



CRI - Postharvest Technical Forum

**CRI Extension Department
Citrus Research International (Pty) Ltd**

CITRUS LOGISTICS FORUM MEETING - 4 April 2013.

CGA/CRI.

We work for our Citrus Growers.

Biggest responsibilities? To serve them with passion, to protect them and to maximize their income.

SUPPLIERS OF PACKAGING MATERIAL.

CARTONS.

Accredited carton manufacturers.

Accreditation process implemented in 2012. Very successful !

Will continue in 2013.

Growers requested to buy from accredited carton manufacturers only.

Price war. Be very careful and insist on full paper and corrugated board specifications and SANAS accredited high humidity laboratory tests.

PALLETS.

Feedback during 2012.

Seatrade. 360 Quality Vessel and Terminal audits. Messrs. Wout van Huijstee and Arnold Wentzel. (Met with them during March 2013) Presentation by Wout. Poor quality pallets most definitely a serious problem. Also received feedback from CLF. Vitally important. Must continue to do so during 2013.



**Growers are urgently requested to use export citrus pallets only.
Full specification is included in the 2013 “Packaging Material Specifications and Palletisation Protocols” document dated March 2013.
Accreditation of pallet manufacturers high up on our priority list.**



A pallet template to check the dimensions and spacing of top deck slats and blocks.

CORNER PIECES AND STRAPPING.

Poor quality corner pieces and strapping. Amazing what people will do to get business. Wonder if they will be prepared to sign a document where they take full responsibility for any claims from the market for damage caused by the poor quality products they are selling to our growers.

Cheap paper and plastic corner pieces not successful. A waste of money.



Laminated paper corner pieces.

Dimensions: 50x50x5mm.

Length: 1850mm for standard pallets and 2130mm for Hi-cube pallets.

Water absorption of outer face also very important.

Strapping.

Width: 12,0mm $\pm$ 0,5mm.

Thickness: 0,70mm, minimum.

Breaking strength: 180Kg, minimum.

Mass: 6,60g per meter, minimum.

For the number and positioning of straps on the different pallet loads, see Section 4 “Palletisation Protocols” of the above-mentioned document. (Slide 4)

Research and Development work on more cost effective “successful” packaging material - ongoing. Other material included.

TRANSPORT PROBLEMS.

Unfortunately , transport is still a big headache. The season only started and we have experienced transport problems already. Totally unacceptable and these problems must be solved.



Who is paying for this.



ROUGH HANDLING !!!

Still a problem. Please just handle the fruit as if it is your own.



**ON THE POSITIVE SIDE. LOOK AT THIS. “CARED FOR PRODUCTS” LET
US TAKE HANDS, WORK TOGETHER AND MAKE A SUCCESS OF THE
2013 CITRUS EXPORT SEASON.**



**The Southern African Citrus Industry is a very large industry.
Exported over 100 million cartons during the 2012 season.
112 063 tons of paper. Total: All fruit exports - 196 125 tons.
Citrus alone = 57%.**

**Number of pallets used for citrus exports during 2012, ± 1,4 million.
1,4 Million pallets were transported, handled, pre-cooled? and shipped.
In any language this is big business. A big source of income for many
organisations, companies and various other role players/service
providers.**

**It was very sad to hear people say: “We are doing the citrus farmers a
favour to transport their fruit.”**

**Mr. Kallie Schoeman ended his speech during the 2010 CRI International
Research Symposium by saying “Get bigger, get better or get out.” When it
comes to providing a service to our Citrus Growers we can just change it
to: Get better or get out. Our Citrus Growers are under tremendous
pressure. Let us go out of our way and provide them with excellent
service and by doing that we will make life a bit easier for them.**

THANK YOU !

Dawid Groenewald.