

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (05/16)

Justin Chadwick 19 February 2016

"Nothing behind me, everything ahead of me, as is ever so on the road" Jack Kerouac

LEVY RENEWAL ROADSHOWS

The present levy administered by the CGA ends in December 2016. In terms of the Marketing of Agricultural Products (MAP) Act the CGA will need to apply to the Minister of Agriculture for a levy renewal for the period 2017 to 2020. This past week the CGA Board held a Strategic Planning session and a Board meeting to agree on the components of the new levy application in preparation for grower roadshow meetings to take place in the next few weeks. At these roadshows growers will be given an opportunity to consider the planned activities of the CGA for the next four years and will be required to guide the CGA with the levy renewal application. It is important that all growers attend these meetings.

I will lead a team that will visit **Nkwalini** on Monday 22 February at the Nkwalini Farmers Hall from 14h00 to 17h00. We will then head for **Swaziland** for an 11h00 to 14h00 meeting on Tuesday 23rd at Tambuti. On Wednesday 24th (14h00 to 17h00) we will be with the **Nelspruit** region at the CRI Board room. We will round off the week at Malelane (**Onderberg** region) on Thursday 25th from 14h00 to 17h00 at Riverside Farm Board room.

In the same week Paul Hardman will lead his team to **Boland** (Hortgro Board room in Paarl) on Monday 22nd February from 14h00 to 17h00. They will then head for Citrusdal (**Western Cape** region) for a meeting at Piekenierskloof on Tuesday 23rd from 14h00 to 17h00. On Wednesday 24th they will be in **Oranje Rivier** region at Lake Grappa from 16h00 to 19h00.

In the second week my team will be in **East Cape Midlands** (Kat River Boardroom) on Tuesday 1 March from 14h00 to 17h00; before moving to **Sundays River** (Kirkwood High School Supporters Club) on Wednesday 2nd from 14h00 to 17h00; and finishing off in **Patensie** (Ripple Hill Hotel) also from 14h00 to 17h00 on Thursday 3rd.

Over that week Paul's team will be in **Limpopo River/Zimbabwe** (Tshipise Forever Resort) from 14h00 to 17h00 on Monday 29th February; **Letsitele** (The Junction) on Tuesday 1 March from 14h00 to 17h00; **Hoedspruit** on Wednesday 2nd (Hengelklub) from 14h00 to 17h00; before ending up in **Senwes** (Max Mar Lodge) on Thursday 3rd from 14h00 to 17h00. Finally **KZN Midlands** will have their meeting on 8 March from 14h00 to 17h00 at the Victoria Country Club.

To find out where your nearest venue is and to RSVP for catering purposes please contact your Regional Administrator or gloria@cga.co.za. If you cannot make it to the meeting in your area, and wish to find out more about the new levy application you can contact your Regional Director or justchad@iafrica.com.

PLEASE MAKE AN EFFORT TO ATTEND SO AS TO GUIDE YOUR ASSOCIATION OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS.

OBITUARY FOR IAN GILFILLAN (Kindly provided by Tim Grout)

Ian M Gilfillan served the South African citrus industry with distinction for his whole career and as a plant physiologist solved many problems that were hampering exports. He joined the South African Cooperative Citrus Exchange as an extension officer in February 1959 with a BSc degree in soil science and chemistry from Natal University. Three years later he was sent to the University of California in Riverside to do his MSc in horticulture which he obtained in 1963, and he then continued his research there and obtained a PhD in March 1968. During this time his South African citrus plant pathologist colleague Toit Pelser was also doing his PhD at Riverside and it was also at this time that he met his wife Di. After returning to South Africa, Ian was based in Nelspruit at the Outspan Citrus Centre and tackled a broad range of physiological problems that included granulation, acid reduction in Valencias, improving colour of early mandarins and navel oranges, reducing oleocellosis and improving fruit size. However, the research that he is most well-known for is that involving the plant growth regulator gibberellic acid. With this chemical he found he could extend the grapefruit season and reduce the incidence of rind creasing. In January 1987, Ian was transferred to Port Elizabeth to manage citrus research in the Cape Province and join the entomologist Tim Grout and other SACCE staff at the Bird Street office. At this time most citrus in the Sundays River Valley was Palmer navel orange on Troyer Citrange rootstock which was very susceptible to creasing. Ian fine-tuned his gibberellic acid recommendations to what is still in use today and provided a solution to a narrow picking window by delaying harvest and reducing creasing losses. His research on gibb is still being cited in publications today, 30 years later, so his legacy lives on.

Reading this obituary makes one realise how important each individual is to the strength of the southern African citrus industry. The combination of expertise, research and "know how" from each individual results in a strong and robust industry as a whole. All the individuals have different strengths; which when combined lead to a sustainable and competitive industry. I would like to thank Ian and all those involved in the industry for ensuring that the southern African citrus industry remains dynamic through their research and development of new technologies.

SOUTHERN AFRICAN CITRUS GROWERS FUND THEIR FUTURE THROUGH THE CGA GROUP (CRI, RIVER BIOSCIENCE, XSIT, CGA CULTIVAR COMPANY, CGA GROWER DEVELOPMENT COMPANY AND CITRUS ACADEMY)



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