




Informant

August 2012

SASAE Central Branch News Letter

	In this edition	
	Editorial.....	1
	SASAE Central Branch 2012 Symposium	2
	SASAE 46 th Annual conference	2
	SASAE Awards	3
	Informant Posters Corner	4
	Motivation columns	6
Editor's contact details	6	
Addendum	Nomination form for SASAE Central Branch Management Award	7
	Nomination form for SASAE National Awards	8

Editorial

“Life is like a ten-speed, most of us have gears we never use (Charles Schultz). All extension workers have potential to change the world. However, the approach is not to attempt to change the world per se but to change the way we see and do things for if you can’t see it, you must change the way you look at it. Jimmy Dean says “I can’t change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination”. We are there to change ourselves and the world but to achieve such changes, we need to first believe in ourselves as capable change agents. Remember, “people become really quite remarkable when

they start thinking that they can do things. When they believe in themselves they have the first secret of success (Norman Vincent Pearl). "You have to have confidence in your ability, and then be tough enough to follow through (Rosalynn Carter)". In other words, our strength is the belief we have in ourselves. **Editor**



CENTRAL BRANCH SYMPOSIUM 2012

Date: 5th September 2012

Registration start at 08:00 and Symposium strictly at 09:00

Venue: Dutch Reformed Church East, Modimolle (Nylstroom), Limpopo Province

Theme: "ICT: Can We Use What We Have"

SASAE'S 46TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Central Branch has done it again. SASAE members from Central Branch attended in good numbers the 2012 conference held in Durban on 7-11 May 2012. Informant commends them so much. Informant also expresses its gratitude to the authorities of the respective provinces that supported them with the necessary logistic requirements: Limpopo, Mpumalanga, North West and Gauteng. The Central branch confidently assures the four respective departments of agriculture that their efforts had been for no vain because the representatives made both the departments and the branch proud with their participation in the conference for they presented papers and posters. They secured management positions in the national board. They also scooped some awards.

PAPERS presented by participants from Central Branch:

- "The Influence of Extension Policy in Extension Deliverables in the Agricultural Sector with Reference to the Sub-Saharan Africa" by Dr Zwane, M. E.
- "Interdepartmental Project Monitoring and Evaluation for Schools in Sekhukhune District" by Tshwana, M. P., Molahlegi, K. P., Montjane, M. A., Mametja H. J., & Legodi, G.
- "Review of the Limpopo Department of Agriculture (LDA) Strategic Partnership Model at Tswelopele and Strydkraal Irrigation Schemes in the Sekhukhune District" by Nowata, M. S. J., Malatji, A., M., Pfumayaramba, T., Makhuvha, M. C. & Mothapo, M. M.

- “Accountability in Extension Policy Considerations for South Africa” by Last, C. & Matshego, M. C.
- “Implementing Community Based Projects: The Challenge to Bring about Real Change at Farm Level” by Du Toit, A. P. N.

POSTERS:

“Agricultural Advisory Services in South Africa” by Dr. Zwane, M. E.

POSITIONS:

- Bornman, M. : President
- Xaba, G : Vice President
- Dr Zwane, M. E. : Ex-officio as ex-President

AWARDS:

- Dr Diale, N. R. : Tim Bembridge Extension Management Award
- Du Toit, A. P. N. : Best Scientific Paper

The Central branch and the *Informant* are standing proud to have had Mr. Ben Stevens at the helm of the SASAE’s National Secretariat that organized the Society’s successful 46th Annual Conference. Further gratitude goes to Me Esmé Stevens for good support. As the saying goes, “next to a successful man there is a good wife”.



SASAE Awards

The SASAE is concerned about how the members participate in its award system. Members do not play their role accordingly. Nominations do not come in numbers. This raises some questions: Are the members not interested? If not interested, why? Do members lack information on the nominations? If this is the case, for information, members are advised to visit SASAE By-Laws governing the awards at <http://www.sasae.co.za> and the attached forms. Members can also get electronic copies through the following emails: ben@sasae.co.za or nkgodidiale@gmail.com

**DISSEMINATING TECHNOLOGY WITH FARMERS, NOT TO FARMERS:
IMPLEMENTING PUSH-PULL FOR CONTROL OF ELDANA SACCHARINA IN
KWAZULU-NATAL, SOUTH AFRICA**

by

Cockburn, J. J.^{1,2}, Van Den Berg, J.², Conlong, D. E.^{1,3} And Coetzee, H. C.²

The sugarcane borer, *Eldana saccharina* Walker (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae), is a growing threat to sugarcane production in South Africa, and is now considered the most serious insect pest of sugarcane in this country. The push-pull strategy, an example of habitat management, has been used successfully for control of maize stemborers in Kenya and field trials have shown push-pull to be a feasible method of controlling *E. saccharina* in sugarcane in the KwaZulu-Natal area, South Africa. A farmer-participatory approach is being taken for the dissemination of push-pull to small- and large-scale sugarcane farmers, and farmers' perceptions of this new method are being monitored throughout the implementation process. Work with farmers includes semi-structured surveys and focus group discussions to determine the attitudes of the farmers to this pest, and to determine the best method for implementing push-pull. Model farms have been set up where push and pull plants have been planted. Molasses grass (*Melinis minutiflora*) is being used as a 'push' plant and Bt maize and indigenous sedges (*Cyperus dives*, *C. papyrus*) are being used as 'pull' plants. In addition, molasses grass can attract parasitoids into the sugarcane fields. Damage and incidence of *E. saccharina* on the model farms is being monitored and from this data, the efficacy of push-pull at a farm level will be determined. The second phase of the project will include setting up push-pull demonstration plots with small-scale growers. This poster reports on results collected during the first 6 months of this project in KwaZulu-Natal and highlights the key findings thus far. Figure 1 presents the poster on the subject.

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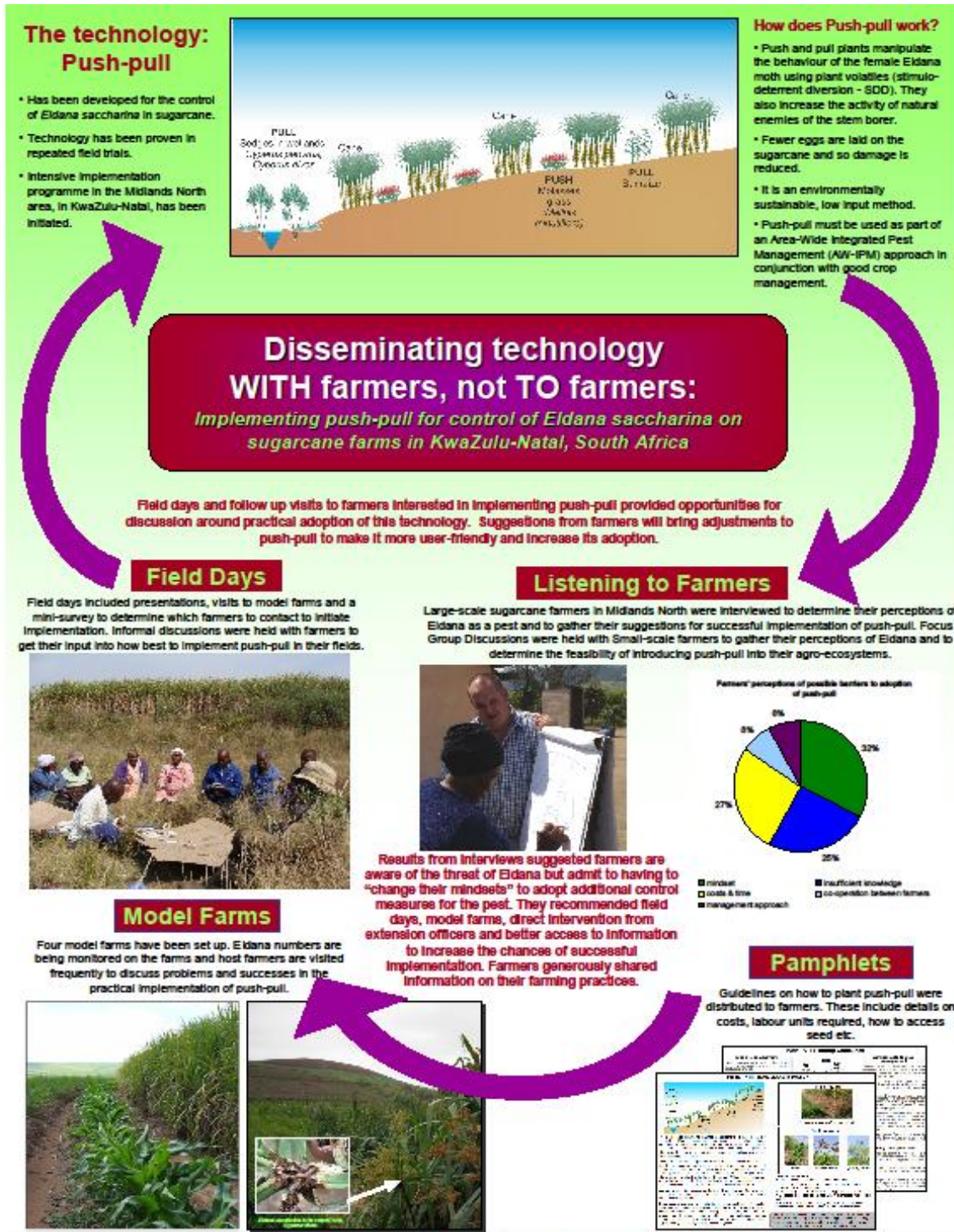


Figure 1: SASAE 2012 Best Poster Award winning poster⁴

⁴Presented by Cockburn, J. J. at SASAE 46th Annual Conference, in Durban. For full size colour poster, please contact the author at Jessica.Cockburn@sugar.org.za

MOTIVATION COLUMNS

“Ability is what you’re capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it (Lou Haltz)”
For members who have motivational articles to share with colleagues are advised to

forward them to the editor.
Specifications: Title, body, names of author, and organization, should be written in 16 font size, should not be more than A4 long.

Editor's contact details:

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NOMINATION FOR CENTRAL BRANCH MANAGEMENT AWARD

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE AWARD

The award is for an officer who has satisfactorily contributed to the application of Agricultural Extension in the field. The officer who qualifies must have a successful Extension Programme in his/her ward/district. The programme/project must be based on the principles of Programmed Extension. We are especially looking among young officials, but not exclusively. The purpose of this award is to acknowledge the efforts of the officer and encourage them and others to apply the principles of Extension in their daily work.

2. NOMINATION

Your details	Name & Surname: Tel.: Cell: Email:
Whom do you nominate? Contact details for that person	Name & Surname: Tel.: Cell: Email:
Why do you nominate him/her? Give a short description of the work he/she has done. Use an extra page if it is necessary.	Motivation:
Contact details of a person who can confirm your nomination (Fellow Officer or his/her Supervisor).	Name & Surname: Tel.: Cell: Email:

**PLEASE FAX THE COMPLETED FORM TO:
BEN STEVENS AT 086 541 2166**

NOMINATION FOR SASAE AWARDS

1. MARK THE AWARD YOU WANT TO NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR WITH “X”.

1. Tim Bembridge Extension Management Award (Bronze)	
2. SASAE Floating Trophy For A Young Professional	
3. Transvaal Branch Floating Trophy	
4. Certificate for co-ordinated Extension	
5. Gold Medal	
6. Silver Medal	
7. Bronze Medal	

2. NOMINATION

Your details	Name & Surname: Tel.: Cell: Email:
Whom do you nominate? Contact details for that person	Name & Surname: Tel.: Cell: Email:
Why do you nominate him/her? Give a short description of the work he/she has done. Use an extra page if it is necessary.	Motivation:
Contact details of a person who can confirm your nomination (Fellow Officer).	Name & Surname: Tel.: Cell: Email: Signature:
Contact details of the Supervisor of the nominee, whom we will contact for more details.	Name & Surname: Tel.: Cell: Email:

**PLEASE FAX THE COMPLETED FORM TO: SASAE Secretariat at:
086 541 2166**