

Curriculum Vitae of:

Sydney Ramulifho

Address: [House no: 68B, Collins street, Brixton, Johannesburg, 2092]
 Tel: +27 79 081 9642
 Email: ramulifhosydney@gmail.com

PROFILE

I am a botanist, currently a researcher in Alien invasive species at the African Centre for DNA Barcoding at University of Johannesburg under the Groen Sebenza project. I am passionate about science, genetics and biosystematics in particular. My areas of research focus on Molecular systematics, plant taxonomy and DNA barcoding. I have specific experience in research, data collection and analysis. I combine fieldwork, laboratory, molecular and analytical aspects in my research. I have completed Bachelor of Science degree majoring in Botany and Zoology, and Bachelor of Science Honours in Botany at University of Venda. I am currently working on my MSc project "Molecular phylogeny of the *Fadogia-Rytigynia* group and closely related genera within Vanguerieae"

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Employer : Department of Environmental Affairs in partnership with the African Centre for DNA Barcoding at University of Johannesburg
Start date : 2013-present
Job title : DNA Barcoding technician
Department : Biosecurity awareness

Key responsibilities

- Sampling for DNA extraction;
- Providing research support to scientists and students: assisting in DNA amplification using PCR and generating of DNA sequence for research MSc and PhD projects, including field work, and DNA data editing;
- Management of DNA bank;
- General laboratory management: ensure the necessary reagents are stocked, manage equipment maintenance and repairs;
- Guiding students in general lab protocols and lab safety;
- Representing the laboratory on Health and Safety matters;
- Perform electronic data capturing and identification of taxonomic and biological information from specimen and literature holdings;

Previous Employer : **Department of Environmental Affairs**
Start date : **02-May-2013 to 30-October-2013**
Job title : **Marine research assistant**
Department : **Oceans and Coasts**

Key responsibilities

- Deal with various projects focusing with biodiversity like Seabirds, Dolphin and Shark fish;
- Responsibility to collect data on the conservation of biodiversity species;
- Focus on sea birds monitoring along the islands and coastal areas;
- Focus more on the importance of conservation of biodiversity;
- Analyzing data in order to conserve our biodiversity;
- Dissection of shark and dolphin fish;
- Collecting tissue sample for DNA analysis;

Previous Employer : **National Research Foundation**
Host Institution : **University of Venda**
Start Date : **April-2012 to March-2013**
Job title : **Laboratory assistant**
Department : **Botany department**

Key responsibilities

- Assist in the managing of laboratory supplies;
- Data collection and analysis;
- Assist postgraduate students with research;
- Field survey and sampling;
- Office administration and filing;
- Sorting samples;
- Plant collection and identification;
- Perform electronic data capturing and identification of taxonomic and biological information from specimen and literature holdings;

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Institution: University of Venda
Degree: BSc with specialisation in Botany and Zoology (2006 – 2010)

Institution: University of Venda
Degree: BSc Honours with specialisation in Botany (2012 – 2013)

Institution: University of Johannesburg
Degree: MSc with specialisation in Botany (2014 – present)

CORE SKILLS

IT Proficiency: MS Word, Outlook, Excel, Powerpoint and Internet
[Paup, Sequencher, Mesquit etc]

DNA Barcoding: Basic DNA extraction, Gene amplification via PCR (polymerase chain reaction). Cycle Sequencing of gene regions. Editing and aligning of DNA sequences. Database comparisons of DNA sequences and compilation of phylogenetic trees.

[Other Skill]: Communication skills, Work in a research team

Languages: English
Venda
Pedi
Tsonga
Zulu
Xhosa

SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES

1. University of Pretoria "South African Association of Botanists", 15 to 18 January 2012.
2. University of Johannesburg "Botany and Plant Biotechnology Symposium", 28 October 2014.
3. University of Johannesburg "Botany and Plant Biotechnology Symposium", 27 October 2015.

REFERENCES

Prof. Michelle & van der Bank – [University of Johannesburg]

Position of person (Director of African Centre for DNA Barcoding)

Email: mvdbank@uj.ac.za

Tel: +27 11 559 3477

Prof. Peter & Tshisikhawe – [University of Venda]

Position of person (Head of Department)

Email: tshisip@univen.ac.za

Tel: +27 15 962 8250

Mr. Ronny & Kabongo – [University of Johannesburg]

Position of person (DNA sequencing specialist)

Email: ronnym@uj.ac.za

Tel: +27 11 559 3477