AGRICULTURE AND AGRIBUSINESS

Soil Fertility and Fertiliser Management

3 day course Classroom, online or in-house

Course overview

Fertiliser is the largest cash input on most farms and is routinely applied to a blanket recommendation written for a district rather than for the field it lands on. This course replaces the blanket with a measurement. Delegates work through soil sampling, which decides everything that follows, including sampling depth, pattern and the number of cores that make a composite representative. Laboratory analysis and interpretation follow, covering pH, organic carbon, phosphorus, potassium, cation exchange capacity and the ratios that matter. Acidity and liming are addressed in detail, since low pH locks up nutrients that have already been paid for. Nitrogen management is covered including timing, splitting and the losses to leaching and volatilisation. Phosphorus and potassium follow with their very different mobility. Micronutrients are addressed. Organic sources, manure and compost are covered with realistic nutrient contents. Fertiliser products, blends and application methods follow. The course closes on nutrient budgeting and on judging response rather than assuming it.

What you will learn

- Sample soil so the result represents the field
- Interpret a soil analysis including pH, carbon and exchange capacity
- Correct acidity through liming and explain the nutrient lock up it causes
- Time and split nitrogen to limit leaching and volatilisation
- Manage phosphorus and potassium according to their mobility
- Value manure and compost at realistic nutrient contents
- Budget nutrients and measure response rather than assuming it

Who should attend

- Agronomists and crop advisers
- Farm managers making input decisions
- Fertiliser company technical staff
- Extension officers making recommendations
- Soil laboratory staff interpreting results

Course outline

01 A recommendation written for a district
02 Soil sampling depth, pattern and composites
03 Interpreting a soil analysis
04 Acidity, liming and nutrient lock up
05 Nitrogen timing, splitting and losses
06 Phosphorus and potassium mobility
07 Micronutrients, manure and compost
08 Products, application methods, budgeting and response

Upcoming dates

Dates	Venue	Format	Fee per delegate
23 to 25 December 2026	Cape Town, South Africa	Classroom	R14,950
11 to 13 January 2027	Nairobi, Kenya	Classroom	USD 995
25 to 27 January 2027	Lagos, Nigeria	Classroom	USD 995
15 to 17 February 2027	Maseru, Lesotho	Classroom	R14,950

Fees and how to register

This 3 day course is **R6,500** per delegate online, **R14,950** in the classroom in South Africa, Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho and Eswatini, and **USD 995** in the classroom elsewhere in Africa. In-house training is quotation on request. Book 2 or more delegates on this course and save 10%.

To register or request an in-house proposal, visit **www.afrisciencegroup.com**, email **info@afriscience.co.za**, or WhatsApp us on **+27 63 479 1136**.