

# Diagnostic Clinic 2006

The TPCP/CTHB diagnostic clinic is a service provided to the industry to assist in the identification and management of disease and pest problems of trees. This service is available to all member companies of the TPCP. Foresters and farmers are encouraged to contact the TPCP/CTHB to discuss possible disease and pest problems. Information gathered through the diagnostic clinic forms an important component of the early detection of new pest and disease problems, tracking of changes in pest and disease scenarios and provide information for the database kept by the TPCP/CTHB.



From February 2006 the clinic has been under new management, with Izette Greyling taking primary responsibility for the day to day running of the clinic and the sending of reports. She is assisted and guided by Prof. Jolanda Roux and Brett Hurley, both of whom are also responsible for managing the field services of the TPCP/CTHB. This is crucially important as the diagnostic clinic and field services are closely connected. For example, where samples cannot be couriered, or something new or different is reported by the clinic, Brett or Jolanda will arrange a field visit to follow up on the problem. Izette was assisted in her task by Kgosi Mongwaketsi (*Fusarium* molecular diagnostics), Bianca Hinze and Happy Maleme. With the appointment of a person to the clinic on a full-time basis, we believe that our services have improved greatly in 2006. Any feedback or suggestions by industry are, however, welcome.

The diagnostic clinic had a very busy nine months up to end of September 2006. A total of 1125 samples were processed during the period January to September 2006. Pine samples, including both nursery samples for *Fusarium* screening and disease analysis samples, comprised approximately 67.8% of the total number of samples received. Only 8 samples were received from Black wattle. 8.6% of samples received were from *Eucalyptus* and 22.8% of samples were classified as other. Samples classified as "other" include water, soil, seed, insect and Petri dish samples. Samples received from native or non-forestry tree species were also classified as other.

## CONTACTING THE TPCP/CTHB FOR DIAGNOSTICS

- Izette Greyling ([izette.greyling@fabi.up.ac.za](mailto:izette.greyling@fabi.up.ac.za)); 012 420 3938/9/3933 as clinic manager should be your first stop in sending samples to FABI. She will provide you with a reference number for your sample and keep you updated with progress. She will also send out a letter with the results of the analyses.
- Jolanda Roux ([jolanda.roux@fabi.up.ac.za](mailto:jolanda.roux@fabi.up.ac.za)); 082 9093202 guides Izette in the clinic and manages field extension for the TPCP. If Izette is thus not available, you can talk to Jolanda. Jolanda will also most likely be the one to do field visits in cases where it is not possible to send samples.
- Entomological samples are logged by Izette who then liaises with Brett Hurley and Bernard Slippers for identification and report writing. Brett Hurley ([brett.hurley@fabi.up.ac.za](mailto:brett.hurley@fabi.up.ac.za)); 082 9093211
- We will respond to the receipt of samples (preferably by e-mail), but please always check that samples have been received. These are sometimes lost during dispatch. If you are unsure of the problem being encountered or need advice on collection of samples, please phone Izette, Jolanda or Brett and discuss the problem before collecting and sending the samples.



Total number of samples received January - September 2006



Samples received from different hosts

