

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (41/18)

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Justin Chadwick 12 October 2018



“Work expands so as to fill up the time available for its completion” Parkinson’s Law

POST-HARVEST MARKET REQUIREMENTS AND DECLARATIONS (LABELLING) WORKSHOP

CGA will be hosting a workshop to discuss market requirements and declarations/ labelling conventions for post-harvest treatments on citrus to all key citrus markets. Essentially the outcome of the workshop is to update previous (now outdated) Cutting Edge communications on this topic. **Date:** 31st October 2018.

Time: 14H00 – 16H00. **Venue:** Olive Grove, ARC Infruitec, Stellenbosch. All interested parties are invited and should RSVP Paul Hardman (ph@cga.co.za). Queries can be sent to Paul. The intention is to hold a similar workshop in the Northern growing regions before the end of the year – details to follow.

DoT AGREES NOT TO ENFORCE REGULATION 224 (b) iro TRANSPORTING HIGH CUBE CONTAINERS AFTER 1 JANUARY 2019

The Minister of Transport, Min. Blade Nzimande met with industry bodies on Thursday 11 October in Cape Town to agree to a way forward to resolve the regulatory impact of transporting high cube containers exceeding 4.3m. The Minister submitted not to enforce regulation 224(b) for a period of 12 months to 1 January 2020. Within this time the DoT has committed to evaluate through research the plausibility of enforcing regulation 224 (b) which permits the transport of cargo on goods vehicles to a maximum height of 4.3m. The DoT has assured that research will be concluded by July 2019 of which the results will guide the regulatory framework in the case of transporting high cube containers on road vehicles. Fruit South Africa will form part of the research committee.

CRI TECHNICAL AWARD 2018: PETER STEPHEN

Peter started working for SA Cooperative Citrus Exchange on 2 October 1974 aged 20. This coincided with the first failures of organophosphate corrective sprays to control red scale in the Letaba/Letsitele district, the beginning of a major crisis that threatened the industry's viability. He was hands on in the development of a resistance test for red scale and conducted hundreds of tests over the next 5 years. He was then involved in the development of OP-oil combinations and oil alone for red scale control. These alternative control options became key to saving the industry from the OP-resistant red scale threat.

He conducted the first evaluations of mistblowers for use on citrus. Later he conducted the field work that led to the registration of Meothrin for thrips and Agrilure and HymLure for fruit flies. Towards the end of the 1980s he was again the hands-on man in the development of Insect Growth Regulators for red scale control, which ushered in a new era in effective control of this key pest with lower volumes of oil.

The next frontier of citrus pest control that he was involved in was the development of systemics - Confidor and Mospilan. Further research on thrips in the 1990s led to the registration of Regent and abamectin and an appreciation for the value of predatory mites in the tree and in the soil.

Not only was he the man that ensured the precision of the field work underpinning these developments, this work was interspersed with cold treatment research on fruit flies and FCM, giving rise to the postharvest disinfestation treatments that have been central to the industry realising much of its current market access. This cold treatment work included proactive cold treatment research on B dorsalis.

More recently, to address constraints on the efficacy of control options due to MRL constraints, he conducted trials that enabled registration of Mitigate as a replacement for Acarol against bud mite and a new toxicant for use in fruit fly baits, Exirel. We now also have an emergency registration for the control of the green citrus leafhopper as a result of his trials with organic products.

Apart from pest management, this candidate's attention to detail has resulted in many of the photographs used today in industry guidelines such as our Pest and Natural enemy ID booklet and some of the colour and blemish standards. The cumulative value of his tireless development of improved control options for important citrus pests cannot be estimated. He is a man of great humility who deserves the great respect that he receives from all who know him and his work.

PACKED AND SHIPPED (note PPECB system still down – week 37 to 40 packing captured manually)

To Week 40 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
SOURCE: PPECB/Agrihub	2016	2017	2018	2017	2018	2018	2018	2017
Grapefruit	13.8 m	15.6 m	18.7 m	14.6 m	17.7 m	16.8 m	18.7 m	15.7 m
Soft Citrus	12.2 m	13.4 m	15.9 m	13 m	15.7 m	14.7 m	16 m	13.4 m
Lemons	15 m	19 m	19.6 m	18.8 m	19 m	20.6 m	19.9 m	19 m
Navels	26.2 m	21.1 m	26.4 m	21.1 m	26.3 m	25.7 m	26.4 m	21.1 m
Valencia	42 m	52.5 m	47.1 m	50.3 m	47.4 m	53.9 m	52 m	53.8 m
Total	109.2 m	121.6 m	127.7 m	117.8 m	126.1 m	131.7 m	133 m	123 m

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