

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (25/18)

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“To deny people their human rights is to challenge their very humanity” Nelson Mandela

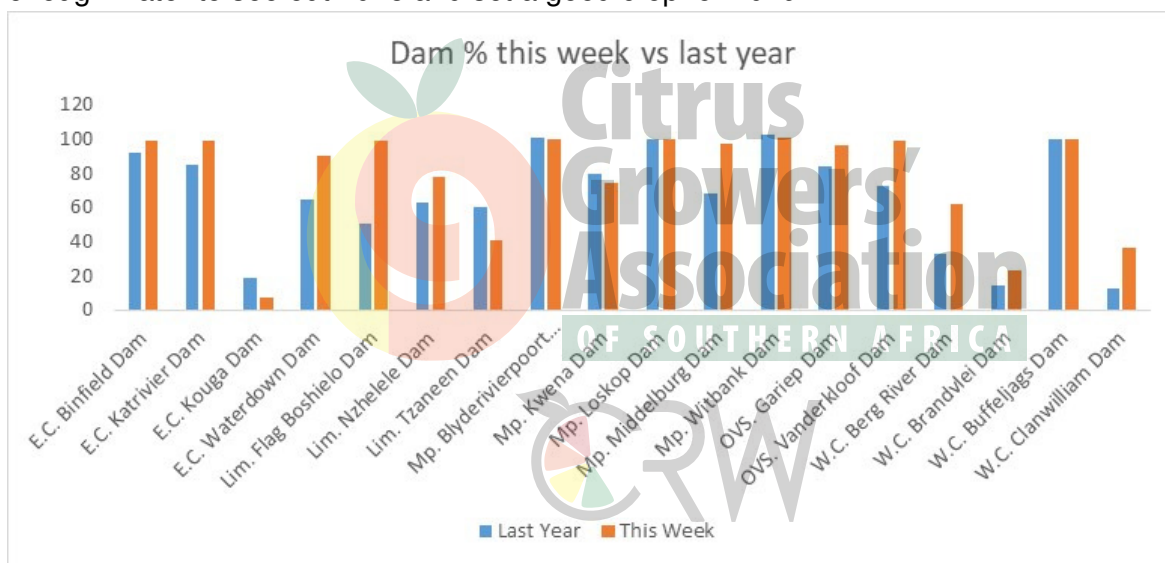
DAM LEVELS IN CITRUS GROWING REGIONS OF SOUTH AFRICA

Those living in the Western Cape have been celebrating good rains that heralded a return to normal for the winter rainfall region. Dams in that region are now above similar levels last year – although many will say that they are not out of the woods, the rains are a welcome relief.

Spare a thought for those a bit further up the coast in the Eastern Cape – the Patensie/Gamtoos region is facing dire conditions as the Kouga dam stands at 7.6 % (last year 18.5%) – please keep them in your thoughts and prayers.

The rest of the Eastern Cape dams are at good levels, as is the Gariep dam that feeds the Sundays River region.

Dams in the north (Mpumalanga and Limpopo) are also in a better shape than 2017 – ensuring enough water to see out 2018 and set a good crop for 2019.



PACKED AND SHIPPED

As grapefruit starts to color up so has the rate of packing stepped up. The Grapefruit Focus Group met this past week and increased their prediction – now a million cartons over the original estimate. Soft citrus packing is also ahead of 2017, and the Soft Citrus Focus Group have made another upward adjustment to the prediction. The labor issues in the Eastern Cape affected lemon and navel picking and packing, with lemon packing lagging 2017. Valencia's are also off to a slow start.

To Week 24 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
SOURCE: PPECB	2016	2017	2018	2017	2018	2018	2018	2017
Grapefruit	10 m	11.7 m	13.3 m	9.2 m	9.2 m	16.8 m	17.8 m	15.7 m
Soft Citrus	7 m	6.8 m	7.4 m	5.7 m	5.8 m	14.7 m	16.4 m	13.4 m
Lemons	9.2 m	11.9 m	10.9 m	10.1 m	9.8 m	20.6 m	20.3 m	19 m
Navels	13.5 m	10.5 m	11.3 m	7.5 m	6.9 m	25.7 m	25.3 m	21.1 m
Valencia	1.6 m	2.8 m	0.9 m	1.1 m	0.3 m	53.9 m	53.2 m	53.8 m
Total	41.3 m	43.7 m	43.8 m	33.6 m	32 m	131.7 m	133 m	123 m

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