

## Pest control requires skill

### STAFF WRITER

CLIMATE changes caused by global warming have raised awareness about responsible pest control and there is a dire need for more qualified pest control officers, says Anzelle van Niekerk, chief executive of the South African Pest Control Association.

"Unqualified and unskilled pest control operators can be dangerous to the environment and to the public, so the Pest Control Service Industries Board has developed a new skills development short course to ensure that people doing this work receive appropriate training," she says.

The course, named structural pest control, was designed to meet the needs of those new to pest control and experienced individuals who wanted to update their skills.

"Pest control today is complex and highly regulated.

"Controlling target species without affecting the health of non-target species or damaging the environment requires knowledge and skill.

"If you are keen on keeping the environment safe and healthy, and the idea of working with the Earth's weird and wonderful creatures every day does not faze you, then you should consider a career in pest control," says Van Niekerk.

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