

# Latest publications from SASRI!

The latest editions of *The Link* and *Ingede* magazines have just been released, featuring a wealth of cutting-edge research findings in the field of sugarcane agriculture, along with valuable seasonal farming tips and updates on the latest technologies in the sugar industry. *Ingede*, published in isiZulu, is specifically tailored to cater to the needs and interests of small-scale sugarcane growers.

## *In this issue of The Link...*

The latest edition of *The Link* kicks off with insights from SASRI Director, Terry Stanger, as he explores (amongst other issues) strategies for tackling pests and diseases prevalent in the industry.

Rowan Stranack, SASRI's Extension and Biorisk Manager, provides comprehensive and timely advice for sugarcane farming, especially in the light of the potential occurrence of an El Niño during the upcoming summer.

Dr Riekert van Heerden, Senior Scientist Sugarcane Physiology, discusses how crop-spraying drones can help the small-scale sector of the industry capitalise on the financial benefits of chemical ripening.

There is also an overview of recent weather events, and an outlook for the remainder of 2023. Other articles focus on the responsible handling of empty pesticide containers, addressing concerns about orange rust, and mitigating rat-induced damage in sugarcane.



## *In this issue of The Ingede...*

In the last edition of *Ingede* for the year, Thulani Masondo, SASRI'S Small Scale and Land Reform Extension manager, provides valuable insights into the tasks we should have completed and those that lie ahead in relation to sugarcane husbandry for the final quarter of the year. This issue also features an article

highlighting the diligent efforts undertaken by SASRI to ensure that small-scale sugarcane growers have access to new sugarcane varieties.

This issue also addresses the adverse impact of salinity and sodicity on soil health, and Dr Thandile Mdlambuzi offers guidance on understanding the formation of these soil issues, methods for their identification, and effective remedies. Readers can also anticipate informative content on important topics such as the proper disposal of agrochemical waste, the management of orange rust, and the increasing challenge of rodent infestations in the sugarcane fields of Eston.

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 Kalisha Naicker  
(SASRI Publications Officer)