
Meet the Editor

Mr Pieter Swanepoel will be serving on the executive council of the Grassland Society of Southern Africa from July 2013 as Publications Editor. He is a Scientist at the Western Cape Department of Agriculture on the Outeniqua Research Farm near George where he undertakes advanced research for the development of new and adaptation of existing technology in the field of soil quality for pastures, aimed at improving farming efficiency and to transfer technology to the entire agricultural sector. He completed his MSc(Agric) in 2011 on Outeniqua Research Farm under the supervision of Dr Philip Botha, Dr Wayne Truter and Dr Karen Surridge-Talbot. This research was centered around the effects of soil organic matter on effectiveness of symbiotic nitrogen fixation and *Rhizobium* populations in soil. His current research focus is on soil quality for pastures in the southern Cape region and he is in the write-up stages of his PhD on this topic under the supervision of Dr Philip Botha, Prof Hennie Snyman and Prof Chris du Preez. From his research, he has published eight papers in local and international journals, contributed 17 papers or posters at several congresses or symposia and published more than 40 popular articles in local newspapers, magazines and booklets.

Earlier in 2013, he was also appointed Associate Editor of the African Journal of Range and Forage Science.

His mission as Editor is to improve communication between council members and other interested parties by keeping them informed of news, events, publications reports and opportunities in the fields related to Grassland Science. He will also strengthen the connection with the African Journal of Range and Forage Science by publishing brief summaries of accepted manuscripts in Grassroots.

He will be supported by assistant publication editors Janet Taylor from the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs and Keletso Mopipi from the University of Fort Hare's Department of Livestock & Pasture Science.



New and Resigned Members

New Members

Mr Alois Hlatshwayo, Matopos Research Institute
Ms Angelina Kanduvarisa, Agra Professional Services
Christiaan Harmse Mr, North-West University
Clement Adjorlolo Dr, KZN Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs
Dalton Masia Mr, CSIR - Natural Resources and the Environment
Hans Kgasago Mr, Petra Finsch Mine
Jacques Brits Mr, Timbavati Private Nature Reserve
Jenifer Gouza Ms, CapeNature
Johann du Preez Prof, University of the Free State
Linda Luvuno Ms, WESSA
Mabora Thupana Ms, SANBI
Mohau Monyatsi Mr, Bokong Nature Reserve
Nkosikhona Madolo Mr, Fort Hare Dairy Trust
Peter Oosthuizen Mr, KwaZulu-Natal Departement AEA
Rakesh Naik Mr, Plazaboard
Rolivhuwa Morovhi Mr
Support Chavalala Mr, City of Johannesburg Metropolitan Municipality
Tembela Paqula Mr, DAFF - Forest Technical and Information Services
Titus Ramapuputla Mr, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Tunde Amole Dr, University of Agriculture

Resigned Members

Andries Coetsee Mr, Louwsrust Boerdery
Anthony Mills Dr, C4 EcoSolutions cc
Lutendo Desmond Mr, Malatleng Mining cc
Mamathung Phahlanohlaka Ms, DAFF - Grootfontein ADI
Manie Grobler Mr, Western Cape Department of Agriculture
Wim Landman Mr, Pongola Game Reserve

Recent Publications in the Grassland Science and Related Disciplines

The African Journal of Range and Forage Science now has iFirst which enables rapid online publication of manuscripts accepted for publication in the journal. Rapid online publication of articles dramatically reduces the time that the target audience must wait to see the results of current research. The rapid online publication system further eliminates the problem of the "backlog": accepted but unpublished papers. This is a great asset in many fields, where publishing an article can assure priority of discovery.

AJRFS articles published in this manner lack page spans and can be cited using their DOIs, or Digital Object Identifiers, in addition to the article and journal title, see below. The DOI is a unique number assigned to an article that stays with that article throughout its digital life, allowing researchers to find and reference these articles and to hyperlink to the articles. DOIs are persistent - they will always direct readers back to the definitive version of an article, either the version first published online or the subsequent paginated version in the online journal issue. Once the fully paginated version of the article appears in a volume of the journal, all future citations should be made to the fully paginated version.

All subscribers with online access to the AJRFS can access articles published online (see the 'Latest Articles' tab on the journal home page). These "Latest articles" are later assigned to a particular issue of the journal, given page numbers, and published in final form.

The first two articles to be published using this system by the African Journal of Range and Forage Science are:

The influence of *Pechuel-Loeschea leubnitziae* (wild sage) on grass sward and soil seed bank composition, MJ Tedder*, KP Kirkman, CD Morris, WSW Trollope and MC Bonyongo, doi: 10.2989/10220119.2012.720280, <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.2989/10220119.2012.720280>

A novel method for estimating tree dimensions and calculating canopy volume using digital photography, AS Barrett* and LR Brown, doi: 10.2989/10220119.2012.727471, <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.2989/10220119.2012.727471>

Conservation Biology, Volume 26, Issue 6, pages 1156–1158, Toward a More Balanced View of Non-Native Species, Martin A. Schlaepfer, Dov F. Sax, Julian D. Olden, <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1523-1739.2012.01948.x/abstract>

Grass and Forage Science, Volume 67, Issue 4, page 606, December 2012, Practical handbook for seed harvest and ecological restoration of species-rich grasslands, Richard G. Jefferson, <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1365-2494.2012.00875.x/abstract>

Grass and Forage Science, Volume 67, Issue 4, page 607, December 2012, Grassland productivity and ecosystem services, Alan Hopkins, <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/gfs.12015/full>

Restoration Ecology, Volume 20, Issue 6, pages 794–795, Introduction to Restoration Ecology, Jonathan D. Bakker, <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1526-100X.2012.00921.x/full>

South African Journal of Science; Vol 108, No 11/12 (2012), 3 pages, Challenges in invasive alien plant control in South Africa, Brian W. van Wilgen, Richard M. Cowling, Christo Marais, Karen J. Esler, Matthew McConnachie, Debbie Sharp, <http://www.sajs.co.za/index.php/SAJS/article/view/1445>

Functional Ecology, Volume 26, Issue 6, pages 1231–1233, December 2012, Community stability does not preclude ecosystem sensitivity to chronic resource alteration, Alan K. Knapp, John M. Briggs, Melinda D. Smith, <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1365-2435.2012.02053.x/abstract>

Plant Ecology, Spatio-temporal patterns of tree establishment are indicative of biotic interactions during early invasion of a montane meadow, Janine M. Rice, Charles B. Halpern, Joseph A. Antos, Julia A. Jones, <http://andrewsforest.oregonstate.edu/pubs/pdf/pub4710.pdf>

African Journal of Range & Forage Science 2012, 29 (2) : 97–99, Zimbabwe's Land Reform: Myths and Realities, MJ Roodt, <http://www.nisc.co.za/oneAbstract.php?absId=4546>

Remote Sensing, 4(1), 303–326, 2012, Exploring Simple Algorithms for Estimating Gross Primary Production in Forested Areas from Satellite Data, Hashimoto, Hirofumi, <http://www.mdpi.com/2072-4292/4/1/303/htm>

Movers & Shakers

Dr Mitsuru Tsubo
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He was previously employed at Tottori University, Arid Land Research Centre in Japan. He has been appointed as Programme Manager (Agro-Climatology) of Agricultural Research Council-Institute for Soil, Climate and Water where he is managing research and development of the Agro-Climatology Programme including the Agro-Climate Weather Station Network.



Member Profile

Jenifer Gouza
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Jenifer Gouza is a Programme Manager within the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board (CapeNature), focussing on landscape scale conservation initiatives including Biodiversity Corridors, Biosphere Reserves and World Heritage sites and is based at the West Coast Regional Office in Porterville. Jenifer has worked in the conservation sector for the past 10 years and she holds a Bachelor of Science from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (formally the University of Port Elizabeth) with majors in botany and microbiology. She also holds a B.Phil in Sustainable Development Management and Planning from the University of Stellenbosch. She has a keen interest in environmental governance, co-management, climate change, restoration, Biodiversity and Business initiatives and landscape conservation.

