

# FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (33/19)

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Justin Chadwick 16 August 2019

***“The stupid neither forgive nor forget; the naïve forgive and forget; the wise forgive but do not forget” Thomas Szasz***

## **CRI INTEGRATED PEST AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP 2019**

CRI have distributed a notice about the workshops to be held in August and September 2019. If you farm citrus in southern Africa you cannot afford to miss this workshop. Included in the agenda will be HLB or Asian Greening – and you need to know ALL about HLB. For all citrus industries around the world, HLB is the greatest biosecurity concern.

Details are as follows: **Limpopo 1:** Die Eiland, Letsitele 27 & 28 August 2019; **Limpopo 2:** Loskop Forever Resort, Groblersdal 29 & 30 August 2019; **Mpumalanga:** Kavinga, Nelspruit 3 & 4 September 2019; **Eastern Cape:** Africanos, Sundays River Valley 10 & 11 September 2019; **Western Cape:** Ashanti Estate, Paarl 12 & 13 September 2019; for more information contact [Liezl@cri.co.za](mailto:Liezl@cri.co.za)

## **RAIL TRANSPORT ONLY VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO DURBAN PORT CONGESTION (M Brooke)**

The growth projections indicate that the northern citrus producing regions (KZN, Eswatini, Mpumalanga, Limpopo and Zimbabwe) is set to grow by 20% in the near future (an additional 8,000 road truck trips is forecast). The current challenges exporting citrus from the Durban port are only likely to intensify as the outlook on the Durban Container Terminal (DCT) performance looks very bleak – based on the current productivity outlook which shows a 13% decline in vessel productivity and 76% increase in truck staging times (as a measure against the 2017/18 productivity). Exporters have expressed concern about the bottlenecks in the Durban port, and the impact on fruit dwell. Practically there are only two solutions to rectify the status quo and facilitate future growth, export citrus from Maputo port (refer next weeks' article on best approach to export from Maputo), and rail containers of citrus from the hinterland to ports for export. Last week the first fully functional reefer trains (equipped with generator to power the units in transit, a diesel bowser and caboose) were railed from Musina (Musina Intermodal Terminal-MIT) and from City Deep to Durban. This is in addition to the existing rail services from Bela-Bela and Tzaneen. There are now six equipped reefer trains servicing the citrus [fruit industry] with more trains in the pipeline. A target of railing 10,000 containers per season by 2022 has been set by the CGA. The next rail service to be implemented will be between Maputo and Nelspruit aligned to exports for Far East (predominantly China and Japan), Asia and Middle East. For more information regarding rail transport contact Mitchell Brooke – [mitchell@cga.co.za](mailto:mitchell@cga.co.za)

## **BFAP BASELINE AGRICULTURE OUTLOOK 2018-2028**

For those involved in agriculture the BFAP Baseline Study is a must read. On Wednesday this week a large audience received presentations on the study. There is a saying that if you want useful information you should try and find a one-armed agricultural economist, because economists are always saying “on the one hand this, on the other hand that”. The BFAP team gave a very balanced projection of all agricultural sectors for the next ten years, from extensive research into past trends, and future predictions. Their slogan “data driven insights” is very appropriate. Download full report from

[https://www.bfap.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Finale-baseline-2019\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.bfap.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Finale-baseline-2019_FINAL.pdf).

## **PACKED AND SHIPPED**

| Million 15 Kg Cartons to end Week 32 | Packed        | Packed        | Packed        | Shipped     | Shipped       | Original Estimate | Latest Prediction | Final Packed |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| SOURCE: PPECB/AgriHub                | 2017          | 2018          | 2019          | 2018        | 2019          | 2019              | 2019              | 2018         |
| Grapefruit                           | 15.1 m        | 18 m          | 15.3 m        | 15.6 m      | 13.4 m        | 17.1 m            | 15.7 m            | 18.8 m       |
| Soft Citrus                          | 11.4 m        | 13.6 m        | 15.2 m        | 12.2 m      | 12.6 m        | 18.3 m            | 18.9 m            | 16.2 m       |
| Lemons                               | 17.7 m        | 17.3 m        | 19.7 m        | 16.3 m      | 16.1 m        | 22 m              | 21.9 m            | 19.9 m       |
| Navels                               | 20.1 m        | 24.8 m        | 21.2 m        | 22.5 m      | 17.4 m        | 26.9 m            | 23.2 m            | 26.7 m       |
| Valencia                             | 27.6 m        | 23 m          | 21.8 m        | 15.4 m      | 13.9 m        | 52.9 m            | 47.2 m            | 54.4 m       |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>91.9 m</b> | <b>96.7 m</b> | <b>93.2 m</b> | <b>82 m</b> | <b>73.4 m</b> | <b>137.2 m</b>    | <b>126.9 m</b>    | <b>136 m</b> |

**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**