DRAFT PROGRAMME OUTLINE

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2026		
Time	**Title**	**Speaker**
12h30	Registration / Lunch / Industry Networking	
SESSION 1		
14h00	Welcome and opening by Congress Chairperson	Dr Tiaan Cilliers
14h10	Keynote: Lightning strike in Broiler Breeders	Dr Ryan Blumenthal
14h55	Mental health for professionals	To be confirmed
15h25	Mid-afternoon refreshments & Networking	
SESSION 2		
16h00	Artificial Intelligence (Virtual Presentation)	Dr Suresh Raja
16h35	Zn as a nutritional antiviral strategy against RNA viruses in poultry	Dr Chris Ashworth
16h55	Case study: Reo to CAV	Dr Andries Fourie
17h15	Close of Day 1	
18h00	Welcome Reception *(sponsored by V-Tech)*	

THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2026		
Time	**Title**	**Speaker**
SESSION 3		
08h00	Keynote: Avian Mycoplasmosis (Virtual Presentation)	Prof Naola Fergusson
08h45	AI update and Salmonella database overview	Prof Celia Abolnik
09h20	Producing novel vaccines in the tobacco plant expression systems against Avian Encephalomyelitis, and C. perfringens	Christie Smith
09h40	Mid-morning refreshments & Networking	
SESSION 4		
10h10	AFMA feedback	Bonnita Cilliers
10h40	Outgrowth dynamics of probiotics: A key determinant for probiotic efficacy in poultry	Natasha Davidson
11h10	Avian Influenza H7	Dr Shahn Bisschop
11h30	Infectious bursal disease virus epidemiology in Southern Africa and the emergence of reassorting strains in farms under various vaccination programs	Dr Maria Maleta
11h50	Welfare	Dr Matthys Uys
12h10	Lunch	

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Time	**Title**	**Speaker**
SESSION 5		
13h00	Keynote: Avian Influenza Viruses: Evolution, risks, challenges, and vaccine innovations (Virtual Presentation)	Prof Munir Iqbal
13h45	Abattoir: Condemnation causes	Dr Delarey Ribbens
14h20	Genomic characterisation of antimicrobial resistant *Enterococcus* species isolated from live and post-mortem chickens	Nompumelelo Nene
14h40	Case study: Glycogen Hepatopathy in Broilers	Dr Frank Travers
15h00	Mid-afternoon refreshments & Networking opportunity	
SESSION 6		
15h30	Growth under pressure: Nutritional strategies to strengthen the gut-immune axis in high-performance broilers	Prof Peter Plumstead
16h05	Molecular epidemiology of *Escherichia coli* in Poultry: A comparative analysis of isolates from healthy and sick chickens	Bongiwe Ngobese
16h25	Close of Day 2	
19h00	Congress Dinner *(sponsored by Deltamune)*	

FRIDAY, 13 NOVEMBER 2026		
Time	**Title**	**Speaker**
SESSION 7		
08h30	Case study: Effect of water treatment in commercial layers	Dr Heinrich Potgieter
08h50	Poultry pathology and industry feedback: what's cookin'?	Dr Olwam Hamilton Monakali
09h20	Poultry Nutrition: Metabolic related issues	Dr David Brandt
09h55	Mid-morning refreshments & Networking opportunity	
SESSION 8		
10h30	Inclusion body hepatitis (IBH): pathogenesis and prevention by vaccination	Prof Michael Hess
11h15	Poultry Vets' Journey with SG in SA and SSA	Dr Peter Johnsston
11h50	Close of Congress	
12h00	AGM (Poultry Members only	
13h00	Lunch & Departure	