



THE 12TH COLLOQUIUM OF THE AFRICAN ARACHNOLOGICAL SOCIETY

ATKV GOUDINI RESORT, WORCESTER, SOUTH AFRICA

22–25 JANUARY 2017

2nd CIRCULAR

The 12th Colloquium of the African Arachnology Society (AFRAS) will be jointly hosted by the ARC – Plant Protection Research Institute in Pretoria (Ansie Dippenaar-Schoeman, Robin Lyle and Petro Marais), the University of the Free State in Bloemfontein (Charles Haddad) and Iziko South African Museum (affiliate Norman Larsen), and will be held at the ATKV Goudini Resort near Worcester in the Western Cape, South Africa. The Colloquium will be held from the afternoon of Sunday the 22th of January to the evening of Wednesday the 25th of January 2017 and regular updates will be posted on the AFRAS website (<http://afras.ufs.ac.za>).

The objectives of the Colloquium include promoting research on the African Arachnida (non-Acari) and to provide a forum for the discussion of this research in oral presentations, posters and workshops, as well as informal discussions.

VENUE

The 12th AFRAS Colloquium will be held at the Goudini Resort, located approximately an hour's drive east of Cape Town near the town of Worcester. The resort is situated in the fynbos of the Cape Floristic Region, so there is ample opportunity for delegates to spend time in the veld collecting arachnids. Since the conference will take place during mid-summer, there is no need for warm clothing! There are various options available should delegates wish to relax after the day's sessions have been concluded, including hiking trails, a swimming pool and spa, horse riding etc. Visit Goudini's website at <http://www.atkvresorts.co.za/goudinispa-overview> for more details and for a map to the venue.

TRAVEL

Participants are required to make their own travel arrangements to Goudini or to Cape Town International Airport (CTIA). If arranged in time beforehand, delegates arriving by plane can be transported from the CTIA to the venue via shuttle. Should you like to make use of the shuttle service, please contact Louise van Tonder (louisev@atkv.org.za) and provide her with your name, contact details and details of your flight. Vehicle rental facilities are also available at CTIA, should delegates wish to travel around the Western Cape before or after the congress.

Delegates travelling from the northern parts of South Africa are encouraged to share rides to reduce travel costs. Directions to Goudini, including a map, are available from the resort website at www.atkvoorde.co.za.

REGISTRATION FEES

All prices are given in South African Rands. Registration fees for the Colloquium are R800 (R600 for full-time students) and are payable into the account of the African Arachnological Society. The deadline for registration is **30 November 2016**, and anyone wishing to register after the deadline will need to pay an additional R200. Please use your SURNAME AFRAS 2017 as a reference when making the payment so that we can trace delegates' contributions on the account, and e-mail the registration form and proof of payment to Petro Marais (maraisp@arc.agric.za). Full-time students need to also include a copy of their proof of registration to qualify for the student tariff and student competition.

ACCOMMODATION AND MEALS

Accommodation

There are various accommodation options available to delegates, which are detailed on the Goudini website above. Although not all options are available to delegates, the following can be reserved:

- Standard Rondawels (sleeps three)
- Badsberg Flats (sleeps three)
- Boland Flats (sleeps five)
- Slanghoek Villas (sleeps five)
- Paved or grass caravan/camping sites

The costs per person per night vary according to the accommodation type and the number of persons sharing a particular type. Please consult the Accommodation and Meals (A&M) form for details.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please indicate on the A&M form who you will be sharing accommodation with if this has been arranged with other delegates beforehand. For those delegates wishing to share accommodation and that do not have potential housemates lined up, please do not send your A&M form to Goudini yet. Please send an e-mail to Robin Lyle (lyler@arc.agric.za), who will set up a list of delegates and divide you into accommodation according to gender. Robin will then liaise with

delegates and inform them whom they will be sharing with, as this needs to be indicated on the A&M form.

Please e-mail your A&M form and proof of payment to both Louise van Tonder (louisev@atkv.org.za) and Robin Lyle (lyler@arc.agric.za), so that Robin can keep track of accommodation designations.

Meals

All teas, the Welcoming Dinner and the AFRAS Colloquium Dinner are included in the registration costs. Please complete the A&M form to indicate which meals you would like to have prepared by Goudini, as well as your preferred accommodation option. Persons making use of self-catering accommodation and camping/caravan facilities will be in a position to prepare their own meals, although **attendance of the evening dinners is strongly encouraged** so that delegates can continue discussion and socialize with the other delegates. There is also a take-away restaurant at Goudini should delegates wish to purchase meals there, particularly lunches. A cash bar will be available to delegates during all of the dinners.

The cost of meals provided by Goudini is:
Breakfast (Monday to Thursday): R120 pp
Lunch (Monday to Wednesday): R160 pp
Dinner (Monday and Tuesday): R220 pp

If you have any specific dietary requirements or allergies, please include this information on your A&M form too. There is a R25 surcharge per meal for Halaal catering, so please indicate this if necessary.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON PAYMENTS

Since the Colloquium will be hosted by a private resort, the costs for accommodation and meals should be paid directly to Goudini (details are provided on the A&M form), who will make arrangements according to each delegate's requirements. Registration fees and payments for Colloquium T-shirts can be made to the AFRAS account, details of which are provided on the registration form.

In some cases, institutions do not cover the purchase of congress T-shirts. Such delegates should please arrange for payment of the registration fees by their institution, and send Petro Marais a separate registration form for the purchase of T-shirts and make payment themselves into the AFRAS account for this.

COLLOQUIUM FORMAT

Presentations of research papers and/or posters are invited in any field of arachnology, on the condition that the content deals with African arachnids. **Paper presentations** will be limited to 12 minutes, with 3 minutes for questions and discussion. In the **poster session** participants should give

a 5 minute oral presentation of their poster. Any other displays of an Arachnological nature will also be welcome, including books and journal promotions.

WORKSHOPS AND SPECIAL SESSIONS

Delegates are welcome to suggest workshops or dedicated sessions on particular topics to the programme organizer. So far a South African National Survey of Arachnida (SANSA) workshop and Spider Red Listing workshop have been proposed. Please make suggestions to Charles Haddad (haddadcr@ufs.ac.za).

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Sunday 22 January 2017 - *Arrival, registration, welcoming function*

Monday 23 January 2017 - *Talks, posters, photographic competition*

Tuesday 24 January 2017 - *Talks, posters, Russian Party*

Wednesday 25 January 2017 - *Free day (collecting, sightseeing etc.), AFRAS GM, Colloquium Dinner and Awards Ceremony*

Thursday 26 January 2017 - *Departure*

FREE DAY

During the colloquium there will be a free day for collecting or sightseeing (Wednesday 25 January), the AFRAS general meeting and the Colloquium Dinner. Goudini is situated in the Cape Winelands, and several well-known towns are within an hours' drive (Wellington, Paarl, Stellenbosch, Robertson and others), should delegates like to do some wine tasting on this day. Goudini also has various outdoor activities that delegates can enjoy, by prior arrangement.

Delegates wishing to collect on Wednesday can explore the extensive fynbos habitats on the grounds. Facilities will be available to delegates for identifying specimens, and some collecting equipment and consumables will be provided. A Catch-of-the-Day competition will be held and the winner announced at the Colloquium Dinner.

NB: Depending on the number of talks scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, it might be necessary to schedule a session on Wednesday morning. This information will be communicated to delegates once abstract submissions have closed and the programme has been finalized.

EVENING EVENTS

On Monday 23 January, a photo competition will be held after dinner, where any photos of arachnids can be entered. Please send jpeg images (<10MB) to Norman Larsen (avellopsi@telkomsa.net) for inclusion in this fun presentation.

On Tuesday 24 January, a Russian Party will be hosted by Yura Marusik following the dinner. This is a standard event at on the International Congress of Arachnology circuit, and Yura successfully

hosted the first “African” Russian Party at the last Colloquium. All delegates wishing to attend should bring at least one beverage (wine, shooters, beer etc.) for all delegates to share. Yura will provide fish, caviar and other Russian delicacies for delegates to enjoy.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

The deadline for submission of abstracts is **30 November 2016**. All abstracts should be submitted as Rich Text Format (.rtf) files to Charles Haddad (haddadcr@ufs.ac.za) and should not exceed 250 words. Please type the abstract in single spacing and Arial size 12 font. An example is given at the end of the circular.

Please include the following details on each submission:

1. **POSTER** or **PAPER** presentation (**BOLD CAPITALS**, centred, underlined)
2. Preferred field of interest (Systematics / Taxonomy; Genetics / Karyology; Biogeography; Biodiversity; Conservation; Envenomation / Toxicology; Behaviour; Ecology; Morphology; Paleo-arthropology) (**BOLD CAPITALS**, centred)
3. Initials and surname of author(s) (**Bold**, centred, affiliations in supercase numbers following author name; please underline presenting author if more than one author)
4. Author address(es) and e-mail address(es) on separate lines (Plain text, left aligned). Where authors have multiple addresses or have changed affiliations subsequent to carrying out the work (i.e. new present address), these should follow the first address designations of all authors.
5. Text (no keywords)

CIRCULARS

Colloquium updates will be made as they happen and will be posted on the AFRAS website (<http://afras.ufs.ac.za>). **Please** respond to Charles Haddad (haddadcr@ufs.ac.za) if you wish to register for the 12th AFRAS Colloquium, just to give us a preliminary indication of numbers. The **deadline** for payment of registration and submission of abstracts is **30 November 2016**.

COLLECTION PERMITS

If you wish to collect specimens before / during / after the colloquium please e-mail Charles Haddad (haddadcr@ufs.ac.za) **before 31 October 2016** and provide him with your South African ID number or passport number (international delegates). The permit application to CapeNature may be a lengthy process and we would like to ensure that everyone is covered.

If you plan collecting trips to any of the other South African provinces, Charles can provide you with the contact details for the relevant conservation authorities to apply for permits. For some provinces we have blanket permits that should cover collecting and export of specimens.

POST-CONGRESS TRIPS

No post-Colloquium trips have been planned yet. If any delegates wish to propose a trip and need additional collectors to join them, to help reduce costs, please contact Charles Haddad and this information can be posted on the AFRAS website.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the 12th AFRAS Colloquium and hope to host a memorable conference!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'CH', with a period at the end.

Charles Haddad

Chairman: African Arachnological Society

On behalf of the Organizing Committee of the 12th AFRAS Colloquium

Abstract example:

PAPER PRESENTATION

SYSTEMATICS

A revision of the genus *Theridion* (Araneae: Theridiidae) in South Africa

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² Department of Arachnology, National Museum, P.O. Box 266, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa

³ School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Central University of Technology, Bloemfontein 9300, South Africa

⁴ Present address: Parasitology Research Program, Department of Zoology and Entomology, University of the Free State Qwaqwa Campus, Phuthaditjhaba 9866, South Africa

In the present study the comb-foot web spiders of the genus *Theridion* (Araneae: Theridiidae) are revised in South Africa....