

## FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (37/12)

Justin Chadwick (21 September 2012)

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK** "Wisdom is oftentimes nearer when we stoop than when we soar" William Wordsworth

### SUSTAINABILITY OF SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE CITRUS INTO THE EU

The pesticide residue requirements being imposed by EU (mainland) retailers on growers is having considerable impact on the sustainability of the southern hemisphere citrus supply into the EU. CGA/CRI are teaming up with Argentinean counterparts to bring key concerns to the attention of EU importers, retailers and key stakeholders, at a meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2012 in Brussels. It is important that the pressure growers are facing is communicated up the supply chain. A constructive and robust debate about how to provide reliable consumer assurance while protecting the environment, consumers, workers and economic sustainability of the citrus industry is anticipated. CGA/CRI will also move across the channel later in the week to speak to major UK retailers about their plant protection programmes and how they provide consumer assurance. These types of engagements are seen as critical especially in light of the need for citrus growers to have appropriate tools for compliance with phytosanitary regulations and to address emerging problems such as resistance to some pesticides. Additional meeting will also be held with EU regulators regarding the future status of MRLs for key plant protection product.

### INVESTING IN THE YOUTH

They say that ideas are like children, your own are always the best. Everybody talks about the youth being the future – but the citrus growers in South Africa (through the Citrus Academy) are putting this into practice through a high school training programme – to make sure that children in citrus growing regions are the BEST. Jacomien de Klerk explains further;

*The Citrus Academy is currently piloting a training programme at three high schools in citrus growing areas. These are Kirkwood High School in the Sunday's River Valley, Merensky High School near Tzaneen, and Madie Secondary School near Hoedspruit. The idea behind the programme is to give school children the opportunity to achieve a NQF qualification in citrus production by the time they finish school, by attending classes for two afternoons every week, for 25 weeks each year, for three years, and doing practicals during school holidays. The intention is to attract learners to the citrus industry and to make them more employable on leaving high school. For the implementation of the programme, the Citrus Academy provides the learning material and resources, while the school is expected to provide facilities and a facilitator for the programme, and also to make the necessary arrangements for theoretical and practical learning. The pilots have been successful to date, with the students enjoying this form of learning. We would like to roll out the programme to more schools in 2013. If you think that the school in your area might be interested in implementing the programme, please contact Jacomien de Klerk at 031-313-3364, or [jacomien@citrusacademy.org.za](mailto:jacomien@citrusacademy.org.za) for more information.*

### DATES TO DIARISE

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

Please urgently RSVP to [ec@cri.co.za](mailto:ec@cri.co.za) for catering purposes.

It is planned to have the final Citrus Marketing Forum meeting on 31 October, with a market access workshop the day before – more on this next week.

### PACKED AND SHIPPED

| To Week 38<br>Million 15 Kg Cartons | Packed | Packed | Packed | Shipped | Shipped | Original Estimate | Latest Prediction | Final Packed | Final Shipped |
|-------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|
| <b>SOURCE: PPECB</b>                | 2010   | 2011   | 2012   | 2011    | 2012    | 2012              | 2012              | 2011         | 2011          |
| Grapefruit                          | 12.5 m | 16.4 m | 13 m   | 16.4 m  | 13 m    | 15.2 m            | 13 m              | 16.4 m       | 16.4 m        |
| Soft Citrus                         | 7.5 m  | 7.1 m  | 7.5 m  | 7.1 m   | 7.5 m   | 7.6 m             | 7.6 m             | 7.1 m        | 7.1 m         |
| Lemons                              | 9.5 m  | 10.6 m | 10.3 m | 10.1 m  | 10.1 m  | 11.1 m            | 10.3 m            | 10.8 m       | 10.2 m        |
| Navels                              | 22.9 m | 20.7 m | 59.5m* | 53.8 m* | 58.9 m* | 22.9 m            | 23.6 m            | 23.6 m       | 61.7 m*       |
| Valencia                            | 41.6 m | 33.4 m |        |         |         | 46.1 m            | 44.8 m            | 44.2 m       |               |
|                                     | 94 m   | 88.2 m | 90.3 m | 87.4 m  | 89.5 m  | 102.9 m           | 99.3 m            | 102.1 m      | 95.4 m        |

\* All Oranges

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