

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (06/16)

Justin Chadwick 26 February 2016

"I detest racialism, because I consider it as a barbaric thing, whether it comes from black person or a white person" Nelson Mandela

CITRUS GROWERS' SUPPORT SIZA

Citrus growers make up the largest membership of SIZA – with 25% of the 1 300 members being growers of citrus. CGA members attending the roadshows expressed support for SIZA. The primary goal of SIZA is to ensure that labour on fruit farms in South Africa is treated fairly, with dignity and in accordance with labour legislation. In addition a number of tools have been developed to assist growers in improving these conditions. A secondary objective is to develop one standard recognised by all receivers – so as to prevent the high costs of multiple audits. As with any program SIZA has had its challenges – but under the guidance of Retha Louw (newly appointed SIZA Manager) SIZA is going from strength to strength. It is unfortunate that poor delivery by service providers have resulted in delays and problems with the data platform; but that is now behind us and members are being assisted in getting all data transferred to the new platform. Any growers who wish to learn more about SIZA can contact Paul Hardman (ph@cga.co.za) or Retha Louw (retha@siza.co.za); or have a look at www.siza.co.za.

LEVY RENEWAL ROADSHOWS

The grower roadshows up the east coast and into the onderberg was a stark reminder of the drought in the country. As one moved north from Durban the dry conditions became very apparent; particularly in northern KZN and Swaziland. If there is no rain in the next six weeks or so the country faces a very bleak winter.

All roadshow meetings were well attended and there was 100% support for the CGA Board's new levy proposal. Thanks to the growers in Nkwalini, Swaziland, Nelspruit and Malelane for your hospitality – to the CGA Regional Administrator Nancy O'Farrell for all the organisation and fantastic braai's; and to Tim Wafer (Director Nkwalini); Per Noddeboe (Director Swaziland), Andrew Muller (Director Nelspruit) and Cornel van der Merwe (Director: Onderberg) thanks for your leadership at the meetings.

Paul reports on similar support from the Western and Northern Cape.

Next week my team will be in **East Cape Midlands** (Kat River Boardroom) on Tuesday 1 March from 14h00 to 17h00; before moving to **Sundays River** (Kirkwood High School Supporters Club) on Wednesday 2nd from 14h00 to 17h00; and finishing off in **Patensie** (Ripple Hill Hotel) also from 14h00 to 17h00 on Thursday 3rd.

Next week Paul's team will be in **Limpopo River/Zimbabwe** (Tshipise Forever Resort) from 14h00 to 17h00 on Monday 29th February; **Letsitele** (The Junction) on Tuesday 1 March from 14h00 to 17h00; **Hoedspruit** on Wednesday 2nd (Hengelklub) from 14h00 to 17h00; before ending up in **Senwes** (Max Mar Lodge) on Thursday 3rd from 14h00 to 17h00. Finally **KZN Midlands** will have their meeting on 8 March from 14h00 to 17h00 at the Victoria Country Club.

To find out where your nearest venue is and to RSVP for catering purposes please contact your Regional Administrator or gloria@cga.co.za. If you cannot make it to the meeting in your area, and wish to find out more about the new levy application you can contact your Regional Director or justchad@iafrica.com.

PLEASE MAKE AN EFFORT TO ATTEND SO AS TO GUIDE YOUR ASSOCIATION OVER THE NEXT 4 YEARS.

CGA CHAIRMAN, VICE CHAIRMAN AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RE-ELECTED

At the CGA Board meeting in February Pieter Nortje (Sundays River) was re-elected at the helm as Chairman of CGA; Piet Smit (Citrusdal) remained as Vice Chairman and George Hall (Boland), Fanie Meyer (Hoedspruit) and Ben Vorster (Letsitele) were all retained on the CGA Executive Committee.