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ARC-VOP SHORT COURSES PLAN 2017

Course name	Course content	Training dates (5 days)
Nursery/seedling management	The course emphasizes the importance of the best quality planting material as an initial investment. Vegetable and fruit trees nurseries have great demand for the production of plants, bulbs, rhizomes, suckers & grafts. But in general good quality & assured planting material at reasonable price is not available. So persons having a skill of propagation of plants can go for this avenue as an agro-business of future.	<p style="text-align: center;">08 – 12 May 2017 31 July - 04 August 2017 16 – 20 October 2017 06-10 November 2017</p>
Open field vegetable production (2 Weeks)	The course aims to train the learner on the basic information needed to plan, prepare, establish and care for a vegetable garden. This course is intended for individuals and cooperatives wanting to begin vegetable production on any scale, or to improve practices in an existing operation.	<p style="text-align: center;">22 May -02 June 2017 17 - 28 July 2017 14 -25 August 2017 16 - 27 October 2017 27 November-08 December2017</p>
Vegetable pests and disease management & record keeping	The course will provide all the tips and knowledge you need to deal with common pests and diseases encountered in your vegetable garden. This hands-on course will focus on the pests and diseases of various vegetables in your region/district. The course cover topics such as the common pests and diseases in your area for vegetable crops; recognizing the causes of common vegetable garden plant problems, their signs and symptoms. The appropriate methods to dealing with pests and diseases using an integrated pest management approach.	<p style="text-align: center;">03 - 07 July 2017 18 - 22 September 2017</p>
Hydroponics & marketing	This practical, hands-on training course is the next step for those who want to start making a living from Hydroponics. It takes you into production systems and commercial growing, which is perfect for the person who wants to start earning income from this method of horticulture. Topics include raising plants in tunnels, fertigation, disease and pest control, house environmental control and marketing of vegetables.	<p style="text-align: center;">6 – 10 March 2017 08 – 12 May 2017 14 – 18 August 2017 06 -10 November 2017</p>

Soil fertilization and irrigation	This course will focus more on the practical aspects of water management (irrigation) and soil fertility in an era of escalating fertilizer and water costs and increasing government regulation of nutrient inputs for environmental water quality protection. The course will cover aspects such as getting the maximum value from soil testing, comparing various fertilizer sources, developing crop nutrient management plans, fertilizer management and environmental protection, various irrigation systems and water harvesting and saving techniques.	<p align="center">17 – 21 April 2017 24 - 28 July 2017</p>
Harvesting and marketing of vegetables	The course will touch on various forms of marketing (contracts and prices determination) for vegetables, harvesting moisture content, various harvesting methods (hand and machinery), transport and grading of vegetables.	<p align="center">30 January – 03 February 2017 06 – 10 February 2017 15 – 19 May 2017 11 - 15 September 2017 09 – 13 October 2017</p>
Agro-processing (vegetables)	The course aims at developing knowledge and skills for processing vegetables. It offers the participants with the practical learning experience, the course covers the following learning areas: various forms of vegetable value adding, hygienic considerations when handling food, vegetable classifications, nutritive value of vegetables, identifying ingredients and equipment to be used and labeling	<p align="center">30 January – 03 February 2017 06 – 10 February 2017 15 – 19 May 2017 11 - 15 September 2017 09 – 13 October 2017</p>

Note:

Other agricultural short courses can be presented on request and tailor-made to meet the farmers' or stakeholder's demand.

CAMPUS CONTACT NUMBERS:

ARC-Grain Crops, Potchefstroom	Maize and Dry Beans	018 299 6100
ARC-Plant Protection, Roodeplaat	Bee Keeping	012 808 8000
ARC-Vegetables and Ornamental Plants Roodeplaat	Vegetables, Hydroponics	018 808 8000
ARC-Infruitec/Nietvoorbij	Preserving of Fruit	021 809 3100
ARC-AP, Range and Forage Unit, Roodeplaat	Pasture Management	018 808 8000