11-13 NOVEMBER 2026

Poultry Group of SAVA 2026 Biennial Congress

DRAFT PROGRAMME OUTLINE

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2026		
Time	**Title**	**Speaker**
12h30	Registration / Lunch / Industry Networking	
	SESSION 1 *Chairperson:*	
14h00	Welcome and opening by Congress Chairperson	Dr Tiaan Cilliers
14h10	Keynote: Lightning strike in Broiler Breeders	Dr Ryan Blumenthal
14h55	Poultry Vets' Journey with SG in SA and SSA	Dr Peter Johnston
15h35	Mid-afternoon refreshments & Networking	
	SESSION 2 *Chairperson:*	
16h00	Artificial Intelligence in poultry production and processing: what works today and what comes next	Dr Suresh Raja
16h35	Zn as a nutritional antiviral strategy against RNA viruses in poultry	Dr Chris Ashworth
16h55	Case study: Green hock investigation	Dr Andries Fourie
17h15	Close of Day 1	
18h00	Welcome Reception at the Boma *(sponsored by V-Tech)*	

THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2026		
Time	**Title**	**Speaker**
	SESSION 3 *Chairperson:*	
08h00	Keynote: Avian mycoplasmosis - A systematic approach to control	Prof. Naola Ferguson-Noel
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	Ms Christie Smith
09h40	Mid-morning refreshments, Networking and Posters	

THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2026		
SESSION 4 *Chairperson:*		
Time	Title	Speaker
10h10	South Africa's Evolving Feed Regulatory Landscape - Where We Stand. What's Changing. What Lies Ahead	Ms Bonita Cilliers
10h40	Outgrowth Dynamics probiotics: A Key determinant for probiotic efficacy in poultry	Ms Natasha Davison
11h00	Avian Influenza H7	Dr Shahn Bisschop
11h35	Infectious bursal disease virus epidemiology in Southern Africa and the emergence of reassorting strains in farms under various vaccination programs	Dr Maria Maleta
11h55	Acceptable or Affordable? Rethinking Broiler Welfare in South Africa	Dr Matthys Uys
12h30	Lunch	
SESSION 5 *Chairperson:*		
13h30	Keynote: Avian Influenza Viruses: Evolution, risks, challenges, and vaccine innovations	Prof. Munir Iqbal
14h15	Abattoir: Condemnation causes	Dr Delarey Ribbens
14h55	Case study: Glycogen Hepatopathy in Broilers	Dr Frank Travers
15h15	Growth under pressure: Nutritional strategies to strengthen the gut-immune axis in high-performance broilers	Prof. Peter Plumstead
15h50	Mid-afternoon refreshments, Networking and Posters	
16h00	AGM (Poultry Members only)	
17h30	Close of Day 2 | *Venue turnaround for Gala Dinner*	
19h00	Congress Dinner in main venue *(sponsored by Deltamune)*	

FRIDAY, 13 NOVEMBER 2026		
Time	Title	Speaker
SESSION 7 *Chairperson:*		
09h00	Case study: Effect of water treatment in commercial layers	Dr Heinrich Potgieter
09h30	Poultry pathology and industry feedback: what's cookin'?	Dr Olwam Hamilton Monakali
10h00	Poultry Nutrition: Metabolic related issues	Dr David Brandt
10h35	Mid-morning refreshments & Networking opportunity	
SESSION 8 *Chairperson:*		
11h00	Keynote: Inclusion body hepatitis (IBH): pathogenesis and prevention by vaccination	Prof. Michael Hess
11h45	Topic TBC	Dr Dawn Reinhoudt
12h05	Lunch & Departure	