

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (33/12)

Justin Chadwick (24 August 2012)

QUOTE OF THE WEEK *"I could dance with you until the cows come home. On second thought, I'd rather dance with the cows 'til you come home."* Groucho Marx

CELEBRATE SUCCESS: South Africa now number 1 on the rankings of cricket test playing nations

CRI RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

WOW!!!!!! Just when you think they cannot make it any better Hennie Le Roux, Jean de Gasperi and Henry Skinner put together a Symposium that surpassed previous years. The whole affair is now run like a well oiled machine. The venue is excellent – the main hall's audio visual is fantastic – speakers clearly audible and presentations clear even from the very back of the huge hall which was full to capacity (500 + delegates). The exhibitions area is close by and easily accessible and the gala dinner venue had plenty space for delegates to show some serious dance moves.

The presentations were world class – I was blown away by the work that our researchers are doing; I can assure the grower fraternity that your research rands are being well spent. What is so good about the presentations is that even a research illiterate like me could understand what the research entailed, what the researcher was trying to achieve, and what the conclusions are. Well done to the Scientific Committee of Vaughan Hattingh, Tim Grout, Paul Fourie, Paul Cronje and Sean Moore.

There are considerable opportunities to network – and since the venue is far from any other attractions (distractions?) you have a "captured audience". Everybody is around for the duration of the conference and you can find them for a chat.

This conference is made possible by the sponsors – a big thanks to all the sponsors – but particularly Bayer and SAPPI as headline sponsors.

At the gala dinner CRI acknowledged the contributions of industry stalwarts Doug Stanton, Barry Mannicombe, Dawid Groenewald and Chris Kellerman. These individuals have dedicated their working lives to the citrus industry – and have all played a role in making the southern African citrus industry world class.

Conspicuous amongst the delegates were the Citrus Academy students – wearing funky shirts with "I am here because <sponsors name> believes in the future" emblazoned on the front. These students ARE the future – and we thank those who sponsored the student's attendance – Schoeman Boerdery, Capespan, Sundays River Citrus Company, Clemengold, Engen, River Bioscience, Du Roi, CRI and CGA. These students all receive bursaries through the Citrus Academy bursary fund (funded predominantly by the Citrus Industry Trust); ably administered by Candice Sydenham. I would encourage all links in the value chain to contact the Citrus Academy to find out how they can invest in the future through education by making money available for bursaries. What is significant is the student support – the Academy takes care of the students in such a way that they can concentrate on their studies; they arrange travel, holiday work and internships.

All of the above would not be possible without the funding of the southern African citrus growers – growers have identified research as the key to being globally competitive; and continue to invest in the capacity to make it happen.

DATES TO DIARISE

Annual DAFF Citrus Coordinating Meeting; **27 September 2012; 09h00-15h00 at ARC Infruitec in Stellenbosch.**

PACKED AND SHIPPED

With satsuma's and clementines basically finished it is just later mandarins that are still being packed. The Satsuma guys could learn from the Clementine guys when it comes to estimating crop volumes – the Clementine estimate was 2.565 million cartons while actual packed to date is 2.572 million cartons – earlier in the year 1.650 million sats were packed against an estimated 1.940 million cartons.

To Week 34 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed	Final Shipped
SOURCE: PPECB	2010	2011	2012	2011	2012	2012	2012	2011	2011
Grapefruit	12.3 m	16 m	12.5 m	16 m	12.5 m	15.2 m	12.5 m	16.2 m	15.8 m
Soft Citrus	7.2 m	6.8 m	6.8 m	6.8 m	6.6 m	7.6 m	7.6 m	6.9 m	6.7 m
Lemons	9 m	10 m	9.4 m	9.4 m	8.8 m	11.1 m	9.7 m	10.8 m	10.2 m
Navels	22.8 m	20.3 m	22.9 m	38.9 m*	41 m*	22.9 m	23 m	21.2 m	61.7 m*
Valencia	27.5 m	20.1 m	21.9 m			46.1 m	44.7 m	44.2 m	
	78.8 m	73.2 m	73.5 m	71.1 m	68.9 m	102.9 m	97.5 m	99.3 m	94.4 m

* All Oranges

**GROWER FUNDED ACTIVITIES OF THE CGA, CRI AND CITRUS ACADEMY
ENSURE A GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE SOUTHERN AFRICAN CITRUS INDUSTRY**