

Klein Kariba, Bela-Bela
Limpopo Province, South Africa
19-23 January 2020

AFRAS

13TH COLLOQUIUM



2nd Circular

The 13th colloquium will be hosted by the University of Venda and will be held at Klein Kariba, Bela-Bela, Limpopo from 19-23 January 2020

The objectives of the colloquium are to promote arachnid (non-acarine) research in Africa, to provide a forum for the discussion of results presented as oral presentations and posters, to highlight new trends and ultimately, to facilitate cooperation amongst contributors.

VENUE

The 13 AFRAS Colloquium will be held at the Klein Kariba Resort, located approximately an hour's drive north of Pretoria (100 km from Johannesburg) near the town Bela-Bela. The resort was selected because it is on the southern border of the Waterberg, nestled in a valley that extends up into the mountain. It is situated in the Savanna biome. To learn more about the Waterberg you can visit the website (<http://www.waterberg-bioquest.co.za/>). Presently 502 spiders species are known from the Waterberg.

In the resort, 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! The area is malaria free. There are various options available should delegates or spouses wish to relax after the day's sessions have been concluded, including hiking trails, swimming pools, game drives and spa. The resort provides a wide range of accommodation, which include luxurious dwellings through to camping.

KLEIN KARIBA 014-736 9859 / kariba@atkv.org.za / www.klein-kariba.co.za

GPS-coordinate 24°50'59" S / 28°20'20" E

CONTACT AT KLEIN KARIBA: bronwyno@atkv.org.za

TRAVEL

Participants are required to make their own travel arrangements to Klein Kariba or back to OR Tambo International Airport. Car hire is available at the airport. Directions to Klein Kariba, including a map, are available from the resort website. There are also a shuttle services that operate from Bela-Bela. Costs are around R300 – 400 pp one way but varies depending on how many people book. Please indicate on your registration form if you need transport and if we can assist you.

REGISTRATION FEES

All prices are given in South African Rands. Registration fees for the Colloquium are R1500 (R1200 for full-time students) and are payable into the account of the African Arachnological Society (see below). The deadline for registration is **30 November 2019**. Please use your SURNAME AFRAS 2020 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.

Bank: ABSA

Name: AFRAS

Account no.: 92 5159 1657

Branch: Ben Swart Street, Wonderboom South

Branch code: 334645 (Universal – 632005)

Type: ABSA Club Account

Spouses: accompanying spouses that want to attend the talks and join the other functions need to pay R1200 registration,

Day visitors: Need to pay for teas and lunch and colloquium bag separately R300.00

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON PAYMENTS: *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 colloquium 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. Registration will include use of conference facility, teas and eat in the mornings and the afternoon, lunch (Monday –Wednesday), welcoming and gala dinners, conference bag, a copy of the programme and abstracts (see attached registration form).*

ACCOMMODATION

There are various accommodation options available to delegates, which are detailed on the Klein Kariba website. Please check the reserve map for location of the conference facility. <https://www.atkvresorts.co.za/Resorts/Klein-Kariba/Klein-Kariba#542122-map>

Although the reserve is not that large, some accommodation (e.g. mountain cabins) are at least 10 min walk away from the conference facility and restaurant. Most of the flats are close to the conference facility and the restaurant.

The costs per person per night will 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. Accommodation booking are done directly at Klein Kariba. Complete the form and send copies to Klein Kariba (bronwyno@atkv.org.za or riaanm@atkv.org.za) and a copy to Robin Lyle (lyler@arc.agric.za). More information on the options available can be found at <https://klein-kariba.co.za/>.

VERY IMPORTANT: *Please indicate on the A&M form with 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 Klein Kariba 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 Robin Lyle (lyler@arc.agric.za), so that Robin can keep track of accommodation designations.*

CATERING

All Klein Kariba Housing accommodation is fully equipped for self-catering with a stove, microwave, fridge, crockery and cutlery. There are also braai facilities at each house. If people would like to prepare their own breakfast and some of the dinners.

Teas and lunch (Monday – Wednesday) are covered in the registration fee as well as Sunday 19 January Welcoming self Braai and the Gala dinner on Wednesday night. If you have any specific dietary requirements or allergies, please include this information on your A&M form too. There is a R41 surcharge per meal for Halaal catering, so please indicate this if necessary. Catered meals: All delegates at the colloquium are welcome to order catered meals that is breakfast and dinners. Delegates wishing to have their meals catered must do so on the meal form. A cash bar will be available.

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 Klein Kariba (details are provided on the A&M form), who will make the necessary arrangements according to each delegate's requirements.*

COLLOQUIUM FORMAT

Presentations of research papers and/or posters are invited in any field of arachnology. Paper presentations will be limited to 20 minutes, with 5 minutes for questions and discussion. In the poster session, participants should give a 5-8 minute oral presentation of their poster.

We encourage presentations from all fields of interest:

- systematics / taxonomy
- genetics
- biogeography
- biodiversity / conservation
- envenomation
- behaviour
- morphology

We welcome displays, including books and journal promotions. We would also welcome any displays of arachnological techniques, artwork, photographic shows. The meeting will include a free day (or half day depending on the programme), the gala dinner and the AFRAS AGM.

• WORKSHOPS AND SPECIAL SESSIONS

Delegates are welcome to suggest workshops or dedicated sessions on particular topics to the programme organizer. Please make suggestions to Stefan Foord at Stefan.foord@univen.ac.za

• PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

Sunday 19 January 2020 - *Arrival, registration, welcoming function*

Monday 20 January 2020 - *Talks, posters*

Tuesday 21 January 2020 - *Talks, posters, Russian Party*

Wednesday 22 January 2020 - *Free day (collecting, sightseeing etc.), AFRAS GM, Colloquium Dinner and Awards Ceremony*

Thursday 23 January 2020 – *Departure*

• FREE DAY

During the colloquium there will be a free day for collecting or sightseeing (Wednesday 22 January), Klein Kariba is situated in the Waterberg and several well-known towns are within an hours' drive (Bela-Bela and others). Klein Kariba also has various outdoor activities that delegates can enjoy, by prior arrangement.

Delegates wishing to collect on Wednesday can explore the extensive Savanna 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.

Horse rides (45min @ R85 per person & 15min @ R35 per person)

Quad bikes (R270 per person / R330 per quad if two people per quad)

Eco rides (R120 per person)

- **EVENING EVENTS**

Sunday - welcoming

Monday - photo competition

Tuesday – "Russian Party"

Wednesday- Gala dinner

"Russian Party"

On Tuesday 21 January, a Russian Party will be hosted by Yura Marusik following the dinner. Yura successfully hosted the first "African" Russian Party at the last two 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. Note: It is advisable to have a light dinner before the event as Yura provides quite a bit to eat as well.

COMPETITIONS

- **PHOTO COMPETITIONS**

On Monday 20 January, a photo competition will be held after dinner, where any photos of arachnids can be entered. Photographers do not need to be at colloquium for them to enter the competition. The categories are:

- Best macro photograph portrait
- Best macro photograph action photo
- Best Salticidae
- Photo of rarest arachnid
- Best photo over all

Please send jpeg images (<10MB) to Vida van der Walt (vidavdw2@gmail.com) for inclusion in this fun presentation.

- **CATCH OF THE DAY**

Delegates wishing to collect on Wednesday can explore the extensive savanna habitats on the resort. 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.

- **BEST TALKS/POSTER**

Full time students can indicate on their registration form if they want to participate in competition.

COLLECTING PERMITS

An application for a blanket permit allowing all delegates to collect in Limpopo Province have been submitted to the relevant authorities. The permit application 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, Stefan 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 COLLOQUIUM TOUR

We're working on plans for a post-Colloquium trip to the Waterberg and Soutpansberg/Blouberg mountains. If any delegates wish to participate in a trip and need additional collectors to join them, to help reduce costs, please contact Stefan as soon as possible.

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 Stefan Foord at Stefan.foord@univen.ac.za if you wish to register for the 13th AFRAS Colloquium, just to give us a preliminary indication of numbers. The **deadline** for payment of registration and submission of abstracts is **30 November 2019**. Better to book accommodation directly at Klein Kariba as soon as possible

We are looking forward to seeing you at the 13th AFRAS Colloquium and hope to host a memorable colloquium

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stefan', with a large, stylized initial 'S' that loops around the first part of the name.

Stefan Foord

Chairman: African Arachnological Society

Chairman Organizing Committee of the 13th AFRAS Colloquium

Stefan.foord@univen.ac.za

