

Note from the Managing Director

Congratulations to all those who received awards at the National Staff Meeting.

The importance of the values remains key but the introduction of the High Five award, focusing a little more on performance, really emphasises all that is expected of us.

It is up to everyone in the RBX team to ensure our customers receive the best experience when using our products and/or services and this is especially important for those who go onto farms as representatives of our companies. Those at XSIT taking a break between seasons must enjoy their holiday and be ready to do everything possible to make next season another successful year.

CHEERS, ROB

CGA Group companies **working together to make a difference!**

In the 2023/24 season, 15 citrus growers in the Kat River Valley were given the opportunity to actively participate in an IPM programme geared towards FCM management.

The CGA Grower Development Company (CGA GDC) and River Bioscience (RB) aimed to provide the Development Growers with a holistic FCM management programme that included the use of *Trichogrammatoidea cryptophlebiae* (parasitoid wasps) and CryptoMax (virus).

Through sound technical support, the Eastern Cape RB and GDC extension team successfully serviced 445 FCM susceptible hectares. Furthermore, value was added in the form of in-field support, ensuring correct product storage and stewardship, while continuous assessment of an established monitoring network took place throughout the season.

In line with the support agreement signed in 2022, the CGA GDC and RB aim to continually support and improve grower sustainability. After the recent engagement between the two companies, it became evident that the close collaboration within the CGA must continue. The programme seeks to continue in the upcoming season, responding to a forecasted growth of around 500 hectares. The plan is to build on the success of the past season by servicing these additional hectares and potentially addressing another phytosanitary pest.



Delivering **world-class, sustainable crop protection solutions** to KZN Growers



River Bioscience, together with Farmers Agricare, has been facilitating grower days across the KZN province to discuss the successful results of incorporating MultiMax into an IPM programme during the 23/24 macadamia season. These events also focused on planning for growth in the upcoming season.

RB and FAC remain committed to working together to deliver world-class, sustainable crop protection solutions to KZN growers.

Thanks to Megan Mulcahy for providing some insight into the performance of virus products together with chemical controls and a better understanding of how parasitoid wasps can be used to reduce the hatch rate of MNB and FCM in macadamia crops.

June Birthdays

Taswald Kamfer, Goodman Nqubelani, Firdousa Ahmed, Donvan Swartz, Denver Andrew, Martiens Oktober, Paul Biebuyck, Celene Saaiman, Marvin Marsh, Emma Stirk, Carmen Coetzee, Jerry Botha, Andrea Jackson, Sibusiso Teyise, Rhoderick Floors

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