

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO

"The secret of life, though, is to fall seven times and to get up eight times."

(Paul Coelho, *The Alchemist*)

AGBIZ CONGRESS 2026: EMBRACING COLLABORATION

The Agbiz Congress 2026 in Gqeberha, held under the theme Embracing Collaboration, successfully brought together agricultural leaders to think through a rapidly shifting economic landscape. The CGA was well represented through attendance by members from management and from the CGA Board. The inputs by the Minister of Agriculture, the DG of Agriculture, and the Investment Envoy to the President, Mcebisi Jonas, all centred on international trade, geopolitical tensions, and the urgent need to align South Africa's foreign and trade policies. This was backed up by Anesh Maistry from DIRCO, who addressed the shift in diplomatic priorities that ensure missions abroad align with SA's economic objectives.

A key point of reflection was reforming the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) to grant South Africa the flexibility needed for swift bilateral trade agreements. Beyond trade, the Congress addressed critical internal constraints hindering agricultural growth. These include the performance of logistics infrastructure and how to achieve increased port and rail efficiency through collaborations with Transnet, addressing long-term biosecurity interventions for diseases like Foot and Mouth Disease, alongside countering rural crime.

At this year's event, new leadership for Agbiz was also elected. PG Strauss was elected as Chairperson, supported by Lukehshi Chetty and Francois Swanepoel as Deputy Chairpersons. Dr Boitshoko Ntshabele (alongside Tobias Doyer) was successfully elected to the Steering Committee.

Justin Chadwick, who steps down from the Agbiz Steering Committee, was recognised for his leadership and contributions to agriculture in South Africa and received the Agbiz Honorary Award.

VISIT TO PATENSIE

We remain concerned with the plight of the Patensie growers that were impacted by the devastating floods in May and then again last week. The CGA recently visited the Gamtoos Valley. The May floods surpassed the high-water mark set a centenary ago and the damage was clearly evident in every direction. On Friday and Saturday water again broke the river banks, causing damage to the now recently rebuilt roads, and compounding the damage to bridges and infrastructure broken in May. The whole landscape has changed. Entire orchards are gone. Land and soil washed away. And there are immediate concerns about the handling of the rest of the crop, which isn't as close to the rivers as those primarily damaged. The CGA is appealing to the Eastern Cape authorities to quickly intervene and restore roads and bridges, and for national authorities to help with major roads connecting this region.

A highlight of the trip was to see the way this community is coming together and supporting each other under these very difficult circumstances. Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with you as you pick up the pieces and rebuild.

CITRUS MARKETING FORUM

The next Citrus Marketing Forum (CMF) meeting will be held on **Friday, 26 June at 10:00 AM** via **MS Teams**. Please contact Portia Magwaza at portia@cga.co.za to receive the registration link.

PACKED AND SHIPPED VOLUMES

During the peak of the export season, the methodology is adapted with regards to the export volumes. Volumes that are already loaded on vessels, and waiting to depart, gets included. This is done as the difference between the inspected volumes and the shipped volumes becomes big and create the impression of large volumes of stock, while the vessels are loaded and waiting to depart. Before the peak season, all volumes displayed is confirmed. For any questions, please contact albert@cga.co.za

INTERESTING FACTS

Most lemon trees live for about 50 years, but they can live for more than 100 years.

CGA GROUP INFO CITRUS SUSTAINABILITY FORUM (CSF)

Date: 19 June 2026

Time: 09:00am

Venue: MS Teams

Link: [link](#) or
contact pb@cga.co.za

CITRUS MARKETING FORUM (CMF)

Date: 26 June 2026

Time: 10:00am

Venue: MS Teams

Link: Please contact
portia@cga.co.za to receive the
link

End of week 23 million 15 kg cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed	Vision 260
SOURCE: PPECB / AGRIHUB	2024	2025	2026	2025	2026	2026	2026	2025	2026
Grapefruit	10.2 m	10.2 m	10.7 m	8.5 m	9.6 m	17.8 m	17.0 m	15.3 m	15.5 m
Lemons	18.5 m	21.1 m	29 m	18.4 m	25.3 m	45.9 m	49.4 m	41.6 m	43.4 m
Mandarins	13.1 m	15.2 m	14.5 m	10.6 m	12.1 m	52.7 m	49.4 m	53.5 m	50 m
Navels	7.9 m	8 m	6.2 m	3.8 m	3.8 m	30 m	29.2 m	31.6 m	32.3 m
Valencia	0.7 m	1.6 m	0.6 m	0.4 m	0.1 m	63 m	62.9 m	62 m	67.8 m
Total	50.4 m	56.1 m	61 m	41.7 m	50.9 m	209.4 m	207.9 m	204 m	209 m