

“A conference is a gathering of important people who singly can do nothing, but together can decide that nothing can be done” Fred Allen

CRI RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

Last week I learned a lot of new terms and new information; for example I learnt that “oomycides” are not poisons to kill off old researchers, I learnt how to squeeze a false codling moth to determine its turgidity, and I learnt where to hammer the three nails into the corners of a pallet. Congratulations to all the presenters of the 77 papers, and the authors of the 45 posters. It was fascinating to hear all the work that is being done by world-class researchers to ensure that the southern African region continues to lead in citriculture globally. There was a rapt audience of 850 delegates who left the symposium cleverer than when they arrived.

And it was not all work – the network breaks and the entertainment provided was enjoyed by all; Lloyd Cele (former Idol winner) was excellent; who says researchers can’t dance!!!

Thank you to all the sponsors who make it possible for the CRI to put on such an amazing event; and well done to the management of the Champagne Sports Resort who seemingly effortlessly catered for the large delegations’ every need.

Finally, congratulations to Liezl van der Linde, Hannes Bester, MC Pretorius, Dawid Groenewald, Jan Landman, Wayne Mommsen, Coenraad Fraenkel, Andre Combrink, Natasha Bronkhurst and Rudolph Strydom of the Organising Committee – you can be truly proud of a great event.

CGA CITRUS SUMMIT – 11-13 March 2025

Now the focus turns to the CGA Citrus Summit to be held at the Boardwalk Hotel and Conference Centre in Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth). The organising committee is hard at work to emulate the excellent example set by the Research Symposium.

Registrations will open on Monday, 2 September 2024 for CGA members, and on Tuesday, 1 October for other delegates. Please have your CGA membership number handy for verification. To register visit the Summit website at www.cgasummit.co.za. The programme will be shared as it develops.

We are extremely pleased to have Agricultural Economist Wandile Sihlobo as Master of Ceremonies – Wandile will guide us through the proceedings.

In addition, the Honorable Minister John Steenhuisen will open the Summit at the first session on 12 March 2025.

Once again on offer will be a pre-Summit tour, which will expose delegates to citrus-related sites in the Eastern Cape on 10 and 11 March 2025; the welcome function will take place on the evening of 11 March and the gala dinner on 12 March.

PACKED AND SHIPPED

End of Week 34 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed	Vision 260
SOURCE: PPECB/AGRIHUB	2022	2023	2024	2023	2024	2024	2024	2023	2024
Grapefruit	17.3 m	13.5 m	14 m	13 m	13.2 m	16.8 m	15 m	14.7 m	16.2 m
Mandarins	30.9 m	36.2 m	38.3 m	31.3 m	31.2 m	43 m	42 m	38.0 m	39.6 m
Lemons	36.1 m	35.6 m	33.6 m	34.7 m	31.2 m	37.9 m	33.9 m	35.6 m	39 m
Navels	27.7 m	24.7 m	23.4 m	22.3 m	19.3 m	25.7 m	23.6 m	24.8 m	22.3 m
Valencia	37.1 m	39 m	32.4 m	27.6 m	20.9 m	58.3 m	49.6 m	52.0 m	55.4 m
Total	149.1 m	149.0 m	141.7 m	128.9 m	115.8 m	181.7m	164.1 m	165.1 m	172.5 m