

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO

*"We don't have to be smarter than the rest. We have to be more disciplined than the rest."
(Warren Buffet)*

COMRADES 2026

Last Sunday, I had the privilege to join just under 22,000 other Comrades runners as we sought to tame the uprun from Durban to Pietermaritzburg. Amongst others, Khuliso Mudau and Vijan Chetty, of the Department of Agriculture, and the Perishable Produce Export Certification Board respectively, also ran the race and successfully completed it too. Congratulations to them and all the other runners who met with success on the day. This year was the 99th edition of the Comrades ultra-marathon and next year we see the 100th edition taking place. It will always be the ultimate test of the strength of the human spirit's ability to triumph over difficulty, and we do look forward to it!

MIDDLE EAST AND EXPORTS

This Wednesday we saw the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the US and Iran, signalling a cautious end to hostilities in the Middle East and the reopening of the Strait of Hormuz. The signing of the MoU opens a way for the two nations to spend the next 60 days working out a final set of terms which will hopefully see the war - which started on 28 February - completely ended. The war and its impacts have had a deleterious effect on exports to that region, including rising costs and the late arrival of our fruit. Overall, the current export season is progressing relatively steadily, and we continue to communicate and align with all stakeholders to ensure a systematic flow of citrus. This is aimed at ensuring markets are able to anticipate expected volumes of fruit coming their way, as well as ensuring that fruit flow through the ports is also adequately managed. We are focused on delivering fruit to markets in excellent condition, reinforcing and strengthening our reputation as a reliable supplier of high-quality produce.

FATHER'S DAY

As we mark Father's Day this Sunday, it is worth reflecting on the role that fathers play in passing down knowledge, experience and values to the next generation. Agriculture around the world is often shaped by older generations and family enterprises, which brings both strength in experience and a risk to continuity, particularly in family-run enterprises where succession is not always assured. It has, though, warmed my heart to see lines of family succession forming in many of our citrus farms, with family legacies being built.

However, progress in our industry will depend on recognising youth and change, and that the skills and approaches that brought us this far may not be the ones that carry us into the future. It is therefore essential that we actively invest in and equip the next generation to lead with confidence in an evolving environment. In doing so, we build a more resilient and sustainable future for the citrus sector.

We take this opportunity to wish all fathers in our industry a meaningful and happy Father's Day.

INTERESTING FACTS

Just one orange or a glass of fresh orange juice provides roughly 100% of a person's recommended daily intake of Vitamin C.

CGA GROUP INFO

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

PACKED AND SHIPPED VOLUMES

End of week 24 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	10.8 m	10.9 m	11.3 m	9.4 m	10.4 m	17.8 m	16.8 m	15.3 m	15.5 m
Lemons	19.9 m	22.8 m	32.1 m	20.3 m	28.1 m	45.9 m	49.4 m	41.6 m	43.4 m
Mandarins	14.6 m	17.6 m	16.1 m	12.7 m	14.3 m	52.7 m	49.4 m	53.5 m	50 m
Navels	9.1 m	10.9 m	8.5 m	6 m	6.2 m	30 m	26.8 m	31.6 m	32.3 m
Valencia	1.3 m	3.5 m	1.5 m	1.4 m	0.5 m	63 m	62.6 m	62 m	67.8 m
Total	55.7 m	65.7 m	69.5 m	49.8 m	59.5 m	209.4 m	205 m	204 m	209 m