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Citrus inspections take giant electronic step

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In a major step forward for the management of data around Citrus Blackspot, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries inspectors will soon be using tablet devices to update the central database.

Department of Science and Technology (DST) funding and Citrus Growers' Association (CGA) resources have come together to put these tablets in the hands of DAFF inspectors, CGA CEO Justin Chadwick said.

“This will significantly improve the accuracy and speed with which details are updated on the online central database that is being implemented to manage the data around the CBS RMS (Citrus Blackspot Risk Management System).

“Twenty devices have been made available spread across the major citrus production regions. Using the devices inspectors can also instantly check the status of PUCs (Production Unit Codes) and orchards for phytosanitary certification purposes,” he said.

And while this is a major step forward, Chadwick believes it's just the start of greater use of technology which will make the SA citrus export supply chain more efficient and effective.

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