

## PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME



# 27<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TREE PROTECTION CO-OPERATIVE PROGRAMME (TPCP) AND THE DST/NRF CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN TREE HEALTH BIOTECHNOLOGY (CTHB)



MONDAY 16<sup>th</sup> to WEDNESDAY 18<sup>th</sup> MAY 2016

FABI FACILITIES AND SANLAM AUDITORIUM – UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA

### MONDAY 16<sup>th</sup> MAY 2016

- CTHB Symposium, CTHB Core Team Members and students - separate programme.
- Tour of FABI Facilities for overseas and other TPCP guests.
- Board meeting of the Centre of Excellence in Tree Health Biotechnology.
- Braai (barbecue) meal for CTHB Board and visitors at the UP Experimental Farm.

### TUESDAY 17<sup>th</sup> MAY 2016

#### 08:00-08:30 Coffee and Tea

08:30-08:45 Welcome. **Prof. Mike Wingfield.**

08:45-09:15 A Forestry South Africa (FSA) perspective on forestry in South Africa. **Michael Peter, Executive Director, Forestry South Africa.**

09:15-10:00 The 26<sup>th</sup> TPCP year in review. **Prof. Mike Wingfield and the TPCP/CTHB research team.**

10:00-10:30 Looking back on 40 years of working with forest pathogens. **Prof. Everett Hansen, Oregon State University, USA.**

#### 10:30-11:00 TEA

11:00-11:30 Update on *Sirex* research in South Africa. **Prof. Bernard Slippers.**

11:30-11:45 Progress in understanding the infection biology of the Acacia rust pathogen *Uromycladium acaciae*. **Dr. Stuart Fraser.**

11:45-12:15 Global patterns of spread of *Eucalyptus* pests and their management. **Dr. Brett Hurley.**

12:15-12:30 Combating white grub problems using entomopathogenic nematodes. **Birhan Abate.**

#### 12:30-13:00 Group photo

#### 13:00-14:00 Lunch for speakers and visitors, SANLAM entertainment area

14:00-14:30 Chemical ecology opportunities to manage forest insect invasions. **Dr. Jeremy Allison, Natural Resources Canada, Ontario, Canada.**

14:30-14:45 Global connectivity and the ecology and evolution of forest threats. **Dr. Jeff Garnas.**

- 14:45-15:00 Tree health diagnostics and extension during 2015. **Izette Greyling, Darryl Heron and Prof. Jolanda Roux.**
- 15:00-15:15 Background to designing an arthropod host-specificity test to satisfy biological control requirements. **Samantha Bush.**
- 15:15-15:30 The maternal environment matters: Effects on pest and pathogen resistance. **Dr. Maria Vivas.**
- 15:30-16:00 TEA**
- 16:00-16:15 Update on pitch canker fungus research in South Africa. **Prof. Emma Steenkamp.**
- 16:15-16:45 Development of genetic material and management of its deployment: A Mondi strategy to reduce risks due to pests and pathogens. **Gert van den Berg (Mondi).**
- 16:45-17h00 Studies on the pine shoot weevil, *Pissodes nemorensis* in South Africa. **Mesfin Gossa.**
- 17:00-17:30 *Eucalyptus* plantation forestry in the tropics: lessons learned. **David Boden, Boden and Associates, Brisbane, Australia.**

**18:00** Annual TPCP DINNER and “Hands Free Beer Slug” at **TUSCAN BARBECUE**

### WEDNESDAY 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2016

**08:00-08:30 Tea and Coffee**

- 08:30-08:40 Review and commentary: **Prof. Mike Wingfield.**
- 08:40-09:10 Global plant disease databases for research, risk assessment and supporting internationally co-ordinated biosecurity: A *Phytophthora* case study. **Dr. Peter Scott, Scion Research, Auckland, New Zealand.**
- 09:10-09:30 Progress towards improved management of the Eucalyptus snout beetle, *Gonipterus* sp.2. **Dr. Michelle Schroder.**
- 09:30-09:45 Chemical ecology and tree/ pathogen interactions. **Dr. Almuth Hammerbacher.**
- 09:45-10:00 Molecular insights into host/pathogen interactions between *P. psidii* (myrtle rust) and *Eucalyptus grandis*. **Dr. Louise Shuey.**
- 10:00-10:15 Understanding the global movement and diversity of *Leptocybe* species on *Eucalyptus*. **Dr. Gudrun Dittrich-Schröder.**
- 10:15-10:30 *Puccinia psidii* (myrtle rust): a South African and global perspective. **Prof. Jolanda Roux.**

**10:30-11:00 TEA**

- 11:00-11:15 Bacterial wilt on Eucalyptus. **Gabrielle Carstensen.**
- 11:15-11:45 Developing a ‘Citizen Science’ project on tree health in South Africa. **Joey Hulbert.**

**11:45-12:15 GENERAL DISCUSSION AND CLOSURE**

**12:45 Finger lunch and meeting of the Board of the TPCP.**

**12:45 Satellite meetings and research discussions.**

### THURSDAY 19<sup>st</sup> May, 2016

Satellite TPCP and CTHB related meetings and field tour group departs.