

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (33/16) (Follow me on Twitter justchad_cga)

Justin Chadwick 2 September 2016

"Excellence is not a skill, it's an attitude" Ralph Marston

CGA CITRUS SUMMIT

VILLA CROP SCIENCE have joined platinum sponsor STANDARD BANK, gold sponsor HUMANS DORP COOP (THE COOP) and bronze sponsors PPECB, XSIT and RIVER BIOSCIENCE as silver sponsor for the CGA Citrus Summit to be held at Boardwalk Hotel Conference Centre in Port Elizabeth from 8 to 9 March 2017. These sponsorships allow the small and enthusiastic organizing committee to plan ahead for what will be a great event. Registrations are now open and you can find out more information on the CGA website

www.cga.co.za

CRI CITRUS RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

One stand out memory from the recent Symposium will be the calibre of presentations made by all those who have chosen to do their research in the citrus field. Although the established researchers were brilliant, it was the next batch of brilliance that stole the show – with three Citrus Academy bursary recipients scooping awards for the best presentations – congratulations to Tamryn Marsburg, Sean Thackeray and Wouter Schreuder; to stand out amongst such a distinguished field is something to be proud of.

One of the messages from the Symposium is that there will be more changes in the global citrus world in the next five years than there have been in the last ten. The main macro trends that will influence the industry were listed as √√ water availability √√ labour availability √√ changing regulations √√ phytosanitary restrictions √√ trade restrictions √√ input costs √√ consumer trends and √√ Asian greening (HLB).

Looking at citrus production trends we see an increase in soft citrus volumes and a decrease in orange volumes. This is largely due to consumer preferences for easy to peel fruit, a symptom of the fast paced life that most now live. Seedless varieties are also preferred. Lemon volumes have also increased – interestingly the fruit is now viewed by many as a condiment; while the health aspects of lemons is gaining widespread attention.

EUROPEAN CITRUS TOUR

Join *Landbouweekblad* from 4 to 15 November on a 10-day tour of Spain and Italy's citrus farming regions. Orchards, pack houses and machinery manufacturers will be visited in Valencia, after which the tour will visit the well-known EIMA agricultural show in Italy, and end with a visit to Rome. Estimated price: 2 750 Euro per person sharing. For more information, contact Rover Tours at (021) 850 0795 / 082 563 5688 or

admin@rovertours.co.za

PACKED AND SHIPPED

The southern African citrus season is fast coming to an end – packed figures for grapefruit and navels would indicate that their season is over (as they have reached the variety focus groups predicted levels); while there are less than half a million cartons of both lemons and soft citrus remaining. Attention is now firmly on Valencia oranges with 2/3rds now already packed. Growers have indicated that there are 2 to 3 weeks of packing left in the north (the main Valencia region). The predicted total citrus crop for southern Africa now stands at just over 107 million cartons; 9% off 2015's record crop, and 4% lower than the initial estimate.

To end Week 26/8/16 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
SOURCE: PPECB/AGRIHUB	2014	2015	2016	2015	2016	2016	2016	2015
Grapefruit	15.1 m	15.9 m	13.5 m	14.1 m	12.8 m	12.4 m	13.5 m	16.1 m
Soft Citrus	9.4 m	9.3 m	11.5 m	8.6 m	10.3 m	11.2 m	11.9 m	10 m
Lemons	12.9 m	14.2 m	14.3 m	13.7 m	13.7 m	16.1 m	14.6 m	15.1 m
Navels	25 m	24 m	25.8 m	22.6 m	24.7 m	25.1 m	25.8 m	24.5 m
Valencia	30.7 m	31.8 m	30.7 m	22.8 m	22.4 m	46.4 m	41.3 m	52.7 m
Total	93.1 m	95.2 m	95.8 m	81.8 m	83.9 m	111.2 m	107.1 m	118.4 m

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)