

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (38/14)

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QUOTE OF THE WEEK "A lot of people have asked me how short I am. Since my last divorce, I think I'm about \$100,000 short." ~ Mickey Rooney

BRAAIVLEIS BANTER

GO BOKKE ON SATURDAY!!!

Nothing excites people more than rankings – with a great deal of debate as to how rankings are done; why it is incorrect and so on. Last week's braaivleis banter was about rugby springboks; from the same website (schoolsportsnews.co.za) the top ten rugby schools are Grey College (Bloemfontein); Paul Roos; Grey High (PE); Garsfontein; Monument; Paarl Boys High; Glenwood; E G Jansen; Paarl Gim and Selborne College (where is Affies?). Looking at the cricket ranking released in March (we are still in this year's cricket season) three schools appear in both the rugby and cricket top ten (marked with a *). The top ten cricket schools from the 2013/14 season are Waterkloof; St Stithians; Grey College (Bloemfontein)*; Grey High (PE)*; Rondebosch; St Andrews School (Bloemfontein); Wynberg; St Andrews College (Grahamstown); Hilton and Paarl Boys High*.

THE INDUSTRY TURNS OUT EN MASSE IN NELSPRUIT

The industry sent a strong message to DAFF that we value our partnership with regard to the exporting of citrus fruit. Over 200 people packed into the Mpumalanga Parks Board conference venue to assess the past season; and begin planning for 2015. The good news for those who were not able to travel to Nelspruit is that DAFF will be doing a roadshow – although the final itinerary, venue and other details are still to be finalised; at this stage meetings will be held in Musina on 13 October; Tzaneen 14 October; Hoedspruit 15 October; Nelspruit 16 October; Groblersdal 17 October; Durban 20 October; Port Elizabeth 22 October and Western Cape 24 October [more information will be provided when available]. It is impossible to provide on one page all the information discussed in Nelspruit; so just the highlights will be presented. All the presentations are available on www.cga.co.za in the password protected CMF section (under DAFF).

ON LINE MARKET REGISTRATIONS

2015 will be remembered as the year that DAFF introduced on line registrations. This is a huge step forward and will hopefully prevent "finger problems" during the registration process. In addition it should in future reduce paperwork and incorrect information being presented to DAFF. This is an evolving process and growers are asked to be patient as there will probably be some "gremlins" that will be uncovered as the new system is implemented. **GROWERS ARE URGED TO USE THE ON LINE REGISTRATIONS RATHER THAN THE MANUAL SYSTEM** (although both will be available). From Monday 6 October the on line system will go live - <http://dev.cga.co.za/PhytClean/index.php>; in addition the registration forms will be available on DAFF's website for manual submission. At this stage we have not got rid of paper completely – the completed on-line registration form will still need to be printed out, signed and couriered to DAFF. In addition the proof of payment of the registration fee (R85 per PUC per market; and R85 per PHC) must be sent to DAFF. The online tool calculates the amount due to DAFF. Big thanks to Paul Hardman of CGA who worked long hours to get a workable system in place, and DAFF for adopting the system. Growers battling to complete on line registrations from Monday can get help from Paul on 031 765 2514.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2015 REGISTRATIONS

Registrations will open on 6 October and close on 31 October (please don't wait until the last minute to register). The registration lists will then be published on the DAFF website for verification from 28 November; growers will have two weeks to verify that all is correct (until 12 December). No corrections will be allowed after that date. The draft list for China will be submitted to the Chinese authorities on 27 February 2015; with the final market registration lists for all markets available on the DAFF website from 3 April 2015. Exporters will still be able to export to these markets before this date provided that they have registered correctly and followed the necessary market protocols (as happened in 2014).

GOOD NEWS FOR THOSE EXPORTING TO SOUTH KOREA

South Korea was the success story of 2014 with volumes into the market almost doubling from the previous year. DAFF have been discussing the issue of insect proof requirements for pallets transported from packhouses to the ports. In the past the requirement has been to wrap the pallets in plastic – with serious consequences for air flow and fruit quality. The South Korean authorities have agreed to implement changed requirements in 2015; packhouses will need to conform to these requirements which include pest traps and insecticides at the packhouses. Those exporting to South Korea will get more information on what is required – only the 124 PUC's that exported to this market in 2014 will be permitted to register for 2015. The reason for this is DAFF resources are being wasted in verifying 343 PUC's that registered in 2014 while only 124 actually exported to that market. Any new PUC's will need a strong motivation to DAFF why they should be included for 2015.

PACKED AND SHIPPED

To Week 40 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	17.4 m	14.7 m	16.5 m	15.5 m	17.9 m
Soft Citrus	7.6 m	8.4 m	9.9 m	8.4 m	9.6 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	24.6 m	25.4 m	26 m	25.4 m	26 m	25.8 m	26 m	25.4 m
Valencia	43.7 m	48.3 m	47.1 m	38.9 m	37.5 m	49.5 m	48.1 m	51.4 m
Total	99.4 m	110.5 m	111.3 m	100.6 m	100.6 m	113.1 m	113.2 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)