



Accredited Africa Training Institute for Capacity Development

Unit FO409, Hatfield Plaza · 1122 Burnett St, Hatfield 0028 · Pretoria, Gauteng · South Africa

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COURSE BROCHURE

Problem Plant Species Control Programme Implementation

Agriculture and Nature Conservation / Nature Conservation

Unit Standard 257155 · NQF Level 4 · 8 Credits · 5 Days

COURSE OVERVIEW

This course equips learners with the competencies to implement a problem plant species control programme in accordance with relevant legislation and best practices. Participants will gain practical skills to identify, manage, and control invasive alien plants, contributing to biodiversity conservation and ecosystem health.

Category	Agriculture and Nature Conservation
Subfield	Nature Conservation
Unit Standard	257155
Accreditation	SAQA Accredited · NQF Level 4 · 8 Credits
Duration	5 days
Training Method	Online, On-Campus, In-House
Certificate	Issued via AATICD LMS – verifiable online

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Identify problem plant species and assess their impact on ecosystems and land use.
- Apply relevant legislation and regulations governing invasive species control.
- Develop and implement a control programme using appropriate methods and techniques.
- Monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of control measures and adjust plans accordingly.
- Demonstrate safe and responsible use of herbicides and other control agents.
- Communicate and coordinate with stakeholders to ensure programme success.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

- This course is designed for environmental practitioners, land managers, conservation officers, and agricultural extension workers responsible for invasive species management in natural or agricultural settings.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1: Introduction to Problem Plant Species and Control Principles

- Overview of problem plant species: definitions, categories (invasive, alien, weeds)
- Ecological and economic impacts on biodiversity, water resources, agriculture
- Legal framework: Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act (CARA), National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (NEMBA)
- Identification of common problem plant species (e.g., Lantana, Black Wattle, Prickly Pear)
- Integrated control principles: mechanical, chemical, biological, cultural
- Planning and record-keeping requirements for control programmes
- Safety and environmental considerations

Day 2: Planning and Designing a Control Programme

- Site assessment techniques: surveying, mapping (GPS/GIS), density estimation
- Setting SMART objectives for control programmes
- Prioritisation criteria: ecological value, spread risk, cost-effectiveness
- Selection of control methods: manual, mechanical, chemical (herbicides), biological agents
- Developing a control programme plan: activities, timelines, responsibilities
- Budgeting: cost estimation for labour, equipment, chemicals, monitoring
- Documentation and record-keeping systems

Day 3: Control Methods and Techniques – Mechanical and Chemical

- Mechanical control methods: manual removal, cutting, burning, mulching
- Chemical control: herbicide types (systemic, contact), modes of action
- Herbicide selection based on target species and environment
- Mixing and calculating correct dosages
- Application techniques: foliar spray, stem injection, basal bark, cut stump
- Calibration of spray equipment (knapsack, boom sprayer)
- Safety procedures: PPE, handling spills, storage, disposal
- Environmental precautions to protect non-target species and water sources

Day 4: Biological and Integrated Control, Monitoring and Evaluation

- Biological control: introduction of natural enemies (insects, pathogens)
- Case studies of successful biological control in South Africa
- Integrated control strategies: combining methods for synergy
- Monitoring techniques: fixed-point photography, transects, density counts
- Key performance indicators: reduction in infestation, regrowth rates, cost per hectare
- Adaptive management: adjusting plans based on monitoring data
- Reporting and documentation for compliance and funding
- Long-term maintenance and follow-up control

Day 5: Implementation, Compliance, and Practical Integration

- Field implementation of a control programme (simulated or real site)
- Compliance with legal requirements: permits, notifications, herbicide registration
- Safety briefings and risk assessments on site
- Team roles and communication during operations
- Record-keeping: daily logs, chemical usage, observations
- Post-operation evaluation: debrief, lessons learned

- Final assessment and certification requirements
- Course wrap-up and Q&A;

ASSESSMENT & CERTIFICATION

Delegates are assessed through exercises and a final test. A mark of **50% or above** earns an **AATICD Certificate of Completion**, issued digitally with a unique verification code. This course carries **8 NQF credits** at **NQF Level 4**.

PRICING (PER DELEGATE, EX-VAT)

Delegates	Training Method	Price per Delegate	Total
1	Online	R 23,000.00	R 23,000.00
1	In-House	R 29,900.00	R 29,900.00
1	On-Campus (Pretoria)	R 34,500.00	R 34,500.00

UPCOMING SESSIONS

Start	End	Method	Venue
10 Aug 2026	14 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Durban, South Africa
10 Aug 2026	14 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Abu Dhabi, UAE
10 Aug 2026	14 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Pretoria, South Africa
10 Aug 2026	14 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Dubai, UAE
10 Aug 2026	14 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Cape Town, South Africa
10 Aug 2026	14 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Mauritius
17 Aug 2026	21 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Dubai, UAE
17 Aug 2026	21 Aug 2026	On-Campus	Pretoria, South Africa

Contact us if no suitable date is listed – on-demand sessions can be arranged for groups.

HOW TO GET A QUOTE OR APPLY

1. **Get an instant quotation online:** visit www.aaticd.co.za, open the page for this course (Unit Standard 257155) and click **Get A Quote / Apply**. Select your training method and number of delegates – your quotation is generated immediately and emailed to you with the course brochure attached.
2. **Apply by email:** send the course title, your preferred training method (Online, In-House or On-Campus Pretoria), the number of delegates and your preferred dates to apply@aaticd.co.za – our team will reply with a formal quotation.
3. **Apply by phone or WhatsApp:** call **+27 12 004 8389** or WhatsApp **+27 65 077 6310** and we will prepare your quotation and reserve your seats.
4. **Confirm your booking:** accept the quotation and settle the invoice. As soon as payment is confirmed your delegates are enrolled and receive their AATICD LMS login details by email, along with joining instructions for their chosen training method.

Group discounts apply automatically – the more delegates you enrol, the lower the price per delegate. No payment is required to request a quotation.

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