

"Knowledge isn't free. You have to pay attention" Prof Richard Feynman

SPRINGBOK WORLD CUP WINNING SQUADS

Allow us to bask in the glory of the Springbok's World Cup victory for one more week with a quick quiz. Only three South African schools have had at least one representative in each of the victorious Springbok World Cup Squads (1995, 2007, 2019 and 2023). Can you name the schools? Send answers to justchad@iafrica.com.

SOLAR QUESTIONNAIRE

CGA would like to better understand the challenges and success stories of solar power installations on citrus farms/packhouses to ultimately try and assist growers. In light of this, we created a questionnaire. Can you please answer these 10 questions by using this link (copy and paste the link in your browser):

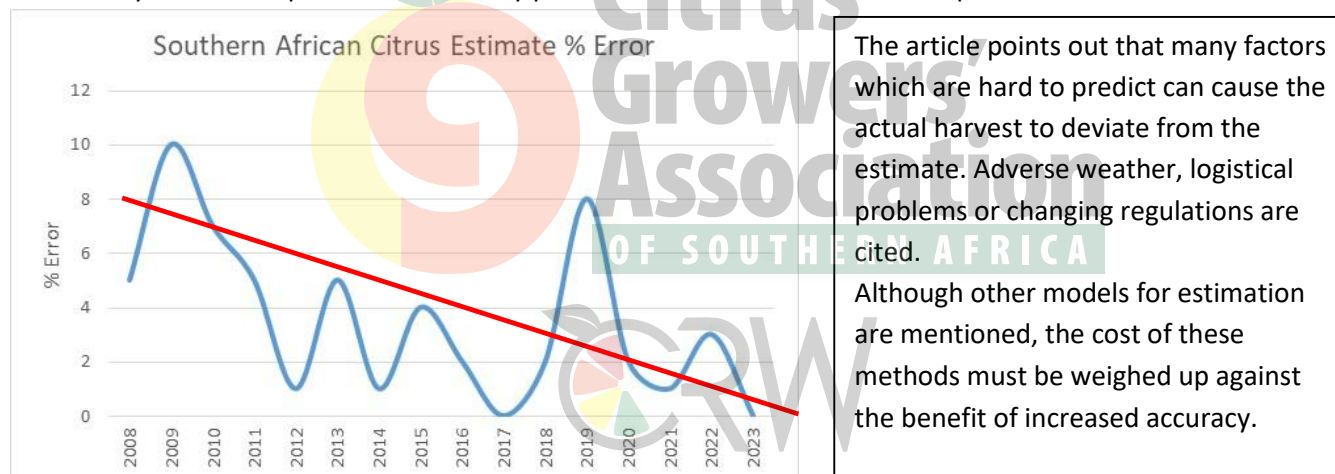
<https://survey.zohopublic.com/zs/yECNql>

Feedback by Wednesday, **15 November** would be appreciated.

SOUTH AFRICAN CITRUS ESTIMATES

A recent article in Fresh Plaza (2 November 2023) caught my eye. It was by an organisation called Sensonomic and was looking at the reliability of the CGA Southern African citrus estimate – and comparing this with other commodities. In this article Dr Adam Formica of Sensonomic states that "Despite their importance, the reliability of crop estimates is not always well understood".

The Variety Focus Groups can be extremely proud of their estimates and the improvements thereof over time.



	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Grapefruit	2%	8%	1%	-9%	-15%	-14%	-7%	6%	12%	-1%	11%
Soft Citrus	1%	9%	Spot on	14%	Spot on	3%	10%	-1%	9%	1%	3%
Lemons	-16%	8%	-6%	-9%	-6%	-5%	8%	10%	-7%	7%	-4%
Navel	-8%	11%	-6%	-8%	7%	2%	1%	-3%	6%	-20%	4%
Valencia	-3%	12%	-11%	-3%	-1%	6%	Spot on	5%	-11%	7%	Spot on
TOTAL	-5%	10%	-7%	-5%	-1%	5%	1%	4%	-2%	Spot On	2%

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Grapefruit	-11%	-7%	-3%	Spot On	2%
Soft Citrus	Spot on	2%	1%	-8%	11%
Lemons	Spot on	8%	3%	7%	-5%
Navel	-10%	-2%	3%	-3%	-2%
Valencia	-12%	4%	5%	-8%	-4%
TOTAL	-8%	2%	1%	-3%	Spot On

The CGA has an objective of an estimation error under 10% (orange); preferably below 5% (green). The table shows that to a large extent the Variety Focus Groups have achieved this objective. This is a remarkable achievement considering the estimate is prepared in March before the harvesting has started.