IPPS Southern Africa Region
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IPPS SOUTHERN AFRICA YOUNG HORTICULTURIST EXCHANGE PROGRAM

UNLOCK YOUR GLOBAL CAREER IN HORTICULTURE!

IPPS Southern Africa, in partnership with IPPS Australia and IPPS New Zealand, offers early-career horticulturists an incredible opportunity to gain international industry experience.

- Deadline for Nominations: **1 December 2026**

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

- **The Goal:** Gain hands-on experience in a different plant production industry and build cross-cultural understanding.
- **Destinations & Timing:**
  - **Australia:** Two-week trip during **April / May**
  - **New Zealand:** Two-week trip during **October / November**
- **Activities:** Visit commercial nurseries, public gardens, and sites of horticultural interest, and attend the host region's annual conference or symposium.
- **Financial Support:** IPPS Southern Africa and host regions cover major conference, travel, and accommodation expenses (see candidate responsibilities below for details).

ELIGIBILITY & CRITERIA

To be eligible for nomination, candidates must meet the following criteria:

- **Age:** Between **19 and 30** years old.
- **Employer Support:** Must have formal consent and backing from your current employer.
- **Membership:** Required to become an IPPS member for at least **2 years** from the nomination date.
- **Passport & Travel:** Must hold a valid passport and be available to travel internationally during the specific windows.

SELECTION PROCESS & CANDIDATE RESPONSIBILITIES

1. **Initial selection:** The Southern Africa Board selects and sponsors **four top candidates** from all nominations to **attend the IPPS SA Annual Conference** in March 2027. Candidates to be announced by **15 December 2026**.

2. **SA Conference Duties:** The four finalists will:
   - Assist conference organizers with various tasks during the event.
   - Deliver a short presentation introducing themselves, their background, their field of interest, and what they hope to gain.

3. **Voting:** At the Regional AGM IPPS members vote to choose the **final two candidates** (one for Australia, one for New Zealand).

4. **International Exchange:**
   - IPPS Southern Africa covers airfare.
   - The host region (Australia / New Zealand) covers local travel, accommodation, and conference costs.
   - Candidates are responsible for their own pocket money and incidentals.

5. **Final Reporting:** The two chosen candidates must present a report on their exchange experience at the subsequent Southern Africa conference (travel and accommodation covered by IPPS SA).

NOMINATION FORM 2027

[Please submit nomination forms and supporting documents to **Liezel01n@gmail.com** **and keichholz7@gmail.com**]

Instructions for the Nominator: Please submit a brief motivation explaining why this candidate is ideal to represent IPPS Southern Africa, along with a recent photograph of the applicant.

1. Nominee Information

Full Name:	
Postal Address:	
Telephone Number:	
Cell phone Number:	
Email Address:	

2. Nominator Information

Full Name:	
Contact Number:	
Email Address:	

3. Candidate Questionnaire (mark with X)

Can you travel to Australia in April / May 2027?	Yes	No
Can you travel to New Zealand in October / November 2027?	Yes	No
Do you have a valid passport?	Yes	No
Do you have your current employer's consent and support to participate?	Yes	No

4. Required Attachments

Please ensure the following is attached to this form:

	A recent photograph of the applicant.
	A brief one-page CV detailing horticultural background, training, and work experience.
	A short, written statement explaining why you want the opportunity to travel to Australia or New Zealand.