

# Bio-Blog July 2018

Keeping all RBX Group Stakeholders Informed

## Note from the CEO

SIT releases for the season have now been completed with awesome results in all Valleys. After a rough start to the season these results are extremely encouraging. The cleaning of the Citrusdal facility and signing of contracts with producers have already started to prepare ourselves for a awesome season ahead in 2018 - 2019.

### July Birthdays:

Clarissa Mouton, Norman Ruiters, Ernest Adonis, Hester Nortje, Hendrik Syter, Mzimkhulu Solani, Carol Titus, Rob Elfick, Mlungiseleli Lolwana, Moliza-Marie Valentyn, Elizabeth Kellerman, Warren Klein, Emeel Ruiters, Franco Pieters, Lungisa Qulu, Lesley Valentyn, Brendon Van der Westhuizen, Urbin Swartz, Colin Januarie, Livona Ludick, Malvene Filander, Jeffrey Louw.

## Expanding the RBX Team Capabilities

River Bioscience has recently taken steps to ensure our capacity to service the industry with effective products at affordable prices by adding critical skills to our Production and Product Development portfolios. These critical skills come in the form of two young ladies who joined RBX over the last two three months.

Melissa Lloyd, our new Production Researcher, is based at the Addo production facility. Her responsibilities include improving rearing and production methods, researching and developing new insect cultures that may be of interest to RB, overseeing quality control and managing the Research Technicians.

Nomvume Petela has joined our Business Development team as a Research Technician and is based at our new Port Elizabeth laboratory. Her responsibilities include assisting Dr John

Opoku-Debra in conducting QC work on both registered and pipeline products while she is also involved in the conducting of field trials, data capturing, statistical analysis, and report writing.

Both Melissa and Nomvume obtained their Master's Degree from Rhodes University in Microbiology and Entomology respectively and were involved in the Centre for Biocontrol at Rhodes University lead by Professor Martin Hill. Rhodes University, Citrus Research International and River Bioscience have for years worked closely together on fundamental and applied research to benefit the South African Citrus Industry so we are very happy that this relationship has developed skills which has led to employment and increased capacity within the CGA group of companies.

