FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (24/24)

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Justin Chadwick 14 June 2024

"Be more concerned about your character than your reputation, because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are" John Wooden

COMMENTS REQUESTED: SA CITRUS INDUSTRY APPLICATION FOR THE CONTINUATION OF STATUTORY MEASURES ON CITRUS FRUIT PACKED AND PASSED FOR EXPORT

For full notice (including business plan) please contact tanya@cga.co.za

On 9 May 2024, the Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development received a request from the Citrus Growers' Association of Southern Africa (CGA) for the continuation of statutory measures (levies, records & returns and registration) on citrus fruit produced, passed and packed for export, in terms of the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act (MAP Act) 1996. The current statutory measures will expire on 31 December 2024.

It is proposed that the following statutory measures be implemented for a new four-year period, effective from date of publication:

* Levies (in terms of Section 15 of the MAP Act); * Records & Returns (in terms of section 18 of the MAP Act); and
* Registration (in terms of section 19 of the MAP Act).

The purpose and objective of the statutory measure relating to registration are to compel directly affected groups in the citrus industry to register with the CGA. By combining compulsory registration with the keeping of information and the rendering of returns on an individual basis, market information for the whole of the industry can be processed and disseminated, and will form the basis for the collection of statutory levies. This is necessary to ensure that continuous, timeous and accurate information is available to all role-players. The levies assist considerably in ensuring the smooth management and overall competitiveness of our industry.

The current and proposed levy amounts, Rand per 15-kilogram carton (R/carton), are as follows:

	Current levy R/carton	Proposed new levy amount R/carton			
Citrus fruit produced, passed and packed for export	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Levy Rand per 15 kg carton	R1,79	R1,65	R1,67	R1,70	R1,76

The MAP Act stipulates that a statutory levy may not exceed 5% of the price realised for a specific agricultural product at the first point of sale. The maximum of 5% must be based on a guideline price calculated as the average price at the first point of sale over a period not exceeding three years. The 2025 proposed average statutory levy level of R1,65 R/carton, is less than 1,1% of the calculated average guideline price for citrus fruit exported and is therefore well within the limit of 5%.

The National Agricultural Marketing Council (NAMC) believes that the measures requested are consistent with the objectives of the MAP Act. They are requesting input from directly affected groups.

Directly affected groups (e.g. producers, packers and exporters) in the citrus industry are kindly requested to submit any comments regarding the proposed statutory measures in writing to the NAMC **(e-mail to mathildavdw@namc.co.za)** on or before 21 June 2024, to enable the Council to finalise its recommendation to the Minister in this regard.

CITRUS SUSTAINABILITY FORUM

The next Citrus Sustainability Forum is scheduled for 21 June from 09:00. The meeting link and agenda were previously circulated on the CGA Comms tool. For those who did not receive it, please reach out to Paula Bester (pb@cga.co.za).

PACKED AND SHIPPED

End of Week 23 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	11.3 m	9.3 m	10.1 m	8.5 m	8.0 m	16.8 m	14.9 m	14.7 m	16.2 m
Mandarins	10.5 m	13.4 m	13.1 m	10.1 m	9.2 m	43.0 m	**42.7 m**	38.0 m	39.6 m
Lemons	17.3 m	20.2 m	18.4 m	18.1 m	14.9 m	37.9 m	35.8 m	35.6 m	39.0 m
Navels	7.6 m	8.1 m	7.8 m	4.4 m	3.4 m	25.7 m	21.9 m	24.8 m	22.3 m
Valencias	0.9 m	1.2 m	0.6 m	0.4 m	-	58.3 m	**55.5 m**	52.0 m	55.4 m
Total	**47.6 m**	**52.2 m**	**50.0 m**	**41.5 m**	**35.5 m**	**181.7m**	**170.8 m**	**165.1 m**	**172.5 m**

THE CGA GROUP (CRI, RIVER BIOSCIENCE, XSIT, CGA CULTIVAR COMPANY, CGA GROWER DEVELOPMENT COMPANY & CITRUS ACADEMY) ARE SUPPORTED BY AND WORK FOR THE CITRUS GROWERS' ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA