



# NAWEED MOHAMED

**YOUNG PROFESSIONAL  
(RESEARCH)**

**AT WESTERN CAPE GOVERNMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**

**MSc Genetics (Plant Breeding)**

**NOTHING WORTH HAVING COMES WITHOUT CHALLENGES.**

## MY STORY

### WHY DID YOU CHOOSE THIS CAREER PATH?

I was first introduced to Genetics by my Lecturer (Mr WVC Botes). I was always passionate about Science and Agriculture. Having the opportunity to build a career that linked both was what drew me to choose this career.

### WHAT IS A TYPICAL DAY LIKE FOR YOU?

My work involves research and development but there is no typical day. Some days I am in the field assessing crops, other days I am in the lab analyzing results, others in the office writing reports or going through research articles and journals to keep up to date with current trends.

**The great thing is that there is every day something new to stimulate your mind.**

### WHAT PARTICULAR SKILLS, TALENTS AND QUALITIES ARE ESSENTIAL TO BE EFFECTIVE IN YOUR POSITION / CAREER?

Analytical, Time management, Communication skills and be someone who enjoys being challenged.

## IS THERE A FUTURE in this career?

Issues such as climate change, food security etc. requires constant attention to be able to ensure sustainable productivity. There is definitely a future and many opportunities.

## What type of person would enjoy this kind of career?

Someone who likes to make an impact. An adaptable thinker open to learning forever.

## SOME ADVICE

1. Don't only think in terms of farming. The sector is complex and vast.
2. Set yourself goals and objectives - it keeps you track with your eye on the goal.
3. Having a strong foundation in statistics will be an asset.
4. Try to learn as much as you can from anyone who can offer you guidance.
5. People who wish to take on this career; do it to have a career and not just a job.



## What part of this career do you personally find most satisfying? What do you enjoy most?

Research is actually more exciting than it sounds. Being able to solve real world problems that is impactful and relevant is what I enjoy most... and seeing how innovation and technology is used to optimize productivity before my eyes is really great.