

THE CGA BOARD New chairman and executive team

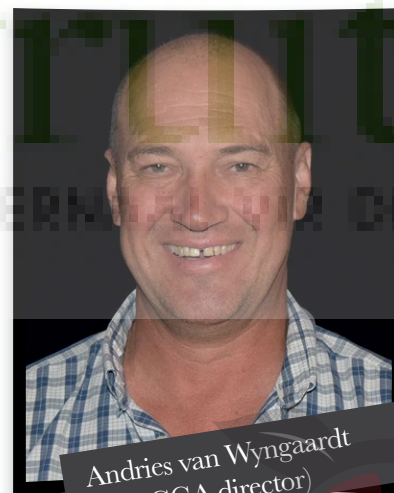
The Citrus Growers' Association of Southern Africa (CGA) is proud to welcome Hannes de Waal as the newly elected chairman of its board, for a two-year term. By Tanya Ungerer



Hannes de Waal
(new CGA Chairman)



Gerrit van der Merwe
(new CGA Vice Chair)



Andries van Wyngaardt
(new CGA director)



George Hall (CGA
executive board member)



Piet Engelbrecht (CGA
executive board member)



Jan-Louis Pretorius (new CGA
executive board member)



The CGA board comprises 20 directors representing 15 grower regions, with two directors representing emerging farmers in the northern and southern regions, a director of government relations and a director who heads up the finance and risk review committee.

Hannes de Waal, who is currently the CEO of the Sunday's River Valley Citrus Company (SRCC), has served on the board since 2017, and as vice chairperson for the past two years.

He has over 26 years of experience in the citrus industry, first joining the Outspan team

at the Durban Container Port Terminal. He held various positions within the Capespan group over 17 years, mostly relating to procurement, marketing and logistics. He then joined the SRCC in 2011 as its marketing director, followed by a role as managing director just four years later, and currently CEO. Hannes also serves as Venco Chairman, a young business specialising in the manufacturing of juice and oil concentrate as well as chairman of the Citrus Producer Forum in Sunday's River Valley.

Reacting to his election as chairman, Hannes said: "It is my privilege to serve our dynamic industry in this capacity. Over the last decade I have had the pleasure of observing the growth and resilience of a valley of smaller farmers who have worked

hard to build professional businesses, distributing high-quality fruit into local and foreign markets. I am a firm believer that SA's agricultural sector is one in which benefits are enjoyed by all members of the value and supply chain – this is something we must continue to build on."

Justin Chadwick, CGA CEO, congratulated Hannes on his appointment: "Hannes brings a wealth of experience to his new role, and has served in various leadership positions in the citrus industry over many years. I look forward to continuing our work together, with the aim of furthering the interests of our citrus growers when it comes to expanding market access and creating an inclusive, profitable and sustainable industry."

When it comes to the vision for his role of chairman, Hannes stated: "The process of establishing strategy is well structured within the CGA. This is the result of a strong team effort that feeds off the fact that all board members are experienced citrus producers and businessmen. I hope to leverage their strengths to expand our transformation initiatives, while helping our local citrus industry grow by gaining, retaining and optimising our market access opportunities in an inclusive and profitable manner. This is just what our industry needs to continue

growing from strength to strength. This will of course have to be accompanied by a strategic plan that addresses the many logistical and shipping challenges faced by our growers."

Justin also thanked outgoing chairman Cornél van der Merwe for his contribution to the industry: "On behalf of the CGA, I would like to thank you for the important work you have done over the past two years. The industry has faced a number of serious challenges over this period, and we have appreciated your constant support and steady leadership to navigate through these difficult times. The CGA is thrilled that it will continue to benefit from Cornél's knowledge and expertise due to him staying on as a Board Vice Chair."



Cornél van der Merwe
(outgoing chairman)

Hannes echoed Justin's sentiments: "Cornél and I have been friends since my Outspan days and it has been an absolute privilege to serve with him. He is not easily phased and has always led with a pragmatic and cheerful approach, regardless of the challenges present. I am also immensely grateful for the fact that he will remain within the role of Vice Chair to ensure continuity."

The position of second Vice Chair is filled



Ben Vorster
(CGA board resignee)

by Gerrit van der Merwe, with George Hall, Piet Engelbrecht and Jan-Louis Pretorius making up the remainder of the board executive.

Ben Vorster from Letsitele area, who has served on the CGA Board for the past 10 years, has resigned from the board and his position as Letsitele director will be filled by Andries van Wyngaardt. The CGA thanks Ben for his valuable contribution and leadership during his tenure on the board, during which he ensured alignment between the CGA's focus areas and growers needs.