

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO

(07/17)

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Justin Chadwick 3 March 2017



“An economist is an expert who will know tomorrow why the things he predicted yesterday didn’t happen today” Laurence J Peter

FROM DROUGHTS TO DINEO

Tropical cyclone Dineo lashed Mozambique causing widespread destruction, as it entered South Africa it was downgraded and resulted in widespread rain in the north of the country. Dams that had been almost empty were replenished – and the sight of the Vaal dam opening its sluices was most welcoming. For the citrus industry those watching the Tzaneen dam (providing water to the Letsitele region) saw it rise to almost 52% - a rise of 10% in a week and well over the 31% recorded this time last year. The Blyderivierspoort dam providing Hoedspruit has been overflowing for some time, as is the Witbank dam for Senwes. The Nzhelele dam further north which provides water for those in the Tshipise region has risen from 34% to 46% in a week. Likewise the Loskop dam which also provides water for the Senwes region has risen from 63% to 81% in a week. Rainfall figures for last week show Tzaneen received 133 mm while Letsitele got 126 mm.

Further south the situation is not as rosy. In Patensie dams continue to fall – now at 35% full. The Sundays River is dependent on the Gariep dam which has risen from 70% to 92% (due to rainfall in the Free State), but the Sundays River region itself has not seen any rain for some time. The Western Cape is extremely dry – and hopeful for early winter rains. The Brandvlei dam is at 23% and the Clanwilliam dam 34%.

Next week the Variety Focus Groups will get together to set the estimate for the 2017 crop – the water situation will play a big role in these deliberations.

BUSY WEEK NEXT WEEK

For those joining us in Port Elizabeth some final reminders. Monday morning 6th March those on the Pre-Summit Tour must be get to the Boardwalk Casino parking area by 10h30 to be ready to leave by 11h00 (please note that only those who registered for the tour will be allowed at the different tour stops – nobody allowed to follow in private vehicles or “gate crash” the tour!!).

On Tuesday 7th March the Citrus Marketing Forum (which includes a logistics session) will be held from 13h00 at St Georges Cricket Stadium. Registration for the Summit will then be open from 17h00 at the Boardwalk Conference Centre for those attending the welcome dinner (starting promptly at 19h00 – dress throughout the Summit is smart casual).

The Summit registration will then be open from 07h00 on Wednesday 8 March so that all can be in the hall for a prompt start at 09h00. The Summit will carry on through to 17h00 (with lunch at 13h00).

We have a full program for the Gala Dinner and so will open the doors from 18h30 – please be seated by 19h00.

The final day of the Summit (Thursday 9th) kicks off at 08h00 through to lunch at 12h00. After lunch CGA will hold a members meeting (13h00 to 14h00) followed by the CGA Board meeting.

Please contact justchad@iafrica.com or gloria@cga.co.za if you need further information.

CGA GROUP – BEE STATUS

Thanks to Portia Gasa, Robert Miller, Jon Pinker and all the others involved – we have now got BEE certificates for all the CGA Group companies. River Bioscience is certified at a level 3; Citrus Academy, CGA Cultivar Company and CGA Grower Development Company all on a level 4; CGA on level 6 and CRI on level 8. All certifications are done on the old AgriBEE codes and are valid for a year.

RECOMMENDED USAGE RESTRICTIONS FOR PLANT PROTECTION PRODUCTS ON SOUTHERN AFRICAN EXPORT CITRUS

Please note that the February 2017 version of this document compiled by Paul Hardman (CGA) and Vaughan Hattingh (CRI) is now available.

THE CGA GROUP OF COMPANIES (CRI, RIVER BIOSCIENCE, XSIT, CGA CULTIVAR COMPANY, CGA GROWER DEVELOPMENT COMPANY AND CITRUS ACADEMY) ARE FUNDED BY SOUTHERN AFRICAN CITRUS GROWERS