

Justin Chadwick 22 February 2019



“My father taught me to work; he did not teach me to love it” Abraham Lincoln

OBITUARY: GERRIT BOOYENS

Gerrit Booyens passed away last week – leaving behind a legacy in the South African citrus industry. In the wake of deregulation Gerrit was the founder CEO of Citrus South Africa. Gerrit was a man of big ideas – and many of the things he put in place live on today. Gerrit was the founder of the Joint Marketing Forum (JMF) – the precursor to the Citrus Marketing Forum which is still active. This brought about a closer working relationship between growers and export agents. The information published by PPECB and used to assess packing and shipping was initiated by Gerrit. He also was the first to moot the establishment of a Citrus Academy – a concept which was picked up and implemented by CGA. Gerrit will be remembered for his enthusiasm and energy – a colourful character who let you know when he was in the room. RIP and condolences to the family.

ORGANIC, FAIR AND ETHICAL TRADE EVENT

This past week the EU and AFASA put on a sustainability workshop in Cape Town. Eric Nohamba (CGA Director and grower in the Eastern Cape) and I were invited to speak on the citrus industry. Some takeaways:

- Good news is that there are a number of black farmers (and many women black farmers) in South Africa. AFASA must be applauded for their work in supporting these farmers – young and energetic, what a delight to meet them at the workshop.
- The organic market worldwide is worth some US\$84 billion – 86% of this market is in USA and EU
- The proliferation of standards in the sustainability space continues – it is becoming impossible for suppliers to discern what standards to comply with. In a never ending attempt to differentiate themselves, retailers, importers and buyers are creating a nightmare for suppliers.
- Fortunately, on the ethical standards front, Fruit SA developed a home grown standard (with an environmental element now added). These standards are relevant to the South African environment and have been recognized by most important retailers worldwide.

CITRUS PRE-SEASON WORKSHOPS

PPECB and DAFF invite all role-players to the pre-season meeting for the 2019 export season. NOTE: ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY FOR ROLE-PLAYERS INTENDING TO EXPORT TO EU.

Details as follows: Eastern Cape 11/3/19 Fairview Sports Centre PE 09h00-13h00; Groblersdal 25/3 Raasblaar 10h-13h30; Tzaneen 26/3 Country Lodge 10h00-13h30; Hoedspruit 27/3 Blue Mountain Restaurant 10h00-13h30; Nelspruit 28/3 Venue TBA 10h00-13h30; Durban 2/4 The Jewish Club 09h00-14h30; Western Cape 5/4 Stellenbosch Venue TBA 10h00-12h00.

CGA CITRUS SUMMIT UPDATE

During 2018, in the State of the Nation Address, President Cyril Ramaphosa launched the Youth Employment Service (YES). The aim of the initiative is to improve youth unemployment by creating job opportunities that ensure young people are offered paid work experience. Over the next three years, the programme would see to it that more than one million jobs are created for young people. Furthermore, in his [speech](#), the president added that the government would be “*working in partnership with business, organised labour and community representatives... through internships, apprenticeships, mentorship and entrepreneurship*”.

At the CGA Citrus Summit we would like to demonstrate the citrus industry’s commitment to transformation and youth employment. Visit the Citrus Resource Centre:

- To demonstrate your availability to host interns
- We are looking for details of interns or graduate trainees that you already have on your farms
- We will provide you with information on youth that are currently looking for employment or experiential training positions.

If you are not at the Summit and have already employed interns in 2019 please send the details through to candice@citrusacademy.org.za. Alternatively, if you are looking for an intern send details of the work you would like them to do.

Together, the citrus industry will put South Africans to work. **COME PREPARED**

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