



Muller Cronje

Profile

I pride myself on being hard-working, diligent and obedient to deadlines. I am a goal-driven individual who can perform well under pressure. I know that I will positively influence the whole agricultural industry through hard work, my passion for agriculture and my specific set of expertise both practical and theoretical.

Education

Hoërskool Durbanville, Matric

2018 📍 Durbanville

University of Pretoria, BSc Animal Sciences

2019 – 2022

Stellenbosch University, MSc Animal Sciences

2023 – 2024

MSc Animal Sciences at Outeniqua Research Farm in ruminant (Dairy) nutrition

MSc Title: Increasing pasture intake by allocating additional plantain pasture to cows before morning milking.

Part of my MSc trial was to manage a herd of 60 cows for two months. Tasks included: Fetching cows, pasture management, allocating pasture using RPM, heat observation, injections, monitoring specific cow behaviour using Afficollars and milking of cows.

Presented my current MSc study at Outeniqua Research Farm Information Day 2023.

Supervisor: Prof. Robin Meeske (082 908 4110)

Co-supervisor: Dr Lobke Steyn (071 629 0894)

Experience

Volunteer, RFG Foods

2018

Worked for a duration of two weeks at RFG Ayrshire dairy farm outside Franshoek to gain experience in several aspects of dairy farming.

Volunteer, Fisantekraal Animal Welfare (FAW)

2017 – 2018

Assisted vet in any day-to-day operations, vaccinations and weighing of animals.

Student representative, NAMPO ALFHA

2022

I was part of a group of final-year students who were asked to represent the University of Pretoria at the first NAMPO ALFA.

Reference: Albert Loubser (082 562 2188) Director of Plaas Media

Details

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MSc Student Researcher, Outeniqua Research Farm

📍 George

Being employed by the Western Cape Agricultural Trust while pursuing my MSc allows me the unique opportunity to attain experience on top of my own project by being involved with all day-to-day aspects of the research farm and assisting with other projects. Scientific techniques mastered: In sacco rumen study, determining the amount of pasture intake using Titanium dioxide as an indigestible marker and rumen pH monitoring using pH loggers.

Reference: Prof. Robin Meeske (082 908 4110)

Dairy Study Group

📍 George/Knysna

This study group consists of dairy farmers, managers and professionals in the dairy industry. The aim of this study group is to meet once a month on a different dairy farm in the area, with the purpose of analyzing individual farm performance metrics, addressing present challenges and outlining future strategies.

Pasture Science Group

📍 George

This study group run by Sigrun Amann and Janke van der Colf is held every second month and attended by dairy farmers and managers in the area. This study group focuses on the different pasture species and cultivars available. This is an essential tool for dairy farmers in the area to stay up to date with the latest research by focusing on which combination of cultivars and pasture species will have the best response.

Courses

Pig artificial insemination, PIC South Africa

Cattle artificial insemination, Department: Agriculture, Land Reform, and Rural Development. Reg no. 62/98/I-4421

Wool Classification course, OVK

Afimilk Literate

Experience in loading and extracting data on Afimilk system.

Extra-curricular activities

Student Job – Telemarketer, Platinum life

Cold-calling potential clients and verifying details of existing clients.

2021

Feedlot manager of the month, Up-Agric Feedlot challenge

2022

Published Popular Science article

Mar 2023

Published Popular science article in March edition of Veeplaas

Article title: Voedingsbestuur: Studente perspektief

Member, South African Society of Animal Science (SASAS)

2023