

# **COURSE IN SASS – A RAPID METHOD OF WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT**

**Presented by**

**AfriDev Consultants,  
Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, and  
Environmental Biomonitoring Services**

**Sabie**

***Main course: 6-8 May 2002  
Refresher course: 23 September 2002***

## **Aim**

The aim of the course will be to provide practical experience in applying the SASS biomonitoring method.

## **Course focus**

The course will focus on the practical application of the SASS method, from planning to reporting. Aspects covered will include:

- SASS site selection
- SASS equipment
- SASS safety
- SASS sampling procedures
- SASS invertebrate identification
- SASS data analysis and reporting
- SASS quality control

## **Venue**

The course will be held at Merry Pebbles, on the banks of the Sabie River, Sabie. The conference

facility is within walking distance of the river.

## **Course programme**

The course will consist of a main course lasting 3 days, and a 1-day refresher course after 4 months.

The aim of the refresher course is:

- to allow participants time to apply the method on their own under different circumstances,
- to check that participants are applying the method correctly, and
- to provide a forum to discuss questions and problems that may arise when applying the method under different circumstances.

## **Who Should attend**

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. The number of attendees will be restricted.

### **Language**

The course will be presented in English.

### **Who will present the course**

The course will be presented by a highly qualified team of experts, including:

**Dr Rob Palmer** (AfriDev) - 13 years of experience in freshwater research, including 4 years consulting

**Ms Christa Thirion** (Institute for Water Quality Studies) —14 years of experience in freshwater research, including 10 years of biomonitoring, and a key member of the National River Health Programme

**Mr Gerhard Diedericks & Ms Felicity Weir (Freelance)** (Environmental Biomonitoring Services) - 5 years of experience in biomonitoring for the forestry industry.

### **Requirements**

Participants must be able to swim, and should bring clothing suitable for working in rivers (e.g. old tackies, shorts etc)

### **Certificate**

A certificate of attendance will be issued on completion of the course.

### **Fees**

The course fee, including the refresher course and sampling equipment, is R5,000 (vat excluded) payable before 1 May 2002.

The fee includes:

- Meals and accommodation for two nights for the main course, and meals accommodation for one night preceding the refresher course
- Course material and sampling equipment, including SASS net and tray, tweezers, magnifying glass etc, valued at over R600.

The fees excludes:

- Transport to the venue

A cancellation fee of 50% of the total amount applies to participants who cancel their registration less than 7 days before the course begins, and 100% to participants who fail to register on the first day of the course. Cancellations must be confirmed in writing.

### **Enquiries**

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