



Paula Bester

The MANCOZEB summit

The CGA prioritises collaboration to safeguard key crop protection tools.

By Paula Bester

In June 2025, Paul Hardman (Chief Operating Officer) and Paula Bester (Food Safety Specialist) represented the Citrus Growers' Association (CGA) of Southern Africa at the MANCOZEB Summit in Great Britain. Organised by UPL, the event goal was preserving key crop protection products, firstly by consolidating the input from growers and their associations, researchers, and the agricultural chemistry sector into a white paper for regulatory decision-makers. Then, to highlight the unintended consequences of phasing out key active substances without conducting proper impact assessments.

Engagement with growers from Latin America, Great Britain, and the EU emphasised a stark reality: the rate at which primary producers are losing access to crucial crop protection tools is outpacing production of suitable registered alternatives. This challenge is further compounded by international food trade requirements, which demand compliance with phytosanitary regulations and maximum residue limits (MRLs) set by importing countries. Divergence in MRLs between countries adds complexity, potentially impeding trade and threatening consistent food supply.

The economic and social stability fostered by a thriving agricultural sector was a key theme throughout the discussions. Becoming a reliable food supplier hinges on effective pest and disease control. Participants also noted the potentially serious repercussions of removing even a single key active ingredient.

Clearly, growers remain the cornerstone of agricultural success. Yet their voices are often under-represented in policy-making

processes. The CGA applauds UPL for organising this insightful event that was proudly represented for Southern African citrus growers. 🍊



CITRUS COMMUNITIES building online connections

Our citrus industry just got a digital upgrade that's bound to get everyone talking. By Sam Louw

Citrus Communities is an online space created by the Citrus Academy for individuals who are enthusiastic about learning, sharing knowledge, and growing together.

This dedicated online space caters specifically to students and professionals in the citrus industry, with tailored communities for distinct interest groups. HR practitioners have their own space to discuss developments in human resources and to share best practices, and students can access opportunities for industry exposure while on their academic journey. Extension officers get a dedicated forum to learn and exchange field experiences with fellow extension professionals. And participants in the Citrus Academy SuperPower Programme can build networks within their cohort and with other programme alumni.

Focused community spaces

Each group works within its own dedicated community space, allowing for targeted discussions and relevant content sharing. HR practitioners can discuss citrus industry-specific challenges, students can seek bursary and e-learning opportunities, and extension officers can access discussions with colleagues on the latest production and postharvest developments.

Platform benefits include:

- dedicated webinars and forum discussions within each professional group
- knowledge exchange with peers in similar roles
- collaborative problem-solving within specialised communities
- networking within your field of expertise
- access to the Citrus Resource Warehouse for citrus industry content
- access to learning resources and materials.

Getting started

Register easily at citruscommunities.org.za and create your group-specific profile. Please request member login details separately for access to additional resources in the Citrus Resource Warehouse: crw.org.za. This will unlock access to a wide range of information relating to the citrus industry where knowledge sharing is critical for overall success.

Are you ready to join this fast-growing online community? Visit citruscommunities.org.za/register. 🍊



PHILAGRO



ProGibb® 40% | Optimaliseer die potensiaal

Philagro is daartoe verbind om aan jou, die vrugteprodusent, nuwe en bewese produkte te bied sodat die bemarkbaarheid en winsgewindheid van jou sitrus kan verbeter.

ProGibb® 40% is 'n plantgroeireguleerder wat gebruik word om vrugset in sitrus te verbeter, voorkoms van kraakskil te beperk en laat-hang te bewerkstellig. Dit is veral effektief in die handhawing van vrugset en -opbrengs in gebiede wat sukkel met uiterste weerstoestande tydens blom, asook op kultivars wat saadlose vrugte produseer en wat daarvoor bekend is om moeilik partenokarpies te set.

Die voorkeur-formulasie met voordele wat 'n verskil maak.

Sien die verskil wat **ProGibb® 40%** in jou sitrusboerdery kan maak.

LEES DIE ETIKET VOOR GEBRUIK.

ProGibb® 40% | Reg. Nr. L6777, Wet Nr. 36 van 1947 | Gibberelliensuur (GA3) (400 g/kg) | WAARSKUWING | Skadelik indien ingeasem. | Veroorsaak oogirritasie. **ProGibb® 40%** is die geregistreerde handelsnaam van **Valent BioSciences LLC**, Libertyville, Illinois, VSA.

Philagro Suid-Afrika (Edms) Bpk | Reg. nr. 1998/106581/07 PostNet Suite #378, Privaatsak X025, Lynnwoodrif 0040 | Pretoria: 012 348 8808 | Somerset-Wes: 021 851 4163 www.philagro.co.za

PRODUKTE WAT WERK VAN MENSE WAT OMGEE