

JOIN OUR LIVE CONFERENCE WEBINAR.... 29th - 30th July 2020

first in the **AGRICULTURAL SECTOR**,

Empire Conferencing presents...

Smart Farming 4.0

for Sustainable Agriculture & Food Security


“ What Impact does COVID 19 have on food security in Africa?”

In an everchanging landscape agriculture is constantly challenged to acquire new skills and transform the service delivery systems in order to remain relevant and keep up with technological trends. After mechanisation, the introduction of mineral fertiliser and the industrialisation of production processes, connectivity and data management are now set to unleash the next revolution in the history of farming: Smart Farming / Precision agriculture. It has now reached a point where it is not only possible to collect vast quantities of data but also to control different pieces of equipment or monitor individual animals, via the Internet of Things. A growing number of farmers are starting to adopt digital technology and data-driven innovations


Presenters



Ms Manketsi Tihape,
Member of Parliament,
Agriculture, Land Reform,
Rural Development



Stephanie van der Walt,
GM,
Agribiz



Nitza Kardish,
CEO,
Trendlines Agtech



Dr Dirk Troskie,
Department of Agriculture,
Western Cape Government



Fanie Brink,
MD, Agricultural Economist
at AgriMentor



Jolanda Andrag,
Head of Commodity' Chamber
at Agri SA



Sanele Makabine,
CEO,
Apex Commercial Solutions



James Patterson,
CEO,
Aerobotics



Darryl de Lange,
Agri Consultant,
Mechanised Farming



Dr Tingmin Yu,
Mechanisation and
Precision Agriculture, ARC



Dr. Francois Crots,
Technical Director,
Afgri Animal Feeds



Arie van Ravenswaay,
Assistant Director, Innovation,
Technology Design and
Transfer




Theminkosi Semwayo, CEO,
Ontolligent



Jehiel Oliver
CEO,
Hello Tractor




Benedict Modise,
Transformation Manager,
NGK



Mr. Pieter Pienaar,
CEO, Executive Board
Member, IoT Industry



Wynand Malan,
Business Developer,
Mezzanine



Dr Jacques Ludik,
Founder/ Executive chairman,
Cortex Group



Hendrik Malan Africa
CEO,
Partner Frost and Sullivan



Andre Groenewald,
CEO,
Farmboek



Coenraad Fraenkel'
CEO,
Agrimotion



Tim Wise,
CEO,
PACSYS

KEY HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- The Digital disruption by Ms Manketsi Tihape, Former MEC. Member of Parliament
- Agricultural service delivery session- Western Cape Government
- CEO TALK- Hello Tractor - Technology developing farmers
- Addressing the latest in technology- Africa CEO Frost and Sullivan
- Powering Smart Farming for the Future of Agriculture through Agriculture and Smart IOT- The connected Farmer
- Israel Agtech session

What impact will COVID19 have on food security in Africa?

Exclusive session Q & A Session on COVID-19 pandemic - impact on food and agriculture -The threat to food security

Case studies: Agri SA, ARC, My Farmweb, NGK, Vertical Farming, Machine Learning Institute SA

Interactive Panel discussions and Q and A

- Trends to watch out for in the Agritech industry in 2020 and beyond
- Discover the latest Precision technology for Farming 4.0

Dive in!!! Demonstrations by Aerobotics ...PACSYS and ArcAqua Whether you've flown a drone across your farm or you're just trying to figure out why you'd want to do such a thing, you'll be able to take something from each of the demos below. Different people look to accomplish different things with drones, and the videos here showcase many capabilities which can be utilized by various types of precision agriculture professionals.

Agricultural development is critically important to improving food security and nutrition. ... It drives major economic, social and environmental changes in food systems worldwide, and provides an entry point for understanding the issues around sustainable agricultural development as a whole.

This is an online platform and opportunity that also enables us to bring together different development players to support collaboration, knowledge sharing and innovation. Together, this helps to improve the impact of a diversity of economic development activities. By incorporating technology, data, the Internet of Things into production processes, new agricultural business models will become more efficient and the quality of yields will increase. Agriculture is the backbone of developing economies and in its quest to meet the ever growing demand for food, As one of these emerging economies, South Africa will have to increase food production by 2050 but in the complicated context of climate change, depleting natural resources and land limitations that can be a difficult task.

Technology and agriculture may not seem like they have a lot in common, but agriculture has, in fact, been the first application of technology in human civilization. This follow up to last year's thematic Conference, Empire Conference and Training brings you comprehensive live online presentations on the latest research that will enable you to efficiently access what's really going on in Agriculture as we poised for the future.

A Challenge! The coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic is a global emergency affecting all countries, profoundly disrupting fundamental activities we all depend on, agriculture and food systems – and endangering all those who depend on it as their livelihood. Food insecurity and poverty are most severe among rural marginalized groups, including women and youth

The spread of illness can devastate poor rural communities and small-scale food producers who already face challenges such as weak resilience, poor nutrition and limited access to resources and services. Around 63 per cent of the world's poorest people work in agriculture, the overwhelming majority on small farms. Most of the poorest, hungriest and most marginalized people live in rural areas, and that is where the developing community now needs to focus its mid- to long-term efforts. Join our live discussion including Q and A on what impact the coronavirus COVID-19 has on food security and Agriculture?

We focus on various areas that cover advances in smart/ precision agriculture, data management and its application in modelling and decision support systems. It covers areas such as sensor technology, robotics and automation as well as data management.

Smart farming and precision agriculture play a crucial part in sustainable agriculture, using big data and new technologies such as IoT, drone imagery and Smartphone apps to harvest as much matter and products as possible, while consuming less energy and inputs (fertilizers, phytosanitary products, water).

Kind regards

Empire Conferencing and Training CC -SMARTECH 2020

Who should attend?

Farmers
Growers
Technology suppliers (corporate, start-up)
System integrators
Governmental bodies (Local, Regional, National)
Project developers
Finance
Consulting
Logistics suppliers
Corporate Heads of Agriculture
Commercial farmers and growers
Nutritional Health specialists
Governmental bodies (Local, Regional, and National)
Technology suppliers (corporate, start-up)
Precision farming solution providers
Agricultural industry Technologists
Business Development Managers
Product Development Managers
Agricultural Extension Officers
Autonomous features experts
Harvesting solution providers
Robotic Biotech Developers
Start-up representatives
Agricultural Economists
Heads of Investments
Product developers
Heads of Innovation
Research Officers
Logistics suppliers
R&D specialists
CIO - Digital and Big Data
Agricultural Compliance
Water Management
Industry Analysts
Fertilizer/ Seed Companies
Agriculture Scientist
Digital Farming
Agriculture Policy Advisor

Agenda

Day 1 - 29th July 2020

08:30-08:45 Conference Organisers remarks

08:45 -09:15 Welcome address: Digital Disruption and opportunities for future farming and sustainable food security

We welcome Mrs. Manketsi Tihape, SA Parliament, former MEC. Member of Parliament (MP) and Portfolio Committee of Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development.

09:00-09:45 Perfecting the roadmap towards developing South Africa's Agricultural 4.0 Strategy



Ms Manketsi Tihape is an experienced specialist with a demonstrated

history of working in the government administration industry. She is skilled in Financial Management, Corporate Governance, Stakeholder Management, Community Development, and Strategic Leadership. She is also a strong business development professional graduated from Unisa with Masters Public Health and currently doing MBA with Regenesys.

09:15 -09:45 Key note address: Agricultural Overview : Improved Agricultural service delivery for Development



Dr Dirk Troskie, Director, Business Planning and Strategy, Department of Agriculture, Western Cape Government

Dirk Troskie is currently Director of Business Planning and Strategy in the

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Department of Agriculture of the Western Cape Province of South Africa and is responsible for providing expert counsel on agricultural-economics matters for high-level decision making.

09:45-10:00 Break

10:00-11:00 PANEL DISCUSSION: DIGITAL AGRICULTURAL PLATFORMS: RESHAPING THE FUTURE OF FARMING

Topics:

- The Future of Farming 4.0: The digitalisation of agriculture
- Different technologies deployed in Agriculture
- The power of e-agriculture to attract youth to the farming industry

Panelist includes:



Fanie Brink, MD, Agricultural Economist at AgriMentor (Pty) Limited-

Fanie is an agricultural economist with a master's degree in agricultural economics and with more than 40 years' experience in the agricultural industry in South Africa



Jolanda Andrag Head of Commodity Chamber at Agri SA -As Head of the commodity chamber my responsibilities include the strategic formulation and management of the chamber that consists of 26 commodity organisations covering several agronomy, livestock and horticulture sub-sectors. The function of the Commodity Chamber is to collectively address shared challenges.



Sanele Makabine CEO, Apex Commercial Solutions, which through an initiative called Mzansi Digital uses information communications technology systems to help those in previously disadvantaged communities in the North West. He intends spreading the technology through municipalities, the district and eventually through the province and the country.



Arie van Ravenswaay, Assistant Director: Innovation, Technology Design and Transfer

Digital technology opens vast untapped potential for farmers, investors, and entrepreneurs to improve efficiency of food production and consumption in Africa. From precision farming to an efficient food supply chain, technology could bring major economic, social, and environmental benefits.



Thembinkosi Semwayo, CEO, Ontelligent-Thembinkosi holds a Bachelors degree in Economics & Geography, and a Master of Science degree in Geographic Information Systems. He is a PhD candidate carrying out research in knowledge and innovation engineering. This background accords him the necessary skills to participate comfortably in a wide range of interdisciplinary projects. He has used these skills to add value to various inter-disciplinary innovation programmes

Panel opened for Questions and Answers

11:00-11:30 Sharing-economy business model combining with technology to solve farmers' problems.

- Hello tractor introduces us to their technological advancements unfolding to meet the needs of small farmer



Jehiel Oliver CEO Hello Tractor is responsible for the overall management and strategy of Hello Tractor, an agricultural technology company that connects tractor owners and farmers through a farm equipment sharing application. He has been honored with numerous awards for his work in social entrepreneurship including being recognized by Foreign Policy Magazine as a Top 100 Global Thinker for 2016. He was appointed under the Obama Administration as a member of the President's Advisory Council on Doing Business in Africa, where he chaired the technology subcommittee.

11:30-12:00 Demystifying Farmers perceptions of precision agriculture and the role of agricultural extension: a case study of crop farming for food Security



Benedict Modise, Transformation Manager, NGK

Benedict Modise has more than 20 years of management experience in various industries which include both private and government institutions. He previously worked as farm manager at Glen Agricultural College, Free State Department of Agriculture. He joined NWK in 2009 as agriculturist and in 2012 was appointed as manager, developing agriculture. Benedict Modise is multilingual and comfortable conducting business at all levels in at least six of South Africa's national languages.

THE AGRI INTERNET OF THINGS – CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Will Artificial Intelligence and machine learning accelerate the Adoption of Smart Farming in agricultural Practice?

12:00-13:00 Key note address: Agriculture and the internet of things-driving agricultural development

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Mr. Pieter Pienaar, CEO, Executive Board Member, IoT Industry Council

Pieter has been involved in a number of industries managing projects and business processes. This diverse experience has culminated in him becoming a passionate entrepreneur with the ability to effectively work with all levels of people as well as many sectors and industries. Pieter is a natural born problem solver and his ability to see the bigger picture in relation to the challenges and the task at hand gives him an advantage in business.

13:00-14:00 Israel Agtech innovation session



Nitza Kardish CEO, TRENDLINES AGTECH, ISRAEL CEO, Trendlines Agrifood Fund; Vice Chair, Trendlines Agrifood Innovation Centre.

Nitza Kardish is widely regarded as a trailblazer in Israel's agtech investment community. As CEO of Trendlines Agtech, an incubator focused solely on innovation based agricultural and food technology companies, Nitza leads a team that identifies, supports and nurtures new technological ventures from idea to market. Previously Nitza served as VP, Business Development at TechnionSeed, CEO of Clal Life Sciences, CEO of UroGyn, and VP, Business Development at the Raphael Development Cooperation

End of conference day one

Day 2 - 30th July 2020

08:30-09:00 MY Farmweb- Future of cloud-based farming data



Wynand Malan – Business Developer, Agriculture and product owner of Connected Farmer at Mezzanine

Mezzanine uses the power of mobile technology to enable businesses and organisations working in Africa to mitigate risks, address challenges and unlock opportunities. Mezzanine is market leader in the development of mobile business solutions for Africa. Strategically we can deliver access to a range of mobile business services to a high percentage of Africa's population.

09:00-09:30 Smart technology entrepreneurship, investor & machine learning in Agriculture

- Understanding the ways next-gen technology is expected to drive key sectors of the economy
- Exploring how start-ups are working on models driven by next-gen smart technological aspects in Agriculture
- Analysing the potential that Predictive Learning, machine Learning and the efficiencies offered in agricultural development



Dr Jacques, Ludik Cortex Group, Founder/ Executive chairman

Jacques Ludik is a smart technology entrepreneur, investor & ecosystem builder and currently Founder & President of Machine Intelligence Institute of Africa (MIIA), Founder & CEO of Cortex Logic, Founder & CTO of Bennit AI, Founder of SynerG, The Talent Index, & aiTRADE Systems, and investor in The Student Hub (ERAOnline). He holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science (AI) with many publications and has 25+ years' experience in Machine / Artificial Intelligence (AI) & Data Science and its applications.

09:30- 10:00 Legal Services and legislative, compliance and legal implications of agricultural development

- Work involved in the agricultural sector and compiling the laws relating to agricultural management
- Current and recent Framework concerning agricultural trade or policy
- Compliance issues involved in the agricultural sector relating to agricultural management, and Development
- Privatisation of, food Agricultural management, seed certification, and agricultural product marketing or trade



Stephanie van der Walt, General Manager of the Fruit Industry Desk, Agricultural Business Chamber Agbiz

Stephanie has extensive experience in offering policy advice and industry advocacy pertaining to agricultural export promotion, value chain efficiency, equitable market access and sustainability of the agricultural sector, both domestically and abroad. She is currently Manager of the Fruit Industry Desk serves the interests of South Africa's fruit exporting sector through strategic engagement with government departments and cooperation with key role-players in the agribusiness as well as wider private sector.

10:00-10:30 COVID-19 and the impact on agriculture and food security? – From farm to fork - Panelists to be announced

Discussion points and Q AND A: COVID-19 is a global pandemic that is already having tangible effects on the agriculture sector.

- In addition to its potential health effects, COVID-19 threatens to profoundly affect the livelihoods of poor rural farmers who depend on agriculture.
 - Given that we focus on the poorest of the poor, we fear that the impact of COVID-19 on our beneficiary groups is likely to be especially pronounced. Economic growth in agriculture is two to three times more effective at reducing poverty and food insecurity than growth in other sectors. Investments in small-scale agriculture can help revive food production and create jobs following a crisis and enable rural communities to recover.
 - Investments in rural agricultural programmes can help people become more self-reliant, mitigate the impact of severe events, increase rural prosperity, ensure more sustainable food systems and food security, and create greater resilience in fragile states.
- Panelists to be announced

10:30-10:45 Break time

10:45-11:45 PANEL DISCUSSION: TRENDS TO WATCH OUT FOR IN THE AGRITECH INDUSTRY IN 2020 AND BEYOND



Hendrik Malan Africa CEO Partner Frost and Sullivan

Hendrik has honed his abilities to identify, qualify, strategize and operationalise expansion opportunities over 25 years of practical experience in Africa. By supporting dozens of companies on the continent and beyond reaching their corporate growth objectives



Andre Groenewald, CEO, Farmboek-Commercial Farmer with a passion for tech and Africa. I believe that with technology Africa has the capacity to become self-sustainable and reach it's full potential before 2050.



Coenraad Fraenkel Agrimotion-Coenraad is currently leading the team at Agrimotion Consulting. The organisation specialises in providing scientific, independent and precise advice in the fields of Soil science, Horticulture, Irrigation scheduling, Variable rate nutrient applications and remote sensing for various perennial crops. The organisation has experience working in countries such as; Ethiopia, Zambia, Malawi, Kenya, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Georgia, Chile, Argentina, Turkey and Australia.

10:45-12:00 DIVE IN!!! Demo sessions:



PACSYs by CEO TIM Wise

PACSYs (PTY) Ltd is a farmer -owned organisation established in 2016 to research, develop and distribute precision and distribute precision agricultural technologies (hardware and software) tailored to increase farming efficiencies and ultimately profits at all levels



Arc Aqua by Chief Technical Officer Crispin Russell

With a global vision to eliminate all food waste by utilising ozone technology, ArcAqua is at the cutting edge of food security, and is the newest Endeavor company lead by Paul O'Linn and Crispin Russell



Aerobotics by CEO James Patterson

Farmers around the world are using webs software to manage their orchard and detect early problems. Aerobotics helps to provide this tech to farmers

through drones and flight planner apps. CEO James Patterson joined us to tell us more.

- Drones and the Future of Farming –A great combo of showing and telling, this demo shows a drone flying over farms while various professionals talk about what using UAVs means to them and for the precision agriculture industry. It's great to hear and see how drones can be specific in terms of spotting and taking care of problem areas on a farm in ways a plane or hand inspection cannot.

12:00-12:45 PANEL DISCUSSION: PRECISION FARMING

- How long; how technical discussing precision agriculture in terms of land preparation, harvesting, irrigation and mapping
- Intelligent machinery for precision poultry agriculture
- Precision Agriculture and Technology"
- Application of Precision Agriculture Technologies in the Greenhouse Environment

Panelists includes:



Darryl de Lange, Agri Consultant, Mechanised Farming

As a natural relationship builder, Daryl is equipped with the vision and purpose to drive organizational change and is able to adapt positively to any challenges that arise both personally and professionally.

He is an excellent networker with well-developed interpersonal skills.



Dr. Francois Crots, Technical Director, Afgri Animal Feeds

Dr François Crots is the Technical and Sales Director for AFGRI Animal Feeds. He graduated with a PhD for his research to establish the optimum energy to total Lysine rations for broiler chickens from a day old to 35 days old. Crots's work produced highly valuable regressions that can be applied commercially.



Dr Tingmin Yu, Mechanisation and Precision Agriculture, ARC

Dr Tingmin Yu is currently a Senior Researcher working for Agricultural Research Council – Agricultural Engineering (ARC-AE) of South Africa. He holds his BSc (Eng.) and MSc (Eng.) degrees from China Agricultural University in Beijing and his PhD (Agric. Eng.) from University of Pretoria, South Africa. Having been working in universities, research institutions and industrial sectors, his research interests and professional experiences cover wide range in agricultural mechanization, precision farming, particularly traction modelling, soil dynamics, conservation tillage and energy efficiencies.

12:45 -13:00 Interaction and Questions

13:00-13:05 Summary and close of Conference Webinar

END OF CONFERENCE WEBINAR

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29th - 30th July 2020
Virtual Conference

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NOTE: Please provide information as you wish it to appear on your name badge and on the official participant database

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Yes. [I / We] will attend the event

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- If a registered delegate does not cancel and fails to attend the summit, this will be treated as cancellation and no refund or credit will be issued.

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Registration fees above INCLUDES the following elements: Entrance to session, registration pack, d lunch and refreshment breaks.

Registration fees above EXCLUDES the following entitlements: Travel costs and accomodation

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