

Mondstuk van die Suid-Afrikaanse aartappelbedryf • Mouthpiece of the South African potato industry

# CHIPS

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**BASELINE AND MARKET  
DYNAMICS FOR THE  
COMING SEASON**

Growing tomorrow's  
producers, today

**OOS-VRYSTAATSE  
DROËLANDKULTIVARPROEF  
OP WARDEN 2019/2020**

Importation of French  
fries takes a nosedive

Waarde van navorsing  
oor blaarsiektebeheer



# Die onskatbare waarde van navorsing

**N**avorsing is die olietenskip van die aartappelbedryf. Al is dit groot en vaar nie baie vinnig nie, dra dit die brandstof om oplossings vir knelpunte in die bedryf te vind. Olietenskepe moet op die uitkyk wees vir storms, sodat daar betyds aanpassings in rigting of spoed gemaak kan word om dit te vermy.

Net so moet navorsing op hoogte wees van faktore wat aartappelproduksie bedreig, maar ook vir moontlike gevare weens klimaatsverandering, veranderende markvereistes, grond wat 'aartappelvoos' raak, nuwe siektes en peste, en vele ander. Navorsing wat deur die bedryf befonds word, word bepaal tydens strategiese dinkskrum van die navorsingskomitee.

Die volgende fokuspunte geniet prioriteit:

- Waterverbruik.
- Identifisering van kultivars met aanvaarbare aanpassingsvermoë, hoë opbrengs en goeie gehalte.
- Bestuur van grond- en knolgedraagde siektes.
- Bestuur van virusse en hul vektore (plantluise).
- Bestuur van insek- en aalwurmplae.
- Bestuur van blaarsiektes.
- Identifisering van biosekuriteitsrisiko's en proaktiewe navorsing om die organismes te identifiseer en te bekamp.

Omdat die navorsingskip nie vinnig vaar nie en nuwe kennis betyds beskikbaar moet wees, is dit noodsaaklik dat die fokuspunte soms herbesoek word, sodat kenners by universiteite en navorsingsinstansies relevante voorstelle kan maak. Die aartappelbedryf befonds tans 25 projekte wat deur eksterne spesialiste uitgevoer word.

Vir elkeen van hierdie projekte is 'n voorstel ontvang wat deur die navorsingskomitee geëvalueer is. Tydens die komitee se onlangse begrotingsvergadering, is nóg 24 projekte vir befonding aanbeveel.

Twee daarvan is op grondgedraagde patogene gefokus, nog een op *Alternaria*-spesies, en die vierde op bestuur van aartappelblaarmyner. Die oordra van inligting wat deur navorsing gegenereer word, geniet hoë prioriteit by Aartappels Suid-Afrika (ASA) se navorsingafdeling, en in hierdie verband speel CHIPS 'n belangrike rol.

Tegniese en/of wetenskaplike CHIPS-artikels is op ASA se tuisblad beskikbaar. Gaan na [www.potatoes.co.za/document-library](http://www.potatoes.co.za/document-library) en dan na 'Research' waar verskeie CHIPS-artikels beskikbaar is.

*Aartappelgroete,  
Hanrie Greebe*



Hanrie Greebe.

**R**esearch is the oil tanker of the potato industry. While it may be a large vessel and its voyages might be slow, it still transports the fuel needed to obtain solutions for pressing matters. Oil tankers need to be on the lookout for storms to make timeous adjustments in speed or direction to avoid danger.

In the same manner, research needs to be on par with factors that pose a risk to production, as well as dangers relating to climate change, varying market requirements, soil that becomes 'potato fatigued', and new diseases or pests, among others. Research selected for funding by the industry is decided during the strategic brainstorming sessions of the research committee.

The following focal points are given preference:

- Water usage.
- Identification of cultivars with adequate adaptability, high yield, and good quality.
- The management of soil- and tuber-borne diseases.
- The management of viruses and associated vectors (aphids).
- Pest management relating to insects and nematodes.
- Management of potato blight.
- Identifying biosecurity risks and doing proactive research to identify and combat organisms.

Because this 'research tanker' sails at a slow pace, while having to supply new knowledge on time, it is necessary to revisit key focus areas from time to time, allowing experts from universities and research centres to bring suggestions to the table.

Currently, the potato industry provides funding for 25 projects executed by external specialists. For each of these, a proposal was received and evaluated by the research committee.

During the research committee's most recent budget meeting, 24 more projects were recommended for funding. Two of these focus on soil-borne pathogens, one on *Alternaria* species, and the fourth on the management of potato leafminer.

Relaying the information generated by research is a top priority of Potatoes SA's (PSA) research department, and in this regard, CHIPS plays a vital role.

Scientific and/or technical CHIPS articles can be found on PSA's website. Simply visit [www.potatoes.co.za/document-library](http://www.potatoes.co.za/document-library) and go to 'Research', where you will be able to access a series of CHIPS articles.

*Potato greetings,  
Hanrie Greebe*

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