

ONE-DAY TRAINING COURSE:

Ida Wilson Consulting

BASIC PRINCIPLES: PLANT DISEASES AND THEIR CONTROL



Why should you learn more about plant diseases?

Correct identification of a plant disease is the first step in effectively managing the disease. Should the disease not be identified correctly, the management efforts that follow may be in vain. Knowledge of the causal organism of the disease and its biology also allows optimal intervention at the correct points in the growth season. A lack of knowledge is often the cause of serious crop losses. It is thus crucial to the plant producer and agrochemical professionals alike to be able to identify plant diseases confidently and to know where the best points of intervention are according to the life cycle of that disease.

What would be the benefits of taking this course?

This course empowers the participant with a basic knowledge of plant diseases. The participant will learn more about what plant diseases are and where they come from. The course presents high-quality visual content on what the different plant diseases on various parts of the plants look like and detailed explanations of the disease cycles of the organisms. Optimal points of intervention and types of intervention that will allow best control are also discussed.

After completion of this course, participants will:

- Have a thorough understanding of what plant diseases are and where they come from
- Have knowledge on what the different diseases look like
- Be able to make more informed choices in terms of plant disease management

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Agricultural professionals with an interest in plant production, whether as a producer or as technical sales person would find this course of value.

ABOUT THE COURSE FACILITATOR

Dr Ida Wilson completed her BSc, BSc Hons and MSc. (*cum laude*) degrees at the University of the Free State and obtained her PhD in plant pathology from the University of Pretoria. She was employed plant pathologist at the South African Agricultural Research Council Small Grain Institute for 7 years, where she was also the Programme Manager of the Crop Protection Research Group for the last 3 years of her employ. Her time here was followed by 5 years of employ at ExperiCo Agri-Research Solutions - a commercial agricultural research and development company, where she continued with research work on plant disease management. Since March 2018, she has been working as an independent consultant in crop health.

She draws from her 13 years of experience as applied industry agricultural researcher on plant to present this unique training course. She has spent more than 10 000 hours in the field studying plant diseases and draws from an image library of over 3000 photographs taken over the stretch of her career as field biologist to present high quality visual content on plant diseases.

She holds 14 academic awards, including academic colours of the University of the Free State as well as of the University of Pretoria. She is passionate about technology transfer, she believes that “knowledge is power” and have published 31 popular articles on plant disease management since 2007. She has given 50 radio interviews on plant diseases and their management, have written 14 peer reviewed publications, contributed 28 conference contributions and written chapters in technical guide books for farmers. She has been an invited guest speaker at numerous farmers’ days and other events and have given 55 talks at institutions in South Africa, Zambia and the UK over the past 13 years.

PROGRAMME

Introduction to plant diseases

- What are plant diseases?
- What causes plant diseases
- Overview: Biotic against abiotic diseases, what's the difference
- Causal organisms - viruses
- Causal organisms - bacteria
- Causal organisms - fungi
- Disease cycle
- List of symptom types
- List of concepts
- Basic principles of plant disease management

Questions, answers and general discussion

This course is presented in-house at the client’s facilities. The cost of the course depends on the geographical location of the client and the number of participants. Discount applies to group bookings. Contact ida@idawilsonconsulting.com