

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (1/14)

Justin Chadwick (17 January 2014)

QUOTE OF THE WEEK "All human beings should try to learn before they die what they are running from, and to, and why" James Thurber

PACKHOUSE MANAGER TRAINING

All packhouses that have registered for the EU (other than those within the CBS pest free areas) are required to identify an appropriate person or persons (preferably the Packhouse Manager) to undergo training before registration is confirmed. The training will take place on the 2nd day of the CRI Workshops from 13:00 – 16:00. Should you require additional information, please feel free to contact Salamina Maelane at DAFF : SalaminaM@daff.gov.za

It is recommended that packhouses send at least two people for the training – Packhouse registration for the EU is withdrawn should the trained person resign or leave the Packhouse for whatever reason. This could be very disruptive if it happened during the packing season.

CRI Postharvest Workshops **28-29 January**, Limpopo, The Ranch, Polokwane; **30-31 January**, Mpumalanga, Loskopdam Resort; **11-12 February**, KZN & Swaziland, Blue Waters Hotel, KZN; **13-14 February**, Eastern Cape, Summerstrand Hotel, PE; **18-19 February**, Western Cape, Protea Hotel, Stellenbosch.

DAFF also require **EXPORT AGENTS** and **FORWARDING AGENTS** to attend training – the training will be made available towards the end of February at venues in Durban, Port Elizabeth and Cape Town.

LIST OF APPROVED ORCHARD FOR EXPORTS TO THE PEOPLES REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The start of exports to China was delayed in 2013 as the registered list took some time to get approved by the Chinese authorities.

In order to get the process initiated for the 2014 season, DAFF have created an opportunity for growers to check that their phytosanitary registration details for China are correct. To view the database please go to the CMF section of the CGA website, or the DAFF website: Go to www.daff.gov.za, then Agricultural Production, Health and Food Safety Branch, then Plant Health, then select "Exporting from SA", then select "Producer Database for Special Markets", then select the appropriate PUC or PHC database.

DAFF sent out these instructions:

Please find Draft Citrus database to Republic of China, both PHCs and PUCs. We would like the Producers/Exporters to check their information especially on names of the cultivars, spelling errors as well as Pack houses.

All communication can be directed to TshivhidzoS@daff.gov.za 012 319 6294, due date for all correspondences is from 14th -24 January 2014. This is not new registration; it is for those PUC/PHC that were sent to DAFF: DPH in 2013.

After the delays in approving the citrus registered list last year, similar delays were experienced by the South African table grape industry. We would like to make sure that the process for the 2014 citrus list is timeously addressed – please ensure that you check your details **thoroughly**, and get any errors corrected before the 24 January 2014 (next Friday).

Since 2011 direct exports to China have increased for grapefruit (2011-0.1 million cartons; 2012 0.1 m and 2013 0.5 m), navels (2012-0.1 m; 2013 -0.3 m) and valencia's (2011 0.8 m; 2012-1.1 m and 2013 1.3 million). Many feel that this is still way below the potential exports to this market.

CITRUS BLACK SPOT SPRAYS

The latest edition of "Cutting Edge" (No 171-January 2014) has an important message for all growers. Under the heading **Fungicide sprays for the control of citrus black spot** Tian Schutte starts with the following "It is imperative that all growers producing citrus in regions outside of the citrus black spot (CBS) free areas of the Western and Northern Cape provinces, for export to the EU, do everything they can to ensure the best possible protection of fruit from CBS infection. The detail of the CBS control strategy and the spray options have been communicated many times previously and this Cutting Edge merely serves as a reminder not to terminate fruit protection prematurely."

Please contact me (justchad@iafrica.com) should you wish to get a copy of this "Cutting Edge".