



SOUTH AFRICAN SUGARCANE RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
170 Flanders Drive, Mount Edgecombe  
Private Bag X02, Mount Edgecombe, KwaZulu-Natal, 4300  
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## JUNIOR CERTIFICATE COURSE IN SUGARCANE AGRICULTURE MARCH 2023 COURSE DETAILS AND APPLICATION FORM 13 – 31 March 2023

This three week course in sugarcane agriculture is held at the Kwa-Shukela building of the South African Sugar Association (SASA) offices in Mount Edgecombe. The course is held once or twice each year, usually in April and October, numbers permitting.

### **Entry Requirements**

The general entry requirement is Std 10 (Grade 12), preferably from an agricultural school **with at least two years on-farm experience**.

A student who has a Std 8 (Grade 10) and relevant agricultural experience will be considered, depending on the outcome of an assessment and interview process.

**The course and assessments are conducted in English and therefore requires that applicants be able to read, write and understand English.**

### **Costs for 2023**

South African sugar industry applicants:	R 9 361 + Vat	=	<b>R 10 765.15</b>
South African non-industry applicants:	R 10 297 + Vat	=	<b>R 11 841.55</b>
Applicants from outside South Africa:	R 13 025	=	<b>R 13 025</b>

This cost includes stationery (pen, pencil, ruler, eraser and calculator), course notes, SASRI Information Sheets, manuals, teas and excursion costs. Applicants should bring their own notebooks or writing pads. **This cost includes TUITION only – no meals are included.**

### **Application Information**

Applications must be made on the official course application form (see page 4).

The closing date for applications is **31 December 2022**. NB: Since we experience very high application numbers, places on the course may be depleted before this closure date.

All applications and accompanying documents must be sent to:

*The Course Administrator, South African Sugarcane Research Institute, Private Bag X02, Mount Edgecombe, 4300, South Africa.*

*E-mail: [educane@sugar.org.za](mailto:educane@sugar.org.za)*

*Fax: +27 (0) 31 508 7597*

*Tel: +27 (0) 31 508 7400.*

Successful applicants will be notified of their acceptance in **January 2023**, and will be sent an acceptance letter and a pro-forma invoice.

Upon receipt of these documents, full payment of course fees must be made in advance of the course. Students who have not paid in advance will not be admitted to the course.

**No payments should be made until receipt of an acceptance letter and pro-forma invoice.**

The closing date for payment is **03 February 2023**.

### **Banking Details**

Payment to: South African Sugar Association (SASA)  
 Bank : STANDARD BANK, KINGSMEAD  
 Branch Code : 040026  
 Account Number: 050160079  
 Type of account: Current account

### **Accommodation Arrangements**

Students are responsible for making their own arrangements for accommodation, meals and transport. SASRI does not offer accommodation but many students stay at the **Shukela Training Centre (STC)**.  
**Tel: +27 (31) 508 7700. Email: shukela.training@sasa.org.za**

Foreign students must arrange their own transport from their point of arrival in South Africa to their place of accommodation. Neither SASRI nor the STC provides a shuttle service. SASRI does, however, provide a daily shuttle service between STC residences and the course venue.

There are canteen facilities at the course venue where light lunches, snacks and cold drinks are available.

### **Course Structure and Content**

The duration of the course is three weeks and comprises both lectures and practicals. Each day commences at 08:00 and finishes at approximately 15:30. There are 10 minute intervals between lectures and a mid-morning tea break of 20 minutes. Tea and coffee is provided. The lunch break is from 13:00-13:40.

#### **Modules and subjects covered during the course:**

- **Botany**                      Structure & growth of the sugarcane plant
- **Varieties**                      Agronomics  
Breeding  
Identification  
Choice
- **Husbandry**                      Land preparation  
Planting  
Ratoon management  
Drainage
- **Pests and Diseases**              Diseases - causes and control  
Insect pests  
Pests: principles of control  
Nematodes
- **Weed Control**                      Classification  
Effects of weeds  
Weed control
- **Soils and Nutrition**              Property of soils

- Soil water management
  - Fertiliser, lime, gypsum and organic products
  - Organic matter
  - Plant nutrition and soil chemistry
  - Soil & leaf sampling
- **Harvesting**
  - Cane quality
  - Cane estimates
  - Harvesting management
- **Irrigation**
  - Irrigation principles
  - Management
  - Irrigation systems
- **Mechanisation**
  - Mechanisation costs
  - Mechanical operations
  - Maintenance
  - Record keeping
- **Farm Planning**
  - Introduction to farm planning
  - Use of levels
- **Environmental Management**
  - Environmental change
  - Natural resources and sugarcane farming
  - Environmental impacts, control and management
  - Environmental law
  - SUSFARMS®
- **Farm Management**
  - Introduction to farm management
  - Record keeping
  - Balance sheet and income statement
  - Worker involvement and management

In addition to the lectures listed above, there are several 'special interest' lectures on topics of relevance to agriculture in general. Attendance at all lectures is compulsory.

### **Course Assessment**

Tests are written after completion of each subject. The duration of tests are approximately one to two hours. Certificates are awarded in three classes namely:

- |            |               |
|------------|---------------|
| 1. Honours | 80% and above |
| 2. Merit   | 65 – 79 %     |
| 3. Pass    | 45 – 64%      |

Students who fail more than three subjects or achieve an aggregate below 45% will fail the course.



JUNIOR CERTIFICATE COURSE IN SUGARCANE AGRICULTURE
APPLICATION FORM

13 – 31 March 2023

STUDENT'S DETAILS

(please print)

FIRST NAMES .....

SURNAME ..... MR/MRS/MISS .....

PHYSICAL ADDRESS.....

POSTAL ADDRESS .....

..... POSTAL CODE .....

I.D. NO ..... TELEPHONE (Code) ..... (No.) .....

CELL NO ..... FAX (Code) ..... (No.) .....

E MAIL .....

NAME OF EMPLOYER (if applicable) .....

CURRENT POSITION and brief description of your job: .....

QUALIFICATIONS (Please attach copies of certificates)

Please indicate qualification, year obtained and the institution.

NUMBER OF YEARS FARMING EXPERIENCE.....

DATE: .....SIGNED: .....GROWER CODE.....

CONTACT DETAILS OF FUNDER

Please provide the contact details of the company responsible for funding the student's admission to the course. SASRI will treat the information below as the primary contact details for all communication related to the course. If you are privately funded, you may leave this section blank.

CONTACT PERSON.....

COMPANY NAME.....

POSTAL ADDRESS.....

..... POSTAL CODE.....

TELEPHONE.....CELL.....

E-MAIL ..... FAX (Code).....(No.).....

VAT NUMBER (South African applicants only): .....

DATE: .....SIGNED: .....GROWER CODE.....

Applications and accompanying documents must be sent to:

The Course Administrator, SASRI, Private Bag X02, Mount Edgecombe, 4300, South Africa.
E-mail: educane@sugar.org.za Fax: +27 (0) 31 508 7597 Tel: +27 (0) 31 508 7405.