

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO

(37/16)

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Justin Chadwick 30 September 2016



“Anybody who has doubts about the ingenuity or the resourcefulness of a plumber never got a bill from one” George Meany

DAFF COORDINATING MEETING

Once again the Annual DAFF Coordinating meeting at Loskop dam was a great success. Although only 100 people had RSVP'd over 250 people gathered in the Elephant Room of the Forever Resorts Conference Centre. Salamina Maelane must be congratulated for her fantastic job of chairing the meeting; the presenters were clear and to the point and the quality of the information was excellent. For those who could not make the trek north fear not as DAFF have kindly agreed to have follow up meetings in the regions as follows:

DATE	VENUE	TIME
3 October 2016	KZN – Nkwalini Farmers Hall	09h00
5 October 2016	Eastern Cape – Valentine Hall; Addo	09h00
7 October 2016	Western Cape – ARC Infruitec, Olive Grove Hall, Stellenbosch	09h00
10 October 2016	Nelspruit – CRI	09h00
11 October 2016	Hoedspruit – Hengel Klub	14h00
12 October 2016	Letsitele – Tzaneen Country Lodge	09h00
13 October 2016	Limpopo River, Alicedale, Tshipise	09h00

From a regulatory viewpoint DAFF summed up 2016 as being a **good season with good cooperation**.

As always there is room for improvement which was highlighted at the meeting. It is always disappointing to hear about how many cartons fail inspection due to the **incorrect markings on the carton**. From a regulatory point of view correct carton marking is as important as the phytosanitary status of the fruit in the carton. Although the number of cartons rejected is not a lot in the bigger picture it is totally unnecessary if better attention to detail is afforded during packing – DAFF reports that 61 855 cartons were rejected for incorrect markings for China, 4 005 cartons for South Korea, 25 of 20 consignments for South Korea and 2 740 cartons for Thailand.

The **CBS Risk Management System** for the EU is now fine-tuned and only 4 interceptions have been recorded in Europe in 2016. This comes at a high cost (over R1 Billion) and is totally unnecessary given the fact that CBS should not be considered a quarantine organism in the EU (according to global CBS experts). Nevertheless, as long as the unjustified measures remain South African regulators (DAFF) and growers will continue to pay attention to abiding by the regulations. DAFF praised growers for being proactive by withdrawing orchards from the programme should they be concerned about the fruits phytosanitary status (1 280 orchards were withdrawn in 2016). A CBS working group will gather soon to consider the 2017 RMS – at the moment the system remains unchanged.

Growers/exporters must take note of the dates for registrations for the 2017 season. Registrations open today (30 September 2016) through to 28 October 2016: **NO LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED!!!** The on line registration system (developed by CGA and DAFF) means that most information is prepopulated: this also allows a quick turnaround time – growers/exporters can check the DAFF website for verification of information and make corrections between 25 November and 9 December 2016. The check list for those markets with this requirement will be available on 13 February 2017; and the China list will be sent to AQSIQ on 24 February 2017. The final list will appear on the DAFF website on 7 April 2017.

Obviously there is a lot more detail that was presented at Loskop Dam – if you missed that meeting make sure you attend one of the meetings listed above: **if you are in the citrus business then it is your business to attend these meetings**.

Presentations are available on the password protected section of the CGA website : www.cga.co.za

CITRUS MARKETING FORUM

The final CMF meeting for 2016 will be held on 26 October 2016 at Canal Walk Auditorium, Canal Walk Shopping Centre (next to Incredible Connection and closest to entrance 5), starting at 10h00 and finishing by 13h30. The meeting will look back at the 2016 season (including identifying those who estimated the worst and best!!); will include a presentation on the work done in the port on cold chain issues and will address credit assurance in the Russian market (amongst other items). Please rsvp to Gloria@cga.co.za for catering purposes.

PACKED AND SHIPPED

To end Week 23/9/16 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
SOURCE: PPECB/AGRIHUB	2014	2015	2016	2015	2016	2016	2016	2015
Grapefruit	15.6 m	16.1 m	13.8 m	14.7 m	13.1 m	12.4 m	13.8 m	16.1 m
Soft Citrus	9.9 m	9.9 m	12.1 m	9.2 m	11.2 m	11.2 m	12.1 m	10 m
Lemons	13.1 m	14.7 m	14.9 m	14.4 m	14.5 m	16.1 m	15.1 m	15.1 m
Navels	25.9 m	24.4 m	26.2 m	23.2 m	25.4 m	25.1 m	26.2 m	24.5 m
Valencia	50 m	47.5 m	40.6 m	42 m	37.4 m	46.4 m	41.9 m	52.7 m
Total	114.5 m	112.6 m	107.6 m	103.5 m	101.6 m	111.2 m	109.1 m	118.4 m

SOUTHERN AFRICAN CITRUS GROWERS FUND THEIR FUTURE THROUGH THE CGA GROUP (CRI, RIVER BIOSCIENCE, XSIT, CGA CULTIVAR COMPANY, CGA GROWER DEVELOPMENT COMPANY AND CITRUS ACADEMY)