

# **Congratulations** SASRI Staff excel at SASTA Congress

T THE RECENT SASTA CONGRESS HELD IN AUGUST 2011, RECOGNITION AND AWARDS WERE GIVEN TO SASRI RESEARCHERS AND EXTENSION SPECIALISTS FOR THEIR PAPERS AND POSTERS FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR'S CONGRESS. THE FOLLOWING AWARDS WERE PRESENTED:

Robin Renton Memorial Award



Ashiel Jumman seen receiving his award from Dr Peter Rein, a representative from PGBI.

Ashiel Jumman, Agricultural Engineer at SASRI was judged the overall winner of the Robin Renton Award. The prestigious award, donated by PGBI Engineers and Constructors International, is given annually to the best young engineer who shows leadership and management potential, and who has authored an exceptional SASTA technical paper. Ashiel has been working on how best to address the challenges of maintaining crop productivity by appropriate irrigation in the face of increasing electricity tariffs and potential water shortages, both of which impact on grower profitability. His paper was entitled "Deficit irrigation: A strategy to counteract escalating electricity tariffs and water shortages". The paper was co-authored by Neil Lecler.





## Kynoch Prize (First Prize)

Sanesh Ramburan (Varieties Agronomist), Dirk McElligott and Otto de Haas (Extension Specialists) were awarded the Kynoch Prize for



Above: Sanesh Ramburan seen receiving his prize from Dr Deborah Sweby, Congress Organising Chairperson from SASTA. Insets from top: Dirk McElligott and Otto de Haas.





their paper "Integrating agronomic and economic principles through applications of variety trial data: the Illovo case study". This case study evaluated the variety disposition of four millercum-planter estates belonging to Illovo Sugar Limited, and explored the economic implications of switching between existing and recommended varieties.

Kvnoch Prize

(Highly Commended)

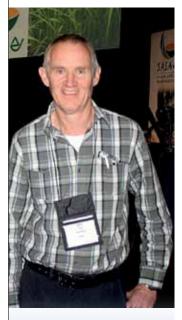
Highly commended in this category was Neil Miles (Senior Soil Scientist) for his paper "Challenges and opportunities in leaf nutrient data interpretation". This paper drew attention to the impacts of variety, crop age and moisture stress on leaf

nutrient concentrations, and

the potential for incorrect

interpretations where these

factors are not taken into



Neil Miles seen at the SASTA Congress.

### Poster Award (First Prize)

The award for the best poster in the agricultural section went to Ashiel Jumman and Neil Lecler for their poster "Electricity tariff increases: the impact on irrigators". The judges had this to say about his poster: "The poster represented a carefully planned and visually effective effort to deal with a very topical issue facing the irrigated regions".  $\Leftrightarrow$ 

account.

Mirash Royan Publications Officer South African Sugarcane Research Institute South African Sugar Association



# **CANE TRAILERS FOR SALE**

Two cane trailers for sale: R55000 excl per trailer (negotiable)

CONTACT: Claude- 0795994707





IRRInet - M

IRRInet - ACE

Radio Piccolo XR

Tel. 083 556 0103

+27 22 492 3469

launce@mottech.co.za



### IRRInet for a greener world

Motorola IRRInet Solutions

The Motorola IRRinet product range encompasses a fully integrated solution for all fertilizer control and dosing.

The IRRInet-M and ACE controllers offer good value for money with two levels of software available to enhance your fertilizer management facilities.

### The controllers offer various interface abilities and have the ability to offer the

- following control facilities and more:
- Pump start/stop and runback indication
  Filter flush control
- Water and Fertilizer meter readings
- Fertilizer pump start / stop
- (proportional / single quantity) • Fertilizer solenoid and safety
- valve control
- EC and PH logging
- Eskom power failure logging
  MODBUS connection over R\$485 / R\$232, for real time interface with standard PLCs