

Foreseeable logistics and shipping challenges

Likely logistics and shipping challenges in the coming citrus season will require effective communication.

By Mitchell Brooke



Mitchell Brooke

The Citrus Growers' Association (CGA) has done an industry-wide production assessment that included a look at Transnet operations, as well as global port developments. In so doing, these key factors have been identified that could give rise to significant logistics and shipping challenges:

- a potential increase in production and export volume
- increased demand for road transport where rail transport is falling short
- cold storage capacity constraints
- poor port container terminal operational performance, potential lack of reefer capacity, and implementation of truck booking systems
- a potential 15% demand in the supply of empty reefer equipment
- possible shipping and container repositioning disruptions due to the Red Sea and Panama Canal vessel routing restrictions.

Given several other disruptions, as has been seen over the past few years, the CGA will be using various platforms to communicate status updates regarding logistics and shipping, as regularly as possible. The following communication platforms are available for producers, exporters, logistics, and shipping stakeholders to receive these updates:

1. "From the Desk of the CEO" is a weekly newsletter that is distributed by CGA CEO Justin Chadwick. This medium is used as a platform to keep producers and stakeholders updated on current affairs. To be added to the mailing list, email info@cga.co.za.
2. Roadshows by the CGA and Citrus Research International (CRI) were conducted in January and February where logistics and the shipping outlook for the current season was provided. Hopefully, all producers and packhouse staff attended these sessions.
3. Weekly logistics meetings are held by the CGA every Wednesday at 10:30 am, commencing 3 April 2024. Broad coverage of the logistics and shipping status will be provided during these meetings. To be added to the invitation list, email hesti@cga.co.za.
4. A CGA logistics and shipping WhatsApp community has been created and is updated with relevant information daily. As the citrus season peak commences, various updates will be provided on the platform. To join the community, simply copy and paste this link into your web browser on your computer or your phone: <https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029VaGQ2pn84OmFd7T6203f>. Alternatively, send a WhatsApp request to Mitchell Brooke on 082 892 9455.
5. Subscribe to Lucentlands Media via YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/@lucentlands>), Spotify, Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook. Lucentlands Media will be hosting regular podcast sessions covering the citrus industry logistics and shipping, as well as many other interesting topics. The CGA Vision 260 project is also being hosted by Lucentlands Media and can be accessed via their various online portals. 



Human resource representative communication platform



Sive Silo

The Citrus Academy continues its efforts to enable skills development in the citrus industry.
By Sive Silo

The Citrus Academy has developed a communication tool focused specifically on human resource representatives, talent acquisition specialists, training managers, and human resource practitioners. The tool has a database that seeks to notify, advise, and update HR representatives about the skills development landscape, focusing on services offered by the Citrus Academy.

Newsletters and updates are sent

frequently, offering a direct line of communication between HR representatives and the Citrus Academy.

We call on all citrus growers to encourage the HR representatives in their organisations, as well as training managers to register via this web link, to be included in the database:

<https://citrusacademy.org.za/citrus-academy-hr-reps-registration/>

For more information, please contact Angela at angela@citrusacademy.org.za.



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