



AGRICULTURE AND AGRIBUSINESS

Sugarcane Production and Estate Agronomy

3 day course

Classroom, online or in-house

Course overview

Cane is paid on sucrose delivered, not tonnes, so a grower can raise yield and lower income by cutting immature cane or delaying delivery after burning. This course works to the sucrose. Delegates work through variety selection, land preparation and the planting that establishes a ratoon crop expected to last several cycles. Ratoon management is addressed, including gap filling and the decline that decides when to replant. Irrigation scheduling is covered for the irrigated estates of the region, alongside rainfed management. Nutrition follows, with nitrogen timing and its effect on sucrose rather than only cane weight. Weed control during the critical establishment period is addressed. Pest and disease management is covered, including eldana and smut. Ripening and the decision on when to harvest are addressed as the central agronomic judgement. Burning against green cane harvesting follows with their trade offs. Cutting, loading and the burn to crush delay are covered. The course closes on cane quality payment and on yield decline diagnosis.

What you will learn

- Select varieties and establish a crop that will ratoon well
- Manage ratoons, gap filling and the decision to replant
- Schedule irrigation and manage rainfed cane
- Time nitrogen for sucrose rather than cane weight alone
- Control weeds through the critical establishment period
- Manage eldana, smut and other pests and diseases
- Judge ripening and harvest timing, and minimise burn to crush delay

Who should attend

- Sugarcane growers and estate agronomists
- Field and irrigation supervisors on cane estates
- Outgrower scheme field officers
- Mill agricultural staff liaising with growers
- Extension officers in cane growing areas

Course outline

- 01 Paid on sucrose, not tonnes
- 02 Variety selection and establishment
- 03 Ratoon management and replanting
- 04 Irrigation scheduling and rainfed cane
- 05 Nitrogen timing and sucrose
- 06 Weed control in the critical period
- 07 Eldana, smut and disease management
- 08 Ripening, harvest timing, burn to crush delay and cane payment

Upcoming dates

Dates	Venue	Format	Fee per delegate
19 to 21 October 2026	Kigali, Rwanda	Classroom	USD 995
11 to 13 January 2027	Nairobi, Kenya	Classroom	USD 995
1 to 3 March 2027	Online	Online	R6,500



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**.

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