



# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



19 - 24 January 2025



The Ranch Resort  
Protea Hotel, Polokwane

## MEET THE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**DEREK DONKIN**

### Subtropical fruit production - Are the opportunities worth chasing

Derek Donkin is the Chief Executive of the South African Subtropical Growers' Association (Subtrop), which manages the affairs of the SA Avocado, Mango and Litchi Growers' Associations. He holds an MSc (Agric) degree in Horticultural Science and an MBA.

He has extensive knowledge of the avocado, litchi and mango industries having worked in technical and management positions in industry associations over the past 29 years.

In his free time, he needs no encouragement to go hiking, mountain biking or on a bush trip.



**JANSE RABIE**

### Environmental Sustainability and Ethics in Agriculture

Janse Rabie is Head of Agri SA's Natural Resources Centre of Excellence as well as AgriSA's Legal and Policy Executive. He is a Commissioner of the Presidential Climate Commission. He is a seasoned attorney who, prior to joining AgriSA in 2017 practised as a specialist environmental lawyer in the private and government sectors, both in South African and abroad. Amongst others, he holds a master's degree in marine and environmental law from the University of Cape Town. He is a regular commentator on various environmental and water-related matters with a particular focus on the agricultural sector. He is based in Cape Town.



**GERT CERONIO**

### Agronomy Specifically Field Crop Production Techniques

Gert Ceronio, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Soil, Crop, and Climate Sciences, at the University of the Free State. With 30 years of experience, his research specializes in agronomy specifically field crop production techniques. He earned his interdisciplinary PhD in Agronomy and Plant Breeding, focusing on frost damage of wheat.

Gert's work extends beyond academia through collaborations with scientists, research institutes, and producers both nationally and internationally. He delivered lectures at national and international congresses as well as numerous farmers' days and short learning programs tailored to the commercial industry.

### IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract submission open  
1 August 2024

Online registration for congress commences  
1 August 2024

Abstract submission closes  
30 October 2024

Abstract review decisions sent to authors  
15 November 2024

Early Bird Registration closes  
30 November 2024



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