

Grower Levies Working for You in March 2014



By 1st March 2014 the China PUC list was approved. My efforts to help DAFF provide a completed list allowed the Chinese to approve PUC's and orchards so that growers could export to China 4 weeks earlier than in 2013.

Paul Hardman - Industry Affairs Manager
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I was newly appointed in February 2014 to the Graft Transmissible Diseases programme. In March I performed duplicate molecular tests to confirm the virus and viroid free status of new citrus accessions, which have been shoot tip grafted by the ARC laboratory and are ready for release to the Citrus Foundation Block.

Chanel Steyn - Plant pathology Technician
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In January 2014 I was appointed as Diagnostic-Technician Soilborne diseases. In March I counted citrus nematodes for commercial growers and CRI research trials. I also assisted the Diagnostician with the administration and identification of samples received at the Diagnostic Centre.

Vincent Bheki Cele - Diagnostic Technician-Soil borne Diseases
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During the month of March, and into April, I have been working closely with a site builder in redeveloping Citrus Academy's website. We will be looking to launch the website in June, in time for the opening of bursary applications for 2014.

Angela Philips - Personal Assistant
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In the last month I have signed agreements for cultivar collections with two northern Hemisphere Plant Breeding groups. The one will provide hard and soft citrus varieties, potentially suited to the warm northern areas. The 2nd agreement will provide options for earlier soft citrus varieties suitable for the cooler areas.

Jon Roberts - General Manager
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