

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (37/14)

Justin Chadwick (26 September 2014)

QUOTE OF THE WEEK "On Twitter we get excited if someone follows us. In real life we get really scared and run away." Unknown

BRAAIVLEIS BANTER (hope you had a proudly South African Heritage Day on Wednesday)

Whenever South Africans get around a braai they invariably get to talk about rugby, and one topic is which school had the best rugby players. According to schoolsportsnews.co.za the top ten schools in terms of number of springbok players is as follows; Paul Roos (48), Grey College (46), Bishops (41), SACS (24), Paarl Gimnasium (23), Paarl Boys High (20), Kimberley Boys High (19), Rondebosch Boys High (15), Maritzburg College (13) and Grey High School (PE) (12). And if you want to win a World Cup have a Maritzburg College flyhalf – both Joel Stransky and Butch James attended the prestigious school.

US AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE TO ADDRESS GROWERS IN LIMPOPO

Recent press reports covered the rule making process that could lead to wider access for South African citrus to the USA. Through the initiative of the Limpopo Department of Agriculture (Lazarus Lepako) the Agricultural Attache from the US (Eric Wenberg), stationed in Pretoria, has agreed to address growers on the process and what this could mean. The meeting will take place on 23 October 2014 at The Junction, Letsitele at 10h00 (tea, coffee and eats from 09h30). I would urge all growers in the region to attend and to hear firsthand about this market access opportunity.

ANNUAL CITRUS COORDINATING MEETING

If you are involved in citrus exports from South Africa then you need to be in Nelspruit on 1 October 2014 for the DAFF organised Annual Citrus Coordinating Meeting (details available on www.cga.co.za). The meeting will take place at the Mpumalanga Parks Board office from 09h00 to 13h30. The meeting will do a post mortem on the 2014 season, and look ahead to the arrangements for the 2015 season. Last year's meeting in Port Elizabeth was not well attended from the grower ranks; let's turn that around in Nelspruit. And come prepared to confront all the issues that you faced in 2014 – this is your chance to engage in a positive dialogue with your partners in the value chain.

JOINED THE TWITTERVERSE

I have become a "twit", or whatever you become when you join "twitter". My twitter handle is justchad_cga – the idea is to provide followers with up to date information to supplement what is put out in these weekly newsletters. I will try to tweet on a daily basis with information, comments or commentary on topical items. For those not yet on twitter it is very easy to join (although I must admit to getting some assistance from Angela at the Citrus Academy – phone Angela if you are battling; 031 765 3410/2).

ESTABLISHMENT OF AN IPPC DISPUTE SETTLEMENT EXPERT COMMITTEE: CALL FOR EXPERTS

Nominations of experts are being solicited by the Secretariat of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) for appropriately qualified experts for possible membership of the *IPPC Expert Committee on the Phytosanitary Dispute between South Africa and the European Union* (IPPC Dispute number 10ZAF01).

South Africa claims the strength of phytosanitary measures required by the EU is inconsistent with the level of risk posed by the introduction of Citrus Black Spot (CBS – caused by the fungus *Guignardia citricarpa*) on fruit that is imported into the EU. Ongoing bilateral discussions over a number of years have not resolved the issue.

The experts should have:

- a scientific/technical background on citrus black spot and/or the IPPC and related ISPMs, particularly pest risk analysis (PRA),
- independence from the above-mentioned dispute i.e. no conflict of interests,
- an ability to become a Committee member and serve in an individual capacity as expert.

It is expected that a substantial amount of work will take place remotely and that there will be at least one physical meeting of the Dispute Settlement Expert Committee. Normal costs for this work will be covered by the Secretariat.

Nominations will be accepted from IPPC contracting parties. All nominations should include the nominee's CV and the completed form "[IPPC Roster of Experts: Nomination Form \(Specific Expertise\)](#)".

Selection of technical committee members will be undertaken after consultation with disputing parties and agreement by the Director-General of FAO. Should it be necessary and disputing parties agree, it will be possible to provide interpretation to non-English speaking experts.

PACKED AND SHIPPED

To Week 39 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
SOURCE: PPECB	2012	2013	2014	2013	2014	2014	2014	2013
Grapefruit	13.1 m	17.9 m	15.3 m	17.3 m	14.7 m	16.5 m	15.5 m	17.9 m
Soft Citrus	7.6 m	8.3 m	9.9 m	8.3 m	9.5 m	9.2 m	10.1 m	8.4 m
Lemons	10.4 m	10.5 m	13 m	10.5 m	12.8 m	12.1 m	13.5 m	10.6 m
Navels	24.5 m	25.4 m	25.9 m	25.4 m	25.9 m	25.8 m	25.9 m	25.4 m
Valencia	41.8 m	46.6 m	45.1 m	38.7 m	37.5 m	49.5 m	48.1 m	51.4 m
Total	97.4 m	108.7 m	109.2 m	100.2 m	100.4 m	113.1 m	113.1 m	113.7 m

GROWERS' ENSURE A COMPETITIVE AND SUSTAINABLE SOUTHERN AFRICAN CITRUS INDUSTRY BY FUNDING AND GUIDING THE CGA GROUP (CRI; CITRUS ACADEMY; CGACC; RB AND XSIT)