

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

CHIPS

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**LIMPOPO-KULTIVARPROEF
ONDER BESPROEIING
OP DENDRON IN 2021**

**DIE AARTAPPELBLAARMYNER:
BEHEEROPSIES
TEEN DIE PAPIES**

**Kultivarprestasie op
varsproduktemarkte**

**A diversified approach
for greater liquidity**

**#PassThePotato:
Giving back is good business**

'n Oorsig van die Oos-Vrystaatse besproeiingskursus

Deur Fienie Niederwieser, Aartappels SA

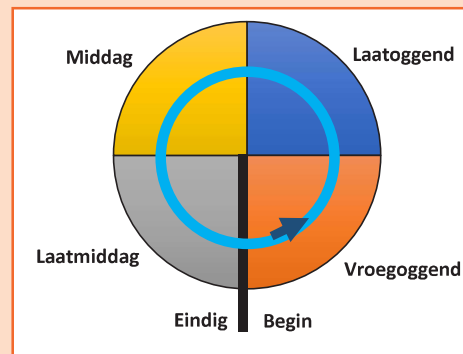
'n Kursus in besproeiingskedulering is in Januarie in die Oos-Vrystaat aangebied. Ironies genoeg was dit lanklaas só nat in hierdie deel van die land! Gevolglik is besluit om die praktiese gedeelte van die kursus tot 'n meer geleë tyd uit te stel. In hierdie artikel deel ons 'n paar gedagtes vanuit die byeenkomsgesprekke.

Versuip is so goed as droogte

Plante wat versuip, vrek inderwaarheid van 'n watertekort. Water- en voedingstofopname is nie 'n passiewe proses waar water en voedingstowwe in die wortels diffundeer nie. Wortels het suurstof nodig om water en voedingstowwe uit die grond te onttrek. As die grond deurdrenk is met water, is daar eenvoudig nie genoeg suurstof vir die wortels om hul werk te verrig nie. 'n Tekort aan water en voedingstowwe ontstaan dus in die plant. Eers word die plant geel en sterf dan later af.

Tensy die lewering van besproeiing aangepas kan word, moet dieselfde area nie telkens op dieselfde tyd besproei word nie. *Figuur 1* toon 'n voorbeeld van die besproeiingslewering op sekere tye van die dag. Dit gebeur dat die dele van die sirkel wat telkens op die warmste tyd van die dag besproei word, nie genoeg water kry nie, terwyl die dele wat op koeler tye besproei word, optimaal groei. ©

Figuur 1: Die lewering van besproeiing op sekere tye van die dag.



Vir enige navrae, kontak
dr Fienie Niederwieser by 083 634 4848.

Training to distinguish aphids from other insects

By Janine Snyman, Aphid Solutions (Pty) Ltd

During January this year, four women working in the greenhouses of Potato Seed Production were trained in aphid identification. Images and diagrams of aphids as opposed to those of wasps and fruit flies, along with diagrams of their wing patterns, were provided to each of the trainees.

After allowing them some time to study the images, the trainees practiced their identification skills with samples that contained a mixture of aphids and other insects (*Photograph 1*). Initially, many small fruit flies were picked out instead of aphids. However, after pointing out the wing venation as well as other specific features unique to aphids, they were given another try.

The trainees began to pick out the aphids with the naked eye, looking

at them through the microscope and then asking the trainer to confirm whether they were indeed aphids.



Photograph 1: A Petri dish containing various aphid species, having been identified and separated from a sample containing a variety of other insects.

By lunchtime, only aphids had been picked out and confirmed by viewing through the microscope.

Some of the aphids picked out had lost their wings, while some were without wings and antennae, demonstrating that the trainees had successfully mastered aphid identification. It is to be expected that they will likely still miss a percentage, although their accuracy will improve with practice.

Identifying and counting of aphids will aid in aphid control in terms of knowing the number of winged aphids (alate) present in a specific field. ©

For more information, contact
Janine Snyman at 076 437 1781
or aphidsolutions@gmail.com.