

Prof Liza Korsten

Professor Lise Korsten is the Chairperson of the ASSAf Forum on Food Safety and Co-Director of the DSTI-NRF Centre of Excellence in Food Security, where she leads programmes focused on food safety, post-harvest pathology and sustainable control measures. As President of the African Academy of Sciences and Chair of the Global Task Force on Food Security for the International Society for Plant Pathology, she has been instrumental in fostering multi-stakeholder collaborations to address critical challenges in food systems, including pathogens, pesticide residues and antimicrobial resistance.



She has advised the South African Parliament on food safety policy, contributing to the development of a national agrifood system framework in 2001 and has pioneered innovative biocontrol agents for fruit in South Africa, while co-founding the South African Biomanufacturers Association to advance environmentally friendly agricultural practices. With over 100 postgraduate students supervised, more than 186 peer-reviewed publications, and an H-index of 50 (placing her in the top 2% of scientists globally). Professor Korsten is a Fellow of the South African Society for Plant Pathology and the Academy of Science of South Africa. She serves as a senior editor for Crop Protection and has received prestigious awards, including the Water Research Commission's Human Capital Development Award and the MT Steyn Prize, for her contributions to evidence-based science in promoting planetary health as well as the NSTF Lifetime award for dedication to science, safe produce and resilient food futures.