

# Macadamia Nursery Association

Dear Macadamia Nurserymen,

The heavy rain experienced in Kwazulu-Natal highlighted the fact once again that our climate is changing and that no one can ignore how natural disasters can impact our lives.

Our thoughts are with the macadamia community in Natal – nurseries, growers, and handlers – as well as the whole agricultural industry and the population affected by the floods. We hope you are safe, and that the national solidarity will lessen the burden of the material damage.



**Seedling Growers Association  
of South Africa**

On the news front, the Macadamia Nursery Association (MNA) would like to remind you that SGASA (Seedling Growers Association of South Africa) is hosting its annual symposium on **7 to 9 June 2022**, in Letsitele – Limpopo Province.

This year, the programme is mostly focused on macadamia, with open visits to three macadamia nurseries, and several talks on relevant topics.

**The full programme is available  
on the following link:**

[Programme - timetable.cdr  
\(seedlinggrowers.co.za\)](#)

**Registration is available here:**

[Annual Symposium Registration Form –  
Seedling Growers](#)

Please note that **all registrations will close on the 20th of May 2022**, with a maximum of 150 delegates. Limited seats are available, so do not delay your registration if you would like to participate in the event.



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Finally, as most of the nurseries are slowing down their operations for the winter season, we would like to remind you that the Macadamia Felted Coccid (MFC) is spreading further than the original infested areas of Nelspruit, White River and Barberton.

The macadamia felted coccid has now been listed as a regulated pest under official control from the 8th of April 2022 (see *Government Gazette No.46207: Amendments to Control Measures R.110 of 27 January 1984 with Amended Control Measures R.1998 of 08 April 2022 in terms of the Agricultural Pests Act, 1983 (Act No.36 of 1983)*) by the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development.

With this in mind, we would like to reiterate to nurseries the importance of ensuring that all macadamia plant material – seeds or vegetative materials – are visually inspected in the orchard to ensure that it is free of MFC. For additional vigilance, the plant material could be dipped in a broad-spectrum insecticide before removal from a farm and followed by a drench with a systemic insecticide at the nursery. These sanitary practices will further mitigate the risk of introducing any insects into your nursery operations or production areas.

Note that the Gazette also states that it is compulsory to notify relevant stakeholders of new cases or pest incidence outside of the known affected areas. Furthermore, no one is allowed to move plant material from any land where MFC occurs. Nurseries can apply for permits to be exempted from certain prohibitions or obligations, and failure to comply will lead to destruction of plants, plants being sent back to quarantine areas or a person subject to an offense if regulations are violated.

Those precautions – at nursery level – are essential to limit the risk that is MFC to our industry.

As a reminder, it is our statutory obligation as macadamia nurseries and members of SAMAC to comply with the following points:

- All nurseries should have a valid certificate of registration with the Registrar of Plant Improvement in terms of the Plant Improvement Act, 2018 (Act No. 11 of 2018)
- All nurseries propagating macadamias shall register with SAMAC within 30 days of becoming involved in the industry
- It is the responsibility of the nurseries to ensure that its registration with SAMAC is valid and renewed annually
- All macadamia nurseries should share annually with SAMAC industry related information such as tree census and trees delivered

Sincerely,

The MNA Committee

