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THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN SOCIETY OF AQUATIC SCIENTISTS

MARCH 2003



**From the EXCO:**

**COMMENTS ON THE NATIONAL WATER RESOURCE STRATEGY (NWRS):** We would like to thank Tally Palmer for drafting a document containing comments on the National Water Resource Strategy (NWRS) on behalf of SASAqS. The Society has had a consistent record of involvement in and contribution to the development of reformed water policy and legislation in South Africa, and as such it was essential to comment constructively on the NWRS. We would like to thank the Society members, in particular Brian Allanson, Mark Chutter and Rob Palmer, who provided constructive criticism on such short notice. We would also like to thank those members who sent messages of support and appreciation for Tally's efforts. It is the participation of dedicated scientists and visionary direction that they provide that gives a Society purpose in the broader South African context.

**"Wet 'n Wildlife: Current trends in limnology and zoology in southern Africa" SASAqS CONFERENCE 2003 – CAPE TOWN:** The second circular containing the call for abstracts and registration will be sent out within the next week or two. Please respond as soon as possible since the closing date for registration and abstracts will be towards the end of April. Also remember that a large delegation is expected and place will be limited. For more information please access the website on [www.wetandwildlife.uct.ac.za](http://www.wetandwildlife.uct.ac.za) or contact Heather Malan ([hmalan@botzoo.uct.ac.za](mailto:hmalan@botzoo.uct.ac.za)).

**UPDATING OF MEMBERSHIP DETAILS 2003:** In order for the secretariat to have updated records it is essential that members inform us of any changes of address or contact details. Please inform us if you are no longer a member so that we could update those records as well. Please inform the Secretary (Victor Wepener - [vw@na.rau.ac.za](mailto:vw@na.rau.ac.za)) of any email or postal address changes or change in membership status.

**SASAqS AWARDS:** This is the last call for nominations for the SASAqS Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals. The last medals were awarded in 1999 and since the 2003 conference promises to be large gathering of Society members we would like to present medals to deserving scientists in the Aquatic Sciences. Please email nominations (which includes a CV of the nominee and a detailed motivation) to the chairman of the Awards Committee, Digby Cyrus [dcyrus@pan.uzulu.ac.za](mailto:dcyrus@pan.uzulu.ac.za) by **30 April 2003**.

- A Gold medal shall be awarded on rare occasions in recognition of an exceptionally high standard of research in the aquatic sciences, or an exceptionally valuable contribution to the management, conservation or development of aquatic ecosystems or resources, over an extended period.
- A Silver medal shall be awarded irregularly in recognition of the exceptionally high standard of a specific piece of research in the aquatic sciences or of the exceptionally high standard of a particular contribution to the management, conservation or development of aquatic ecosystems or resources.
- A bronze Medal shall be awarded irregularly in recognition of the exceptionally high standard of a specific piece of work by a junior scientist or manager. This work shall normally be in the form of a dissertation.

**Meetings:**

1. SASAqS Annual Conference 2003 – Cape Town (Heather Malan, Department of Zoology, UCT)
2. **Sixth International River Management Symposium URBAN RIVERS** – Balancing the expectations 2 – 5 September 2003 Brisbane Queensland AUSTRALIA. [www.riverfestival.com.au/](http://www.riverfestival.com.au/)
3. The First Call for Abstracts, SETAC North America 24th Annual Meeting, Austin Texas, 9 – 13 November, is available at [abstracts.allenpress.com/cgi-bin/setac/index.pl](http://abstracts.allenpress.com/cgi-bin/setac/index.pl) . DEADLINE IS 31 MAY.
4. The SETAC Asia/Pacific Conference will be held, 28 September - 1 October 2003, Christchurch, New Zealand, entitled "Solutions to Pollution." It will be a joint international conference with the Australasian Society for Ecotoxicology (ASE) in Christchurch. For more information, go to <http://www.setac.org/meet.html>.

▶ **PUBLICATIONS:**

**PUBLICATIONS BY SOCIETY MEMBERS**

The attached document contains a recent list of the publications by one of our members, Nancy Rayner. Nancy is an Honorary Research Associate in the Zoology Department, School of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Durban-Westville and is an expert on the freshwater Copepoda of southern Africa. She can be contacted on [nrayner@yebo.co.za](mailto:nrayner@yebo.co.za).

All members of the Society are once again invited to send in the references of their latest publications. In this manner other members of the Society can remain updated with the latest research output in aquatic science in South Africa.

▶ **JOB OPPORTUNITIES/ COURSES / BURSARIES AND FELLOWSHIPS:**

1. **Course in SASS5 – A rapid method of water quality assessment** – This course will be presented from 19-21 May 2003 at Merry Pebbles, Sabie by AfriDev Consultants and Environmental Biomonitoring Services. The aim of the course will be to provide practical experience in applying the SASS5 biomonitoring method. Contact Dr Rob Palmer, AfriDev Consultants, Tel & Fax: 013-751 1533, Cell: 082 574 4486, Email: [afridevr@iafrica.com](mailto:afridevr@iafrica.com). For more detailed information on costs, etc. please refer to the attached newsletter.
2. **African Branch of the Society of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology (SETAC)** – The Branch was formed during an international conference on Pesticides in Cape Town on 22 January 2003. Interested people can contact Victor Wepener ([vw@na.rau.ac.za](mailto:vw@na.rau.ac.za)) for more information. Information on SETAC can also be obtained at the following website: [www.setac.org](http://www.setac.org).

This section of SASAqS News is aimed at advertising available employment opportunities, courses, postgraduate bursaries, post-doc positions and fellowships in aquatic sciences. All information must please be sent to Victor Wepener ([vw@na.rau.ac.za](mailto:vw@na.rau.ac.za)) before the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.

**Please visit the Society website on [www.dwaf.gov.za/iwqs/sasaqs/](http://www.dwaf.gov.za/iwqs/sasaqs/) for updates on SASAqS matters.**

► **PUBLICATIONS:**

**PUBLICATIONS BY SOCIETY MEMBERS**

**Publications of Nancy A. Rayner (1999-2002)**

**Honorary Research Associate, Zoology Dept, School of Life and Environmental Sciences, University of Durban-Westville**

- Harding, D. & N.A. Rayner. 2001. The zooplankton community of Lake Kariba in 1962/63 following the impounding of the Zambezi River. *African Journal of Aquatic Science* 26(1): 9-15.
- Rayner, N.A. 1999. Copepoda: Calanoida. Diaptomidae, Paradiaptominae. *Guides to the Identification of the Microinvertebrates of the Continental Waters of the World* 15. Coordinating editor: H.J.F. Dumont. Backhuys Publishers, Leiden.
- Rayner, N.A. 1999. Notostraca. *Guides to the Freshwater Invertebrates of Southern Africa*. Vol. 2: Crustacea I. Notostraca, Anostraca, Conchostraca and Cladocera. Eds: J.A. Day, B.A. Stewart, I.J. de Moor & A.E. Louw. Water Research Commission, Pretoria, South Africa, WRC Report No. TT 121/00.
- Rayner, N.A. 2000. The distribution of the Paradiaptominae (Copepoda: Calanoida: Diaptomidae). *S.A. Journal of Aquatic Science* 25: 93-97.
- Rayner, N.A. 2001. Copepoda. *Guides to the Freshwater Invertebrates of Southern Africa*. Vol. 3: Crustacea II. Eds: J.A. Day, B.A. Stewart, I.J. de Moor & A.E. Louw. Water Research Commission, Pretoria, South Africa, WRC Report No. TT 148/01.
- Rayner, N.A. 2002. Tardigrada. *Guides to the Freshwater Invertebrates of Southern Africa*. Vol. 5: Non-Arthropods. Eds: J.A. Day & I.J. de Moor. Water Research Commission, Pretoria, South Africa, WRC Report No. TT 167/02.
- Rayner, N.A., Appleton, C.C. & N.A.H. Millard. 2002. Cnidaria. *Guides to the Freshwater Invertebrates of Southern Africa*. Vol. 5: Non-Arthropods. Eds: J.A. Day & I.J. de Moor. Water Research Commission, Pretoria, South Africa, WRC Report No. TT 167/02.
- Rayner, N.A. & Appleton, C.C. 2002. Nematomorpha. *Guides to the Freshwater Invertebrates of Southern Africa*. Vol. 5: Non-Arthropods. Eds: J.A. Day & I.J. de Moor. Water Research Commission, Pretoria, South Africa, WRC Report No. TT 167/02.
- Reid, J.W., Bayly, I.A.E., Pesce, G.L., Rayner, N.A., Ranja Reddy, Y., Rocha, C.E.F., Suárez-Morales, E. & H.Ueda. 2002. Conservation of Continental Copepod Crustaceans. *In* E. Escobar-Briones & F. Alvarez *Eds Modern Approaches to the study of Crustacea* pp. 253-261, Kluwer Academic Publishers, NY.

► **JOB OPPORTUNITIES/ COURSES / BURSARIES AND FELLOWSHIPS:**

1. **Course in SASS5 – A rapid method of water quality assessment** – This course will be presented from 19-21 May 2003 at Merry Pebbles, Sabie by AfriDev Consultants and Environmental Biomonitoring Services. The aim of the course will be to provide practical experience in applying the SASS5 biomonitoring method.

# COURSE IN SASS5 – A RAPID METHOD OF WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT

**Venue: Merry Pebbles, Sabie**  
**Dates: 19-21 May 2003**

**Presented by**  
**AfriDev Consultants and**  
**Environmental Biomonitoring Services**

<p><b>Aim</b> The aim of the course will be to provide practical experience in applying the SASS5 biomonitoring method.</p> <p><b>Course presenters</b> Dr Rob Palmer Mr Gerhard Diedericks Ms Christa Thirion</p> <p><b>Language</b> The course will be presented in English.</p> <p><b>Requirements</b> Participants must be able to swim, and should bring clothing suitable for working in rivers (eg old tackies, shorts etc)</p>	<p><b>Course focus</b> The course will focus on the practical application of the SASS method, from planning to reporting. Aspects covered will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site selection</li> <li>• Habitat assessment</li> <li>• Equipment &amp; safety</li> <li>• Sampling procedures</li> <li>• Invertebrate identification</li> <li>• Data analysis and reporting</li> <li>• National River Health Programme</li> <li>• Applications</li> </ul> <p><b>Fees</b> The course fee, including accommodation for two nights, is R4,000 (vat excl). Sampling equipment, including SASS net and tray, tweezers, magnifying glass etc is an additional R800 (optional)</p>	<p><b>Who Should attend</b> Anyone interested in water quality management and the practical application of SASS, including people from government, industry, non-government organisations, consulting firms and research institutes.</p> <p><b>Enquiries</b> Dr Rob Palmer AfriDev Consultants PO Box 4349 White River, 1240 Tel &amp; Fax: 013-751 1533 Cell: 082 574 4486 Email: <a href="mailto:afridevr@iafrica.com">afridevr@iafrica.com</a></p>
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