

PROVISIONAL

PROGRAMME

Monday, 30 August 2004

16h00-18h00 Registration
18h30-19h00 Briefing Session
19h00 Get-together (cocktails)

Tuesday, 31 August 2004

07h30-08h00 Registration
08h00-08h10 Welcome and announcements – Mark Anderson

PAPER SESSION 1: **INVITED SPEAKERS: MANAGING VARIABILITY IN THE ARID ZONE**
(Chairperson: Mark Anderson)

08h10-08h40 Developing understanding of biodiversity responses to anthropogenic climate change
in the Karoo.
Midgley, G.

08h40-09h10 Managing for variability in degraded arid areas by improving habitat for wildlife.
Coetzee, K.

09h10-09h40 Beating variability and unpredictability in Namibia's semi-arid rangelands: from
research to conceptual models to management tools.
Joubert, D.

09h40-10h10 Economic consequences of variable weather for rehabilitation.
Mahood, K.

10h10-10h40 **TEA/COFFEE**

PAPER SESSION 2: **MANAGING VARIABILITY IN THE ARID ZONE**
(Chairperson: Lee Simons)

10h40-11h00 Managing variability in *Acacia erioloba* woodlands: the role of soil water in seedling
recruitment and survival.
Killgore, A.

11h00-11h20 Managing for variation using thresholds.
Biggs, H.

11h20-11h40 Monitoring change in biodiversity - an impossible task?
Grant, R.

PAPER SESSION 3: VARIABILITY IN THE ARID ZONE
(Chairperson: Clement Cupido)

11h40-12h00 Spatial small-scale variability of soil and vegetation patterns in the Knersvlakte.
Groengroeft, A., Petersen, A. & Schmiedel, U.

12h00-12h20 Soil variation on and between heuweltjies in arid and semi-arid regions of South Africa.
Ellis, F.

12h20-12h40 Correlates of plant growth form distribution and richness across the South African arid zone.
Todd, S.

12h40-13h00 Another tale of the tortoise and the hare – the establishment ecology of two widespread Succulent Karoo plants as a means of understanding change in rangelands.
Carrick, P.

13h00-14h00 **LUNCH**

PAPER SESSION 4: MODELLING/REMOTE SENSING
(Chairperson: Guy Midgley)

14h00-14h20 Assessing intra-seasonal land surface change and identifying long-term trends in the Succulent Karoo using low resolution satellite imagery.
Roberts, W.

14h20-14h40 A binary tree using climatic variables to determine biomes of South Africa: where does the arid zone fit?
Rutherford, M.C., Powrie, L.W. & Mucina, L.

14h40-15h00 Modelling effects on animal survival of the inter-relations between rainfall, vegetation and animal condition in variable arid environments: implications for pastoral (subsistence) eco-system models.
Richardson, F.D., Hahn, B.D. & Hoffman, M.T.

POSTER SESSION 1: VARIABILITY IN THE ARID ZONE
(Chairperson: Elsabè Powell)

15h00-15h05 Effects of land-use types on avian demography in the Kalahari area of the North-West Province, South Africa.
Hudson, A.

15h05-15h10 Spatial and temporal variation in rainfall in the arid zone: is it changing?

Maritz, L. (Co-authors: Malherbe, J., Thackrah, A. & Koch, F.G.L.)

- 15h10-15h15 Climate change: Is the brown locust trying to tell us something?
Thackrah, A. (Co-authors: Engelbrecht, F.A., de W. Rautenbach, C.J. & Kieser, M.E.)
- 15h15-15h20 Fine-scale biodiversity mapping for assessing and predicting change through the development of rapid methods based on high-resolution imagery.
Cilliers, C.
- 15h20-15h25 Impact of landuse on a climatic ecotone between nama Karoo and Succulent Karoo.
Shiponeni, N.
- 15h25-15h30 The establishment of cultivated pastures for the people of Melkkraal, Suidbokkeveld: coping with drought and uncertainty.
Gabriels, N.
- 15h30-15h35 Communal grazing pressure induced changes on soil properties and vegetation composition.
Abdoulaye Saley Moussa
- 15h35-15h40 Distribution of grazing and browsing resources in relation to livestock watering points in two communal areas in Namibia.
Schneiderat, U.
- 15h40-15h45 An evaluation of the effect of slope and aspect on different vegetation (greenness) indices, in the Richtersveld region.
Main, R.
- 15h45-17h00 **EXTENDED TEA/COFFEE AND POSTER VIEWING SESSION**
- 17h15-18h15 **INFORMAL ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION**
"Developing a guideline document for arid zone rehabilitation"
- 19h00 **DINNER** (Guest speaker)

Wednesday, 1 September 2004

PAPER SESSION 5: CONSERVATION PLANNING IN THE ARID ZONE (Chairperson Natasha Gabriels)

- 08h00-08h20 Greater Cederberg Biodiversity Corridor - Conserving and linking the Hantam / Tankwa Succulent Karoo.
Venter, J.
- 08h20-08h40 Determining the domain and spatial plans for the Greater Cederberg Biodiversity Corridor.
Barodien, G.
- 08h40-09h00 Implementing Conservation Stewardship in the Arid Zone - Challenges and opportunities.
Martens, C. & Winter, S.

- 09h00-09h20 Integrating systematic conservation planning principles into zoning of arid region conservation areas.
Holness, S.
- 09h20-09h40 Conservation of a critically endangered species in the Karoo - Flagship Species Riverine Rabbit.
Ahlmann, V.
- 09h40-10h10 **TEA/COFFEE**
- PAPER SESSION 6: COMMUNITY INPUTS INTO BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION**
(Chairperson: Sue Milton)
- 10h10-10h30 Local level monitoring for enhanced decision-making in the semi-arid rangelands of Namibia.
Kruger, A.S., Klintonberg, P. & Seely, M.K.
- 10h30-10h50 Community-based natural resource management in Namibia: The FIRM Example.
Kruger, A.S., Gaseb, N., Patrik Klintonberg P., Seely, M.K. & Werner, W.
- 10h50-11h10 Enhancing farmer capacity to adapt to drought and climate change: science and indigenous knowledge meet in a fast changing world.
Oettle, N. & Koelle, B.
- 11h10-11h30 A project perspective - including civil society with biodiversity conservation.
van der Westhuizen, N.
- 11h30-11h40 Introduction to field trips.
- 11h40 Collect lunch packs and depart on field trip.
- 18h30 for 19h00 **BRAAI**

Thursday, 2 September 2003

- PAPER SESSION 7: ANIMAL STUDIES IN THE ARID ZONE**
(Chairperson: Vicky Ahlmann)
- 08h00-08h20 Trends in waterbird numbers at an ephemeral pan in the Northern Cape Province, South Africa.
Herrmann, E., Anderson, M.D. & Seaman, M.
- 08h20-08h40 Birds and habitat structure in the Kalahari.
Seymour, C.
- 08h40-09h00 East vs West: comparative biology of the western and eastern populations of the Short-clawed Lark, *Certhilauda chuana*.
Engelbrecht, D.

- 09h00-09h20 Cape mountain zebra in Gamkaberg Nature Reserve: management in a variable environment.
Watson, L.H.
- 09h20-09h40 The pygmy rock mouse: a lean, mean, sleeping machine. Torpor & energy conservation in the smallest desert rodent.
Bragg, C.
- 09h40-10h00 Body condition indices in *Antidorcas marsupialis* (springbok).
Oosthuizen, I.B.
- 10h00-10h30 **TEA/COFFEE**
- PAPER SESSION 8: ARID ZONE LAND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS**
(Chairperson: Kirsten Mahood)
- 10h30-10h50 The environmental impact of two different land management systems in semi-arid southern Namibia.
Akhtar-Schuster, M., Goerke, C., Groengroeft, A., Hoersch, B., Hoffmann, A., Petersen, A., Rickert, C., Schmiedel, U., Uhlmann, E., Vohland, K & Wolkenhauer, C.
- 10h50-11h10 Socio-economic objectives and incentives for two different land management systems in semi-arid southern Namibia.
Bock, B., Falk, T., Kirk, M. & Schneiderat, U.
- 11h10-11h30 Influences on the fruit set of *Leipoltia schultzei* and *Cheiridopsis imitans* under different land use conditions.
Pufal, G.
- PAPER SESSION 9: VELD MANAGEMENT**
(Chairperson: Dave Joubert)
- 11h30-11h50 How does veld management practices influence veld condition in the Little Karoo?
Cupido, C.
- 11h50-12h10 Patterns of resource use by livestock during drought in a communal rangeland, Namaqualand.
Samuels, I.
- 12h10-12h30 Does herd size matter in an arid communal livestock production system?
Hendricks H.H., Bond W., Midgley J. & Novellie P.
- 12h30-12h50 Is grazing exclusion a viable option to reverse grazing induced vegetation change on Karoo rangelands?
Simons, L. & Allsopp, N.
- 12h50-13h10 Modelling the impact of management interventions and climatic change on rangeland condition and livestock production on communal rangelands in the semi-arid Succulent Karoo.
Hahn B.D., Richardson, F.R. & Hoffman, T.M.
- 13h10-14h00 **LUNCH**

PAPER SESSION 10: RESTORATION OF DEGRADED LAND IN THE ARID ZONE

(Chairperson: Anuschka Barac)

- 14h00-14h20 The restoration of denuded veld in the Nama Karoo of South Africa: an evaluation of different techniques.
Visser, N. & Botha J.C.
- 14h20-14h40 Soil crusting and plant distribution in renosterveld and karoo.
Mills, A.
- 14h40-15h00 Effects of nitrogen addition on arid Succulent Karoo
Milton, S.J. & Dean, W.R.J.
- 15h00-15h20 Effects of soil impediments on the growth patterns of the Strandveld Succulent Karoo in Namaqualand.
Prinsloo, H.
- 15h20-15h40 *Arundo donax*. Implications of a riparian invader for river systems in the Klein Karoo.
Manuel, J. & Knight, R.

15h40-16h10 **TEA/COFFEE**

POSTER SESSION 2: ARID ZONE STUDIES

(Chairperson: Christy Bragg)

- 16h10-16h15 The growth rate and breeding success of the Kalahari Robin, *Erythropygia paenia*.
Watkins J. & Engelbrecht D.
- 16h15-16h20 A comparison of the growth rate and development of nestlings of five passerine bird species in a semi-arid savannah region.
Manamela P. & Engelbrecht D.
- 16h20-16h25 The effect of diet quality on the ecology of Kalahari springbok, *Antidorcas marsupialis*.
Stapelberg, H.
- 16h25-16h30 There must be a better way: Exploring the interface between small predators, livestock and protected areas.
Rossouw, A.
- 16h30-16h35 Namaqua National Park: Conserving the world's only arid biodiversity hotspot.
Norval, M.
- 16h35-16h40 The evaluation of bush control technologies in Namibia.
Barac, A.
- 16h40-16h45 Microclimatic conditions for lichen dry matter production along an ocean-inland transect.
Pfiz, M., Loris, K. & Küppers, M.

16h45-16h50	Biological soil crust analysis by GIS and Remote Sensing applications: from the micro- to the macro-scale. <i>Büdel, B., Deutschewitz, K., Dojani S., Hörsch, B., Loris, K. Reisser, W., Salisch, M., Schultz, C., Weber, B., Wessels, D.C.J. & Wirth, V.</i>
16h50-16h55	Besoek van die Soebatsfontein gemeenskap aan Melkkraal om inligting te kan bekom. <i>Christiaan, R., Christiaans, A., Dirkse, T., Doerffer, J., Jass, S., Mentoer, D., Mentoer, L. & Schmiedel, U.</i>
16h55-17h00	Statutory obligations concerning the exchange of plant species between countries on international level. <i>van den Berg, L.</i>
17h00-17h05	The need for an integrated approach in ecosystem management in the semi-arid region of Limpopo. <i>De Beer, G.</i>
17h05-18h00	BAR OPEN AND EXTENDED POSTER VIEWING SESSION
18h00-19h00	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, PRIZE-GIVING AND CLOSURE
19h00	DINNER