

"Winning isn't everything – but wanting to win is." Vince Lombardi

DR FANIE VAN VUUREN

When I joined CGA one name was spoken by all – Dr Fanie van Vuuren; his technical work in the citrus industry is still benefitting growers today. Paul Fourie (CRI) paid tribute to Fanie:

It is with great sadness that we learnt that Dr Fanie van Vuuren has passed away on 7 July 2022, at the age of 81. He has been battling recurring cancer for some time... Oom Fanie is survived by Tannie Bets, their son, two daughters and their grandchildren. Our sincere condolences are with the family; and also to all the friends and colleagues of this gentle giant, who was a mentor to so many of us.

Fanie dedicated 57 years of his working life serving the citrus industry of South Africa in the field of citrus virology, and was internationally acclaimed by his peers. Amongst many awards, he received special recognition from Citrus Research International, who named the Citrus Improvement Scheme facilities at CRI in Nelspruit the "Dr Fanie van Vuuren - Citrus Improvement Scheme Laboratory and Nucleus Block" on 1 June 2017.

A telling extract from this Special Recognition: "Apart from Fanie's research and service contributions, many colleagues in industry are proud and honoured to have had Fanie van Vuuren as a mentor. To his peers and protégés, his example of Christian values, gentle humility, impeccable work ethic, scientific discipline and unwavering integrity is perhaps Fanie's greatest legacy. Those who worked with Fanie would all attest to this contagion of goodness."

I was blessed to be able to have a conversation with Fanie shortly before his passing. I thanked him for the privilege of working with him, and for him being such a good mentor to us. Fanie humbly said "It was but my job... it was a pleasure". He asked me to pass on his greeting.

UPDATE ON CITRUS EXPORTS FROM MAPUTO (MITCHELL BROOKE)

I recently travelled from Malelane through Komatipoort – Ressano Garcia border down to Maputo port. I saw first-hand the great efforts that have been made to allow citrus to be exported from the port once again. I visited the Maputo Fruit Terminal (MFT) and DP World Maputo. MFT has a very neat and well equipped terminal for the handling of ambient loading from Maputo. DP World have also put a lot of emphasis on reefer equipped infrastructure including reefer wash bays, PTI facilities and reefer stacking yards (power back up supplied by generators should power be disrupted). The Maputo port itself is in process of receiving massive upgrades to quay walls, quay surfaces and road ways. Fully supported by a hardened and no nonsense security force. The most pleasing aspect is that reefers are released from DP World and packed at MFT only a few hundred meters away, reefers are then transported back to DP World and plugged in ready to be shipped. Two main container line services aligned to citrus exports are calling Maputo as outlined below. Please make contact with the lines representatives directly. In addition, there is an option to ship citrus to Bangladesh on the Far East service from Maputo.

Service Name	Shipping Line	Market	Rotation	Transit (Days)
Mozambique, India Middle East (MIM)	ONE Line	Middle East / India	12 Days	12 / 16
Maputo Express (MAX)	Hapag Lloyd	Middle East / India	12 Days	12 / 16
Maputo, ME & India	Unifeeder	Middle East / India	12 Days	12 / 16
Asia Mozambique Express	CMA CGM	Far East (Singapore)	7 Days	31
M Express	Maersk	Far East (Singapore)	7 Days	31

In 2021, 134,000 pallets (6,700 containers) of Grapefruit and Oranges were exported to Middle East from Durban, 41,700 pallets (2,085 containers) to non-temperature sensitive markets in the Far East and 38,000 pallets (1,900 containers) to Bangladesh. Altogether 10,685 containers. Role players have made a serious investment and commitment aligned to exporting citrus from Maputo for 2022. Producers are encouraged to consider this option to ensure future sustainability for the regions' exports considering mounting pressure on the logistics chain.

PACKED AND SHIPPED

End of Week 27 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
SOURCE: PPECB/AGRIHUB	2020	2021	2022	2021	2022	2022	2022	2021
Grapefruit PP (17kg)		2.4 m	2.5 m	1.8 m	1.8 m			
Grapefruit Class1&2 (17kg)		11.0 m	10.3 m	10.6 m	8.9 m			
Grapefruit	13.9 m	15.2 m	14.5 m	14.0 m	12.1 m	16.8 m	15.3 m	17.5 m
Mandarins	13.4 m	16.7 m	16.0 m	13.2 m	13.9 m	34.5 m	33.7 m	30.9 m
Lemons	21.2 m	22.2 m	24.3 m	19.0 m	22.1 m	32.3 m	32.4 m	31.0 m
Navels	17.5 m	17.7 m	16.6 m	13.6 m	14.0 m	28.7 m	27.2 m	27.2 m
Valencia	8.2 m	8.9 m	6.6 m	4.6 m	3.8 m	58.2 m	57.6 m	55.0 m
Total	74.2 m	80.7 m	78.0 m	64.4 m	65.9 m	170.5 m	166.2 m	161.6 m