

Good, Better, Blueberries!



ANNUAL TECHNICAL & TRADE SYMPOSIUM

30 & 31 MAY 2024 | ASHANTI ESTATE

BERRIES ZA
— SUPPORTING SOUTH AFRICAN GROWERS —

DAY 1

AGENDA | 30 MAY

08h00 Arrival & registration

SESSION 1

09h00 Opening & Welcoming
Mr Brent Walsh CEO, Berries ZA

09h05 Prof Vaughn Walton | Oregon State University
Drosophila Suzukii: Perspectives on management and control

09h40 Dr Gulu Bekker | Stellenbosch University
Drosophila Suzukii current status & perspectives in South Africa

10h00 Mr Zion Jodamus | Stellenbosch University
Current status & population dynamics of major insect pests on blueberries in South Africa & the implications thereof for growers

10h10 Mr Bekker Wessels | ProCrop
Evaluation of spray deposition parameters on blueberry leaves & fruit as influenced by spray water volume

10h30 Refreshments

SESSION 2

11h10 Ms Deirdre Holcroft | Holcroft Postharvest Consulting
Postharvest management of blueberries + Q&A

12h00 Ms Inge Coetzee | University of Pretoria
Preharvest prevalence of *Alternaria alternata* in the Northern regions of South Africa

12h10 Mr Carl Schulenburg | University of Pretoria
Impact of UV-C irradiation on stimulated induction of defence mechanisms in blueberries for the control of green & grey mould

12h25 Mr Joshua Apples | Stellenbosch University
Improved sustainability of blueberry production through optimisation of preharvest factors with a focus on plant nutrition

13h00 Lunch

SESSION 3

14h00 Mr Pietman Wessels | Frudata
The principles of profitability in the blueberry industry

14h45 Mr Louw Pienaar | BFAP
Looking 10 years ahead: Global blueberry markets and what to expect from South Africa

15h10 Conclusion & Acknowledgements

