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Citrus summit to unpack challenges facing SA exporters

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South Africa's citrus exporters face a range of challenges in two of their key markets this year as protectionism and nationalism escalate around the world, says Justin Chadwick of the Citrus Growers' Association.

"The crashing ruble means that imported fruit in Russia becomes more expensive and beyond the affordability of many customers while "unnecessary" phytosanitary barriers continue to affect EU exports."

Against this backdrop it is critical that growers attend the Citrus Summit scheduled for 11-12 at the Hans Merensky Hotel in Phalaborwa, says Chadwick.

"The Summit will concentrate on CGA's strategic direction in meeting these challenges and ensuring a sustainable and competitive southern African citrus sector. It will be exclusively for growers and invited guests – and will be inwardly looking at what we are doing to continue to remain competitive."

CGA representatives from Russia, Brussels and USA will be on hand to give first-hand information on the Russian economy and fruit imports, EU phytosanitary legislation and the possible opening up of the US market

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