



CONCEPT

SPECIAL SESSIONS

1) Two farmers' panel discussions:

- Cropping systems (annual and perennial crops)
- Integrated crop-livestock systems (annual and perennial crops and extensive rangelands)

2) Panel discussion: "What is the next step for CA?"

3) Panel discussion: "Soil health measurements - sense and nonsense."

4) Panel discussion: "Challenges in smallholder conservation agriculture worldwide."

National and international keynote speakers will be invited to address subthemes and side events.

PRACTICAL DAY

THURSDAY, 25 JULY 2024

Venue: The Western Cape Department of Agriculture's Langgewens Research Farm located between Malmesbury and Moorreesburg in the Swartland.

Numerous conservation agriculture trials are conducted at this site by the Western Cape Department of Agriculture, the Stellenbosch University and private companies. They showcase, among other things, excellent examples of livestock integration into cropping systems.

POST-CONGRESS TOURS

Option 1

Tour of conservation agriculture integrated crop-livestock systems, fruit and grape farms in the winter rainfall region of the Western Cape. Depart from Cape Town for four days, and then return to Cape Town.

Option 2

Tour of conservation agriculture integrated crop-livestock systems in the eastern summer rainfall region of South Africa. Fly from Cape Town to Durban, visit farms in KwaZulu-Natal and the Free State, drive to Johannesburg and then fly back to Cape Town.

Option 3

Tour of noteworthy places around South Africa, including the Kruger National Park.



THEME

Enhancing agricultural resilience by strengthening the impact and scaling of conservation agriculture.

CONCEPT

Although conservation agriculture is a proven strategy for mitigating the impacts of climate change and enhancing carbon sequestration, adoption figures still need to be higher, especially in Africa. The 9th World Congress on Conservation Agriculture will present practical farming solutions stemming from global research, international farming best practices and the broader agricultural industry. The congress will enhance the adoption of conservation agriculture by addressing aspects such as quantifying soil health, including livestock integration into cropping systems, nutrient stratification, soil acidification and how to scale out/up progressively.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Practical solutions to enhance conservation agriculture adoption and scaling out/up even further and faster, particularly in Africa.
- Practical methods and examples, through case studies, of dealing with real or perceived challenges in the conservation agriculture system. This includes nutrient stratification, integrated soil fertility and acidity management, weeding, livestock integration and integrated pest management.
- Monitoring and quantifying as well as measuring soil health.

NOTES

All presentations will be in English. Spanish and French translations will be available.

CONGRESS DATES

Monday, 22 July 2024 to Thursday, 25 July 2024.

LECTURE DAYS

Venue: Cape Town International Convention Centre
Monday, 22 July 2024 to Wednesday, 24 July 2024.

GALA EVENT

The evening of Wednesday, 24 July 2024.

SESSION SUB-THEMES

- Examples of successful conservation agriculture adoption and learnings from conservation agriculture efforts worldwide.
- Farm- and ecosystem-level benefits that conservation agriculture systems offer farmers, society and the environment.
- Mainstreaming of conservation agriculture with national policy and institutional support for scaling the adoption of conservation agriculture up and out.
- Promoting conservation agriculture-based knowledge and innovation systems, and information-sharing and communication.