

Dr Nicky Creux

Dr Creux completed her PhD at the University of Pretoria in 2014, focused on the molecular genetics of cellulose synthase regulation during wood formation, under the supervision of Prof Zander Myburg. After this Nicky's focus shifted to sunflower circadian rhythms and flower physiology when she joined the **Harmer lab at UC Davis**. This research aimed to understand the interactions between the environment and the circadian clock to co-ordinate pollinator visits and anthesis.

Dr Creux took up a faculty position at the University of Pretoria in 2019, where the team focuses on understanding the environmental factors influencing the floral biology of crop species, such as sunflower and maize. Nicky's team is a founding member of the **National Grain Research Programme (nGRP) in South Africa**, which aims to grow deeper collaborations between universities, government and industry partners to better manage resources and advance scientific research.

Dr Creux is also playing a role in developing the Innovation Africa @UP plant phenotyping platform to improve accessibility to state-of-the-art plant phenotyping at the university and across South Africa.