



Make today matter



The Bachelor of Science in Agriculture in Plant Pathology programme entails the study and control of plant diseases.



Who is the ideal candidate?

The ideal candidate is a creative thinker who enjoys exploring and understanding problems. They seek to uncover the causes of issues and find solutions. Identifying the culprit (e.g., the pathogen) behind a plant's disease or death is much like being a detective solving a crime. Like veterinary scientists and medical doctors, plant pathologists work with patients—except they cannot communicate with plants. Instead, they rely on observation, experience, and intuition to diagnose and resolve issues. Successful students in this programme are curious, creative, passionate, driven, and ambitious, eager to take on new challenges.

Agricultural scientists often work in the field or in plant nurseries, farms, pack houses, processing plants, markets or retail. They may also be involved in the local or international food trade. They are multifaceted thinkers who enjoy solving problems, are curious about nature and want to provide food for the table by ensuring healthy plants, crop protection, high yields and reduced waste and losses.



What makes this programme unique?

The programme covers both basic and applied research and ensures safe food and food security for all.



Career opportunities

- Consultant plant pathologists often collaborate with economists, soil scientists, horticulturists, entomologists and farmers, big corporates, pesticide companies or retailers. They not only advise, but also influence governments, industry and the general public regarding critical matters such as trade, phytosanitary and sanitary matters, and the right to food.
- Lecturers and researchers at universities and technical colleges provide quality creative education and share their skills and experiences with students to prepare them for careers in the flower industry, turf grass or horticultural sectors, crop production, viticulture, agronomy, soil sciences and entomology, as well as agricultural economics. They are classical transdisciplinary thinkers who can solve problems and are innovative in finding practical solutions for farmers and others in the agricultural sector.
- Agricultural scientists and researchers at various companies and academic institutions research many different aspects of plant health, crop protection, food security and food safety.



Which companies employ our graduates?

Our graduates are employed at:

- The National Department of Agriculture
- The Agricultural Research Council
- Agrochemical companies
- Seed and plant production companies
- Undercover crop production endeavours, eg vertical farming, greenhouses and hydroponics
- Tissue culture laboratories
- Diagnostic laboratories
- Biological control companies
- Nurseries and garden centres
- Lawn and landscape maintenance firms
- Agricultural co-operatives
- Private agricultural estates, farms and big corporate estates
- The SA Bureau of Standards (SABS) and The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
- Exporting or importing companies
- Fresh produce markets and retailers
- National and international certification bodies such as auditors, assessors or technical experts in good agricultural practices or food safety
- United Nations, Food and Agricultural Organisation, World Health Organisation, World Trade Organisation or International Standards Organisations
- Researchers and lecturers at technical colleges or universities

Minimum admission requirements

Programme	Minimum requirements for NSC/IEB for 2026			
	Achievement level			APS
	English Home Language or English First Additional Language	Mathematics	Physical Sciences	
Bachelor of Science in Agriculture in Plant Pathology [4 years]	5	5	5	32



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
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YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA

Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences

Fakulteit Natuur- en Landbouwetenskappe
Lefapha la Disaense tša Tlhago le Temo

Minimum requirements for
applicants with a school
leaving certificate not issued
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Refer to the International undergraduate prospectus at www.up.ac.za/programmes > Undergraduate > Admission Information or [click here](#) for more information.

- The closing date for applications for programmes in this faculty is 30 June.
- Meeting the minimum admission requirements does not guarantee admission into a programme.

FACULTY OF NATURAL AND AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES Programmes	Minimum requirements for 2026									
	Achievement level									
	Compulsory subjects	GCSE #		HIGCSE NSSC HL	AS Level	A Level	IB		KOMBI ABITUR	KCSE
		The qualifications in the two columns below will be considered only for conditional admission. If final AS and/or A levels have been completed, these two columns will not apply. It can also not be used for final admission and/or registration.								
		CIE	UK		GCE CIE NSSC AS	GCE CIE CGCE UACE WAEC ZGCE	IB SL	IB HL		
		IGCSE LGCSE BGCSE EGCSE	England Wales Northern Ireland Pearson Edexcel GCSE							
		O Level NSSC OL CGCE UCE NECO WAEC WASSCE ZGCE								
Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry	English Mathematics Physics Chemistry	C	4	3	C	E	4	3	60-69%	B
Bachelor of Science in Biotechnology										
Bachelor of Science in Ecology										
Bachelor of Science in Zoology										
Bachelor of Science in Entomology										
Bachelor of Science in Genetics										
Bachelor of Science in Human Genetics										
Bachelor of Science in Human Physiology										
Bachelor of Science in Human Physiology, Genetics and Psychology										
Bachelor of Science in Medical Sciences										
Bachelor of Science in Microbiology										
Bachelor of Science in Plant Science										
Bachelor of Science in Chemistry										
Bachelor of Science in Physics										
Bachelor of Science in Geography [Option: Geography and Environmental Science]										
Bachelor of Science in Geoinformatics										
Bachelor of Science in Geology										
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology										
Bachelor of Science in Environmental and Engineering Geology										

Only English with at least a C symbol on this level can be used for final admission.

NOTE: The Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences requires the following achievement levels for IELTS and TOEFL: TOEFL – Writing=22; Speaking=23; Reading=21; Listening=17
IELTS – Writing=6; Speaking=6; Reading=6; Listening=6



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IGCSE LGCSE BGCSE EGCSE O Level NSSC OL CGCE UCE NECO WAEC WASSCE ZGCE	England Wales Northern Ireland Pearson Edexcel GCSE									
Bachelor of Science in Food Science	English Mathematics Physics Chemistry									
Bachelor of Science in Food Management [Option: Culinary Science]										
Bachelor of Science in Food Management [Option: Nutritional Science]										
Bachelor of Science in Agriculture in Agricultural Economics in Agribusiness Management		C C C C	4 4 4 4	3 3 3 3	C C C C	E E E E	4 4 4 4	3 3 3 3	60-69% 60-69% 60-69% 60-69%	B B B B
Bachelor of Science in Agriculture in Animal Science										
Bachelor of Science in Agriculture in Plant Pathology										
Bachelor of Science in Agriculture in Applied Plant and Soil Sciences										
Bachelor of Science in Actuarial and Financial Mathematics	English Mathematics	C A	4 7	3 1	C A	E C	4 6	3 5	60-69% 80-100%	B A
Bachelor of Science in Mathematics	English Mathematics									
Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics		C B	4 5	3 2	C B	E D	4 5	3 4	60-69% 70-79%	B B+
Bachelor of Science in Mathematical Statistics										
Bachelor of Consumer Science specialising in Clothing and Retail Management	English Mathematics	C D	4 3	3 3	C D	E E	4 2	3 2	60-69% 50-59%	B C+
Bachelor of Consumer Science specialising in Food Management										

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		CIE	UK							
IGCSE LGCSE BGCSE EGCSE O Level NSSC OL CGCE UCE NECO WAEC WASSCE ZGCE		England Wales Northern Ireland Pearson Edexcel GCSE								
Bachelor of Science in Mathematics [4-year programme]	English Mathematics	D C	3 4	3 3	D C	E E	2 4	2 3	58% 65%	B- B
Bachelor of Science in Chemistry [4-year programme]	English Mathematics Physics Chemistry	D D D D	3 3 3 3	3 3 3 3	D D D D	E E E E	2 2 2 2	2 2 2 2	58% 58% 58% 58%	B- B- B- B-
Bachelor of Science in Geoinformatics [4-year programme]										
Bachelor of Science in Geology [4-year programme]										
Bachelor of Science in Meteorology [4-year programme]										
Bachelor of Science in Physics [4-year programme]										
Bachelor of Science in Ecology [4-year programme]										
Bachelor of Science in Human Physiology [4-year programme]										
Bachelor of Science in Agriculture in Applied Plant and Soil Sciences [5-year programme]										
Bachelor of Science in Agriculture in Plant Pathology [5-year programme]										

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