



Climate Smart Soil Conservation Practices & Sustainable Carbon Farming Conference 2025

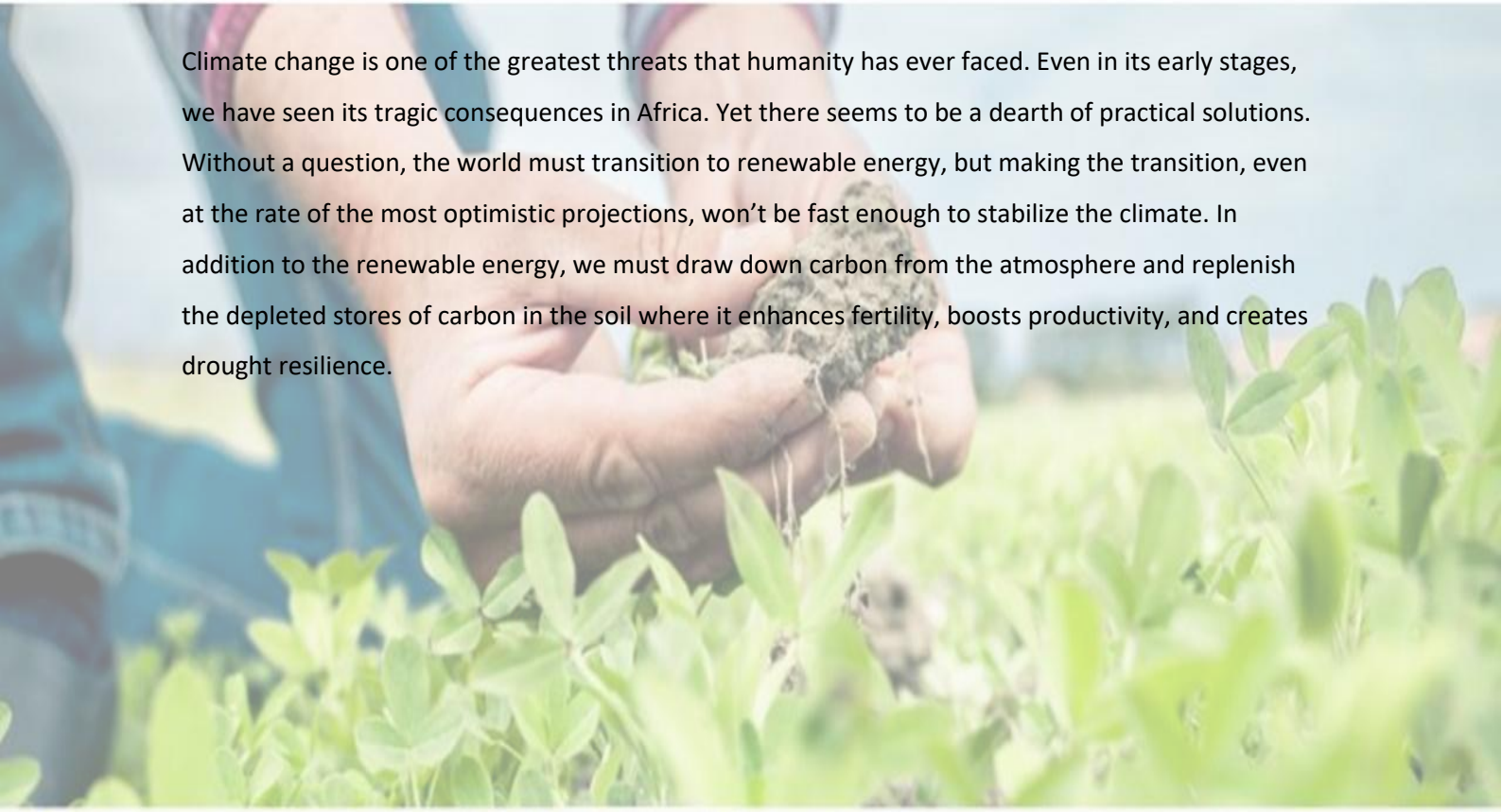
26 - 28 March

Radisson Blu Hotel Sandton / Online

Dear Delegate

South Africa as a nation has a tremendous opportunity to produce crops that will feed the world. This demand is growing by the day, and we have the potential to stand up and meet this need with excellence.

Agricultural awareness is what we need to be teaching the future generations whom seem to want the office job instead of getting their hands into the soil and making progress with it. Food production has never been under such public scrutiny, with farmers been pushed to reduce their environmental footprint while delivering top-quality produce. Solutions for water reduction and pest and weed control are accelerating, resulting in food that is not only socially acceptable, but good for agricultural sustainability.



Climate change is one of the greatest threats that humanity has ever faced. Even in its early stages, we have seen its tragic consequences in Africa. Yet there seems to be a dearth of practical solutions. Without a question, the world must transition to renewable energy, but making the transition, even at the rate of the most optimistic projections, won't be fast enough to stabilize the climate. In addition to the renewable energy, we must draw down carbon from the atmosphere and replenish the depleted stores of carbon in the soil where it enhances fertility, boosts productivity, and creates drought resilience.

Agriculture can be a driving force to mitigate climate change by adopting carbon farming practices. Following the success of last year conference, which paved way for discussions and debates that achieved multitude of outcomes and strategies around how to manage soil through low carbon practices and technologies ensuring sustainable agricultural practices. More and more farmers are keen to practice carbon farming which links to maximising returns from carbon credits.

This year the 2nd annual Carbon Farming Soil Conservation conference will bring in fresh and innovative content with the aim to update the industry on:

- Solutions on enhancing Biodiversity.
- Practices transitioning to Regenerative Agriculture Farming Systems, Niche Crops, Soil Preservation and Managing Energy Costs – A step closer to Carbon Neutral
- Latest research on how farmers can play a preeminent role in addressing Climate Change and ensuring food security by stewarding working landscapes to sequester Carbon.

Growing agriculture requires a fresh look at Carbon Emissions...

The conference will feature renowned experts discussing key issues surrounding carbon farming, an exhibition, and demonstrations of the latest innovations in Agri-tech.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

Farmers | Commercial Farmers | Youth Agriculturists | Conservation Agriculturists | Environmental Managers | Scientific Managers | Laboratory Managers | Governments Departments | Climatologist | Agricultural/Field Researchers and Consultants | Horticulturists | Agricultural Finance and Funding Business Units | Professional Scientists | Professors & Head of Agriculture & Agronomy | Soil Scientists/Technicians | Plant Scientists | Ecologists | Biotechnologists | Fertilizer & Seed Companies | Extension Officers | Pasture Scientists | Plant Health Diagnostic Scientists | Agricultural Crop | Research Specialist

Trending Topics and Discussions by key AGRI-professionals:

- THE SOLUTION TO CLIMATE CHANGE is just below our feet! Hear from companies that is restoring carbon to the soil to through regenerative farming practices and conservation agriculture.
- HOW DO WE WORK Towards Zero Carbon Farms and Climate Mitigation?
- CARBON FARMING ROADMAP FOR AFRICA – The carbon farming solution
- ENGAGEIN DISCUSSIONS on Climate Smart Practice and Conservation Agriculture (Discussions and Case Studies)
- HOW can we reduce the carbon footprint in South Africa?

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Creating a low-emissions global food transportation system could replace trucks and ships powered by fossil fuels. This would require the use of alternatives, such as vehicles powered by batteries, biofuels or hydrogen.

- DISCOVER Tools and Technologies that will drive Carbon Neutral Agriculture.
- SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY: - Smart Greenhouse Technologies using Solar and Saltwater.
- Organic Farming and Soil Carbon Sequestration: What Do We Really Know About the Benefits:
- THE LATEST IN PRECISION FARMING TECHNOLOGY ON THE RISE: How agricultural robots increase yields.
- EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES TO REDUCE THE CARBON FOOTPRINT of dairy cattle.

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

26th and 27th March 2025 – Two Day Conference (Refer to Agenda) (Radisson Blu Hotel Sandton)

28th March 2025 – Half Day Practical tour to Earn Agriculture Conservation tillage for sustainable agriculture (Transport to and from the farm & refreshments will be provided)

Taking a natural approach is the heart of the farm's success, and getting the soil in top shape is an ongoing process, although one that requires less and less human intervention as time goes on.

The farm produces lettuce, Tomato, Spinach, Onion, Cauliflower and Fish all year round.

For Earn Agriculture, the proof of biological farming's effectiveness lies in the soil, where a combination of organic fertiliser and beneficial bacteria work to produce robust crops that need less intervention year by year.

09:00	Arrival at Earn Agriculture
09:00 – 09:30	Welcome and Body Break /Refreshments
09: 30– 10:15	Conservation Agriculture (CA) Soil Implements/Technology used in CA
10:15 – 13:00	Practical Discussions of Conservation Agriculture and tour of the farm
13:15	Lunch
14:00	Departure

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AGENDA: 26 MARCH 2025 (DAY 1)

09:00: 09:15 Opening Remarks / Registration / Refreshments

09:15 – 10:00 **Carbon Farming: Impact of Climate Change on Agriculture and Food Security**



Presented by: Prof Leon Van Rensburg: Director Vanslab – Free State

Prof Leon is the founder of Vans Lab. He was a soil physics lecturer at the University of the Free State for more than 30 years. Backed by more than 15 years of research with the latest EMI technology, Prof. Leon created the company to practically apply what he has learned internationally on South-African farms.

10:00 – 10:45 **Climate Smart Agricultural Practices and Trends**



Presented by: Pieter Pienaar - Pieter has been involved in several industries managing projects and business processes. This diverse experience has culminated in him becoming a passionate entrepreneur with the ability to effectively work with all levels of people as well as many sectors and industries. Pieter is a natural born problem solver and his ability to see the bigger picture in relation to the challenges and the task at hand gives him an advantage in business.

He is currently CEO of Informed Decisions a company that is committed to drive digital transformation, while creating space for people to learn new skills

10:45 – 11:00 **Networking over Tea / Coffee**

11:00 – 11:30 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS: What are the Smart Approaches in places to support the agricultural nexus.**



Presented by: Andre Labuschagne – Campaign Manager- Syngenta

Andre was an Agronomist in the maize and potato production area of the western free state and had privilege to learn from some of the best farmers in the country. His curiosity and interest in sustainable crop production led to many informative discussions, trails and research. Increasing profitability and sustainability of growers was one of the outcomes, the other more questions.

11:30 – 12:15 **Transforming Food Crop Production via Innovative and Adaptive Earth Observation Technologies in Precision Agriculture.**



Presented by: Nonhlanhla Joye Director / Founder – Umgibe Farming Organics.

Nonhlanhla Joye's journey began in 2014 after a cancer diagnosis left her unable to support her family. This challenge sparked her return to farming, a childhood memory she once disliked but now turned into her lifeline. Using innovative methods, like growing vegetables in discarded plastic bags, she not only nourished herself but also built a thriving business.

Today, as the founder of Umgibe Farming Organics and Training Institute, Nonhlanhla empowers communities to grow organic food sustainably, with a mission to help 1 million people feed themselves by 2030. Her approach champions women and youth empowerment while addressing food security and environmental sustainability. She's a true force in creating lasting change, driven by her passion for community development and sustainable farming.

12:15 – 13:00 Ruminant Livestock Production and Sustainability to Mitigate Global Warming, with the Emphasis on Developing Countries



Presented by Francois Knowles: APAC

Francois is the CEO (Registrar) of the Agricultural Produce Agents Council (known as APAC). The objective of APAC as a self-sustaining regulatory body, is to regulate and manage the occupations of fresh produce, export, and livestock agents in South Africa. This industry is worth more than R130 billion per year. His introduction to agriculture came in 1995. He has vast experience in the management of fresh produce markets and commercial marketing of agricultural products.

13:00 – 14:00 Networking Over Lunch

14:00 – 15:00 The Benefits of Carbon Appropriation Through Hemp Farming.

Learn about the environmental benefits of hemp farming, including carbon sequestration, and how it can help us reduce carbon emissions and combat climate change.



Presented by Roelof Smit – Head Marketing at Vans Lab is dedicated to assist clients with professional services within the agricultural and environmental sectors; we have extended agreements and collaborations with other professional companies within these sectors to ensure our clients receives the best service possible.

15:00 – 15:45 Achieving Food Security while Switching to Low Carbon Farming



Presented by: Wynand Espach – Director / Founder – Agri Colleges

Wynand Espach is the founder and COO of Agricolleges, an innovative educational institution based in Tzaneen, Limpopo, South Africa. With extensive experience as a farmer, nurseryman, and agricultural consultant, he combines his practical expertise with a passion for education and technology. Under his leadership, Agricolleges offers accessible, technology-driven training programs aimed at developing skilled professionals in the agricultural sector. Espach's work focuses on bridging the gap between education and industry needs, helping to shape the future of sustainable agriculture in South Africa.

15:45 – 16:30 Soil Fertility and Conservation Practices Advancing Food Security and Environmental Sustainability in Farming Systems

Presented by: Joshua Ngoma



Joshua is a retired mining engineer, serial business builder, business trainer, coach and mentor. He is the Founder and Chief Enabler of Enterprising Africa Regional Network (Pty) Limited (EARN), a purpose driven organisation, with a goal to create global impact through the development of a new generation of successful African Entrepreneurs. Unlike in other parts of the world, Africa has the advantage of a young growing population. EARN aims to work with these young entrepreneurs to identify the opportunities and then develop and run successful businesses around them

END OF DAY ONE / NETWORKING OVER TEA OR COFFEE

AGENDA: 27 MARCH 2025 (DAY2)

09:00 – 09:45 Smart Water Management and Innovations



Presented by: Gavin La Trobe, Managing Director, WSE

Gavin joined Dr. Brian La Trobe at La Trobe & Associates in 1991 to help commercialize research in Environmental Waste Management. In 1992, they launched a Forced Aeration Composting (FAC) plant in City Deep, Johannesburg, to process waste from the City Deep Abattoir and Fresh Produce Market into high-grade organic compost. In 1993, they developed Enviro Loo, a waterless toilet system for environmentally sound sanitation in resource-limited areas. In 1995, Enviro Loo became part of Enviro Options, where Gavin was appointed Managing Director.

09:45 – 10:30 Supporting Agricultural biological based SMMEs from concept to commercialisation.



Yrielle Roets-Dlamini is a Senior Researcher in the Chemicals Cluster at the CSIR, with a Master's in Applied Science in Biotechnology. She has contributed to various projects, including developing biological solutions for small-scale wastewater treatment, probiotics for humans and animals, and waste remediation in food processing plants. Currently, her focus is on creating technologies using biological agents to improve soil health, enhance plant growth, and control diseases. Yrielle is passionate about the role of biological agents in sustainable agriculture and food security, believing that healthy soil is essential for the well-being of crops, animals, and humans. She has published several journal papers as both a primary and co-author.

10:30 – 10:45 Networking Over Coffee / Tea

10:45 – 11:30 How Drones are reducing our Carbon Footprint



Presented by Dr. Thembinkosi Semwayo – Director / Founder Ontolligent

Thembinkosi holds a bachelor's degree in economics & Geography, and a Master of Science degree in Geographic Information Systems. He is a PhD candidate carrying out research in knowledge and innovation engineering. This background accords him the necessary skills to participate comfortably in a wide range of interdisciplinary projects. He has used these skills to add value to various inter-

disciplinary innovation programmes. His working career to date has seen him participating in national and global development projects, covering aspects of strategy design, spatial analysis and planning using Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and Remote Sensing. He has also participated in one global GIS based environmental management project covering four continents.

11:30 – 12:15 Irrigation for Water Nutrition and Soil Management for Sustainable Agriculture.



Presented by: Heinrich Muller is a Soil Scientist and Horticulturist at Hydrovia Irrigation Consulting. As an independent consultant, he specializes in guiding commercial fruit farmers to effectively manage their land and crops. With a focus on sustainability, Heinrich helps farmers optimize their practices to achieve high-quality yields while preserving the health of the environment and soil. His expertise in soil science and horticulture plays a crucial role in enhancing agricultural productivity and sustainability.

12:15 – 13:00 Virtual Session: Farm Green and the Economic Benefits of Regenerative System

Presented by: Anirudh Keny- Director of business Development & Partnerships – Boomitra India



he is responsible for driving the company's growth by developing strategic business relationships and partnerships. Anirudh focuses on expanding Boomitra's impact in the field of regenerative agriculture, helping to implement sustainable practices that improve soil health and promote environmental benefits. His work involves collaborating with stakeholders across various sectors to support the adoption of regenerative systems that contribute to long-term ecological and economic sustainability.

13:00 – 14:00 Networking over Lunch

14:00 – 16:00 Case Study - Advising Commercial Fruit Farmers on Sustainable Land and Crop Management.

1. Challenges Faced by Farmers
2. Solutions Provided
3. Results

4. Conclusion

Heinrick Muller's expertise has helped commercial fruit farmers optimize their operations, improve soil health, and adopt sustainable farming methods, leading to higher yields and resource efficiency

SPEAKERS FROM.



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BOOKING FORM

Price: R 6 999.00 Public
R 5 999.00 Online

Complete the Form and send to: _____

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AUTHORISING PERSON

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By signing and returning this registration form, the authorizing signatory on behalf of the stated company is subject to the following terms and conditions:

- Charge of 50% of the registration fees, plus administrative charge will be made for cancellations received in writing at least 14 working days prior to the event.
- or any cancellations received in less than 7 working days before the day of the event, the full fee will be payable, and no refunds or credit notes will be made
- If a registered delegate does not cancel and fails to attend the event, this will be treated as cancellation and no refund or credit will be issued.

By Completing and signing this form, the signatory accepts the terms and conditions as stated on the registration form

Registration fees above INCLUDES the following:

Entrance to session, Course Material, Lunch, and refreshment breaks.

PLEASE NOTE - Mathema HAS A STRICT NO CASH REFUND POLICY

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Registration fees above EXCLUDES the following entitlements: Travel costs and Accommodation

PAYMENT BY MEANS OF BANK TRANSFER

- Please state yourfull names clearly on the money transfer.
- Please note, bank charges are of your OWN account, and this should be stipulated to your bank. Please advise your bank that the charges should be included in your deposit.
- A copy of the bank deposit receipt should accompany your registration form and must be emailed.
- **DELEGATE SUBSTITUTIONS:**
Substitutions are welcome at any time and do not incur any additional charges. Please notify Mathema in writing of any such changes at least 3 days before the date of the Event.
- Please note that the speakers and topics were confirmed at the time of publishing however circumstances beyond the control of the organizers may necessitate substitutions, alterations, or cancellations of the speakers and/or topics.
- As such, Mathema reserves the right to alter or modify the advertised speakers and /or topics if necessary. Any substitutions or alterations will be updated and sent to you as soon as possible

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DELEGATE ATTENDANCE FORM

Please provide information as you wish it to appear on your name Tag, Certificate, and official participant Database

Title	Name & Surname	Position	Email	Phone Number