



PRECISION OIL LABORATORIES: A DECADE AND A HALF OF EXCELLENCE IN FATS AND OILS ANALYSIS

Celebrating its 15th anniversary, Tzaneen based Precision Oil Laboratory has firmly established itself as a cornerstone in the fats and oils industry, offering unparalleled analytical and advisory services. Founded in 2009 by Dr. Mathilda Mostert, the laboratory was born from a vision to provide comprehensive quality and compositional analysis, coupled with expert interpretation and guidance for clients. Today, it stands as one of the most respected independent accredited oil laboratories in Africa, serving a broad range of clients from agricultural producers to multinational food and cosmetics companies.

The laboratory offers a wide array of analytical tests, consultation and training, which help businesses across the continent ensure their products meet regulatory standards, maintain quality consistency, and optimize their production processes.

Dr. Mathilda Mostert actively contributes to industry knowledge-sharing through her participation in various conferences and expert committees including the SABS committee for vegetable oil standards as well as the international Codex expert committee for oil standards. In October 2024, she presented at the South African Medical Research Council's Biomedical Research & Innovation Platform Conference, discussing the journey from research to product development. Additionally, she was a guest speaker at the African Baobab Alliance conference in Senegal in February 2025, where she presented the GIZ b-TAF project, focusing on building a database of properties of indigenous oils like marula and baobab to support sustainable Biotrade.

Over the past 15 years, Dr. Mostert has become widely respected for her technical expertise, ethical leadership and mentorship to the next generation of analysts and unwavering commitment to scientific integrity. Her ability to translate complex analytical data into meaningful guidance has empowered countless producers and manufacturers to enhance their processes, improve product quality, and meet global standards. Under her leadership, the laboratory has not only achieved SANAS accreditation and international acclaim but has also cultivated a reputation for being a trusted, insightful partner in oil analysis and consultation.

A testament to its commitment to quality, Precision Oil Laboratories achieved accreditation from the South African National Accreditation System (SANAS) in February 2018, a system which is affiliated with the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC). This certification deems results issued by Precision Oil Laboratories internationally acceptable.

Additionally, the laboratory actively participates in Proficiency Testing Schemes organized by the American Oil Chemists' Society and the German Society for Fat Science. Over the last three years, Precision Oil Laboratory was consistently placed in the top 11 percentile of all international labs participating in these schemes. This remarkable achievement highlights the laboratory's dedication to accuracy, precision, and the highest standards of analytical excellence.

As Precision Oil Laboratories commemorates 15 years of service, it extends gratitude to employees and loyal clientele, many of whom have been partners since its inception. As the global demand for high-quality fats and oils continues to grow, the laboratory is focused on staying at the cutting edge of research and development. With its slogan, "A Passion for Oil," guiding its every endeavour, Precision Oil Laboratories is poised to lead the industry with excellence for many more years to come.