

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (24/17)

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Justin Chadwick 30 June 2017



“My own business always bores me to death. I prefer other people’s” Oscar Wilde

FORTY FOUR YEARS SERVICE TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN HORTICULTURAL INDUSTRY

Dr Org van Rensburg retires at the end of this year after an extraordinary 44 years service to the ARC – the last 18 as head of the ITSC. This is incredible commitment and devotion to his calling. Dr Org served on the inaugural Citrus Research International Board as a representative of the ARC, and continued to guide the CRI during its formative years – serving on the Board for ten years (2001 to 2011). These were difficult times. The citrus industry had just been deregulated and was battling to get a sustainable funding stream for research, while at the same time the ARC was also entering a new era where more funding was required from industry. This put Dr Org in a difficult position, which he managed in a professional and fair manner. As a citrus industry we would like to thank Dr Org for all the work done at the ARC, and for helping mold the CRI into a leading global citrus research institution. We wish him well with his well-earned retirement.

EXPORTS TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

Growers and other value chain role-players to the European Union have been vigilant in applying the CBS Risk Management System (RMS) and the False Codling Moth Management System (FMS). As the season goes into the heavy July period it is important that this vigilance continues – the pre and post-harvest measures for these two pests are based on research and operational experience so as to minimise the risk of consignment non-conformance. If any members of CGA or FPEF need a copy of either management systems please contact CGA or CRI.

“CONGRATULATIONS” AND “GOODBYES”

In January 2007 John Edmonds joined the CGA as Information Manager; in April 2007 Liane Esch joined as Bookkeeper and in June 2007 Robert Miller joined as Financial Manager – this year marks ten years of service to the CGA and to citrus growers in southern Africa: thanks to all three of you for your dedication to your work and being one of the important cogs that make this industry grow and prosper. Unfortunately we also bid farewell to Belinda Goosen as she leaves CGA after too short a stay as Financial Administrator; we wish you well in your new adventure and will miss you.

DIARISE THESE DATES

At the end of August (23rd) the CGA Group (CGA, CRI, CRT, Citrus Academy, CGACC and CGA GDC) will hold their Annual General Meetings at the Birchwood Hotel and Conference Centre in Boksburg. A full notice will be sent to all growers.

CGA will be holding their strategic planning session on 23 August and the CGA Board meeting on 24 August. The CRT Trustees meeting will be held on 23 August.

PACKED AND SHIPPED

The Valencia and Navel Focus Groups met this week and decreased their predictions once again. Word from the trenches is that conditions in the Eastern Cape have been horrendous this season, and further cuts could eventuate. 87% of the clementine estimate are now packed, and the soft citrus spotlight moves to late mandarins (36% packed).

To End Week 25 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
SOURCE: PPECB/Agrihub	2015	2016	2017	2016	2017	2017	2017	2016
Grapefruit	13 m	11 m	12.7 m	8.9 m	9.5 m	15.6 m	15.3 m	13.2 m
Soft Citrus	6.2 m	7.3 m	7.3 m	6.4 m	6.5 m	13.2 m	13.2 m	12.2 m
Lemons	9.7 m	9.9 m	13 m	9 m	10.8 m	17.5 m	17.5 m	15 m
Navels	13.8 m	15.8 m	12.6 m	12.3 m	9.3 m	26.3 m	22 m	26.2 m
Valencia	4.6 m	4.2 m	5.3 m	2 m	1.6 m	50.1 m	47.9 m	41.8 m
Total	47.5 m	48.2 m	50.9 m	38.6 m	37.7 m	122.7 m	115.9 m	108.4 m

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