

Tuesday 15 June 2021 [**Day 446 of Lockdown: Day 15 Level 2**]

### COVID 19: Memo 47 to Growers

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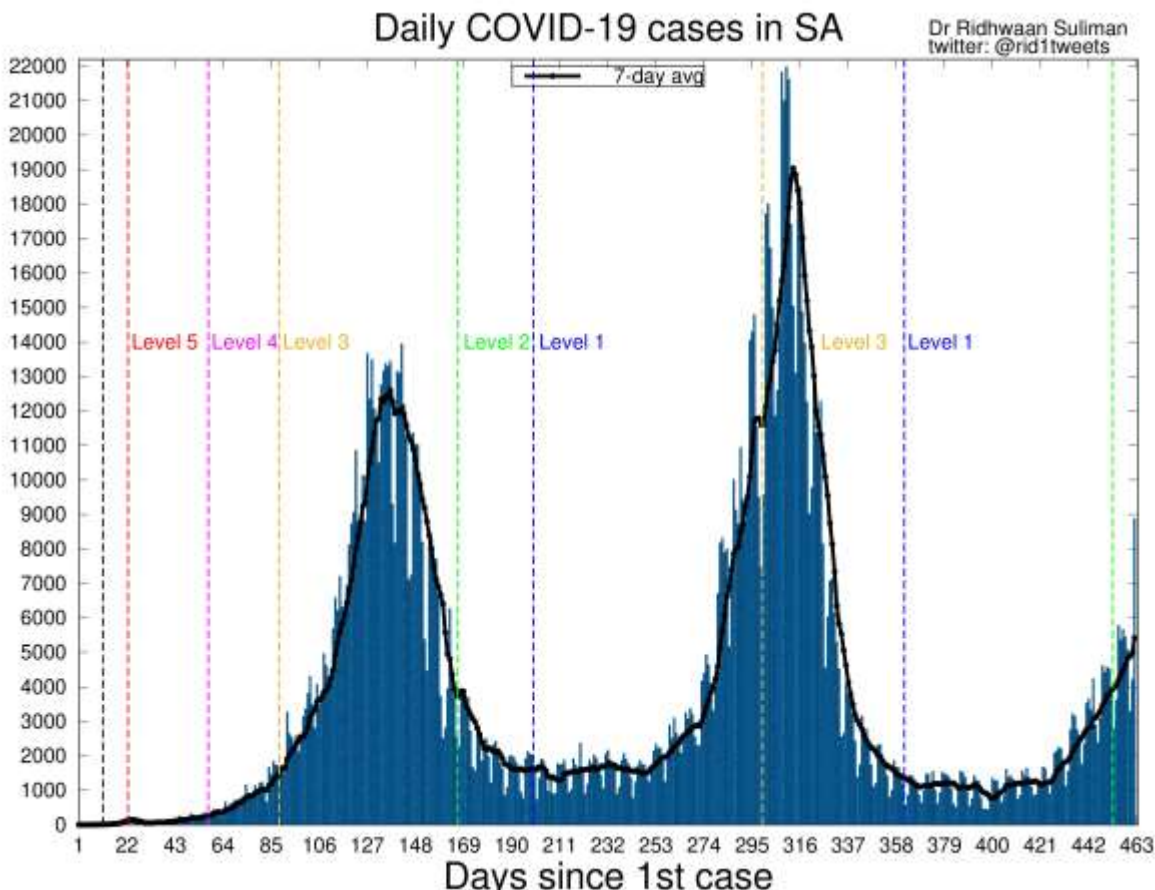
Dear Growers

The 2021 season is well underway with over 70% of grapefruit, almost 50% of lemons, 38% of soft citrus, and 28% of navels packed: Valencia just starting.

Unfortunately, the third wave of the COVID 19 pandemic is also well underway, as can be seen from graphs below. Growers and packhouse managers are urged to continue with the measures that worked so well in 2020, prevention starts with individuals' behaviour – deepening a culture of compliance with the basics will keep your work place the safest place to be.

#### The Statistics:

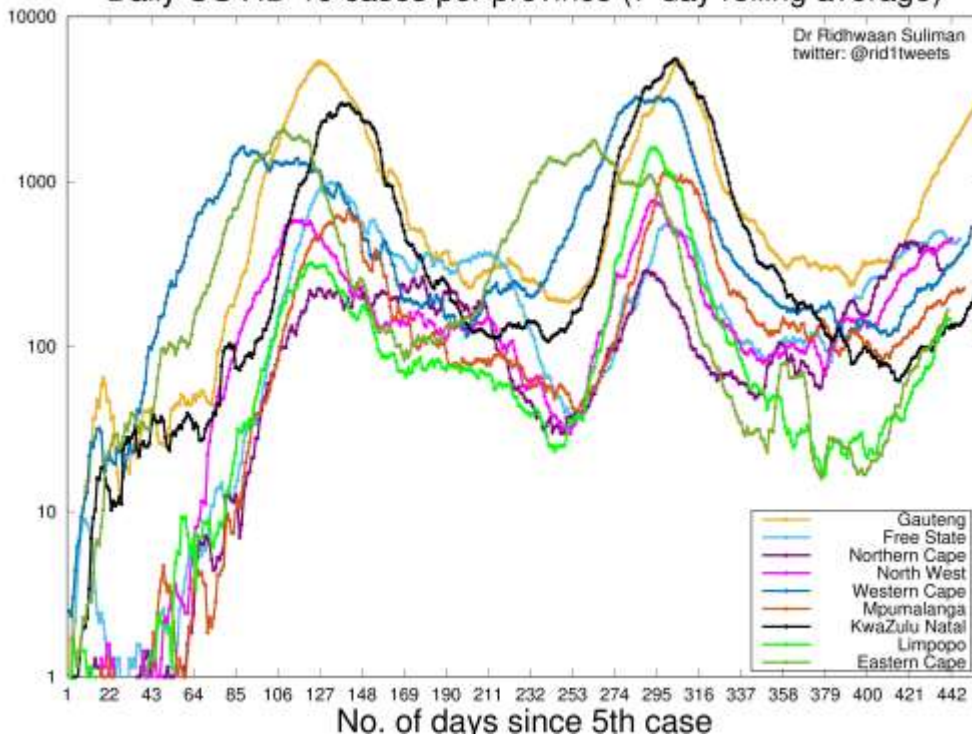
Every day we are bombarded by different sets of COVID statistics – I tend to rely on Dr Ridhwaan Suliman (of the CSIR) and his Twitter posts. The trend in daily cases will lead most to the conclusion that we are in the third wave – with some provinces showing alarming increases (such as Gauteng).



Reg. No. 2000/010147/081

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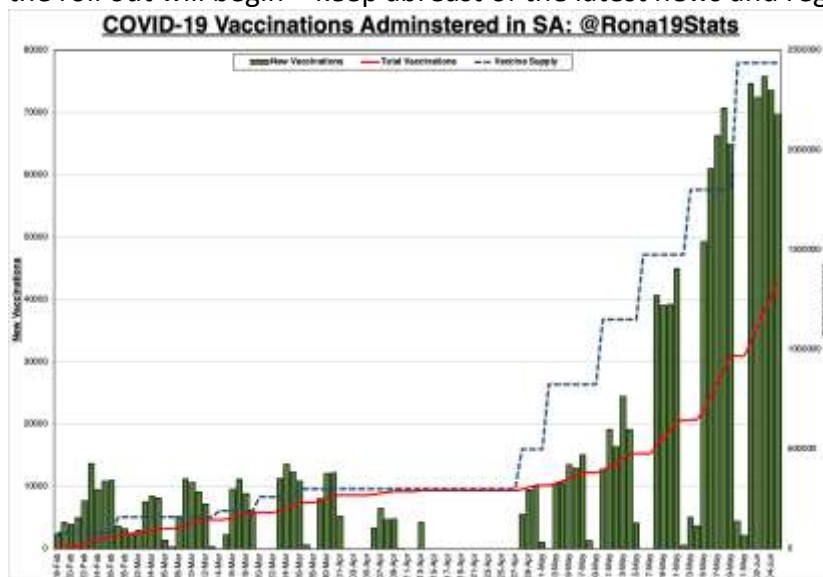
Daily COVID-19 cases per province (7-day rolling average)



**Vaccinations:**

The vaccination roll-out has been hit with another setback due to the contamination of vaccines in the overseas plant. Initial goals were to vaccinate 250 000 people per day in South Africa – lately there have been between 70 000 and 80 000 per day.

Growers and packhouse managers should be gearing up to get workers vaccinated as soon as the program allows – this will reduce the risk of workers becoming ill which has been identified by the CGA COVID Risk Committee (CRC) as the highest risk to the industry. It is uncertain when phase 3 of the roll out will begin – keep abreast of the latest news and register workers as soon as allowed.



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P.O. Box 461  
Hillcrest, 3650  
Unit 7 – 22 on Main,  
22 Old Main Road,  
GILLITTS 3610  
Kwa Zulu Natal, South Africa  
Tel: +27 31 765 2514  
Fax: +27 31 765 8029  
Email: info@cga.co.za

Growers who have facilities and personnel on farm who can assist in the vaccination roll out are reminded to go to [www.orangeheart.co.za/vaccine/](http://www.orangeheart.co.za/vaccine/) to register your interest in participating, or contact [sive@citrusacademy.org.za](mailto:sive@citrusacademy.org.za)

### **CGA Covid 19 Response Committee (CRC)**

The CRC will meet next on 10 June 2021. If growers have identified risks that COVID 19 pose to their business, please send me a mail with a description of the risk and suggested remedial actions ([justchad@iafrica.com](mailto:justchad@iafrica.com)).

At the last CRC meeting Jacomien de Klerk was asked to prepare a document giving guidelines to follow when positive cases are identified at the workplace – please find the document attached.

### **ORANGE HEART FRUIT DRIVE**

With the start of soft citrus and orange harvesting it is hoped that growers and packhouses with excess fruit will start to support those in need. In 2020 CGA was able to assist growers in donating fruit to Food Forward South Africa, Department of Social Development and individual causes. If you have fruit to donate please contact Sive Silo [Sive@citrusacademy.org.za](mailto:Sive@citrusacademy.org.za) or please visit [www.orangeheart.co.za/fruit/](http://www.orangeheart.co.za/fruit/)

Staff Cell numbers: Justin Chadwick 083 654 9591; Mitchell Brooke 082 892 9455; Paul Hardman 082 880 7933; Deon Joubert 083 675 3785; Robert Miller 084 510 5961; Gloria Weare 084 512 5578

Justin Chadwick