

SASRI shines at SASTA Congress 2021

The South African Sugar Technologists' Association (SASTA) promotes the exchange of scientific knowledge related to sugarcane agriculture and sugar milling practice.

The Association's Annual Congress is a premier event which receives significant recognition from both within South Africa and internationally. During the congress, high quality scientific papers and presentations showcase significant scientific and technological advancements in the industry.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the 93rd Congress took place as a virtual event from 17-19 August 2021.

Subsequent to the virtual congress, SASTA hosted their virtual annual general meeting (AGM) on 25 January 2022. This event highlighted prizewinners for outstanding papers at the conference, with SASRI winning many of the awards for their exceptional research on sugarcane agriculture.

Here are the SASRI awardees for the 93rd SASTA Congress.

 **Kalisha Naicker**
(SASRI Publications Officer)



Peter Tweddle

A joint first place Poster Award was awarded to Dr Peter Tweddle for his poster, "Replant Decision Support Tool: An Update".



Aimee Koch

A joint first place Poster Award was also awarded to Aimee Koch, Carla Kistan, Rayhaan Govender, Tania van Antwerpen and Sharon McFarlane for their poster, "Molecular Disease Diagnosis and Monitoring in the South African Sugarcane Industry".



Aresti Paraskevopoulos

A "Highly Commended" Poster Award was given to Aresti Paraskevopoulos, Stuart Rutherford and Sharon McFarlane for their poster on, "Development of a Model to Predict Smut Risk".



Marius Adendorff

The prestigious Jubilee Award was given to Marius Adendorff; the prize for which includes attendance of the ISSCT Congress in India in 2023. He also was awarded the Kynoch Award with Ashiel Jumman and Aresti Paraskevopoulos for their paper, "Improving the Adoption of Irrigation Scheduling: A Demonstration Trial Case Study in Pongola, South Africa".



Sharon McFarlane

A "Highly Commended" Kynoch Award was given to Sharon McFarlane as well as Ruqsar Ismael, Carla Kistan and Aimee Koch for their paper titled, "Efficacy of Mechanical Harvester Decontamination Procedures to Reduce the Risk of Ratoon Stunt (RSD) Spread".

Thank you for your valuable contributions to sugarcane research in South Africa!