

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (05/24)

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Justin Chadwick 2 February 2024



“If you find somebody smarter than you. Work with them. Don’t compete with them.” Anon

CITRUS GROWERS’ ASSOCIATION (CGA) BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The CGA Board of Directors is made up of regional representatives and independent Directors. The regional Directors are elected by growers in their region for a two-year period. Over the past two months growers in East Cape Midlands, Hoedspruit, Letsitele, Limpopo River, Patensie, Senwes, Sundays River and Zimbabwe have had the opportunity to consider their representative.

Growers in these regions have nominated the existing Directors to continue to represent them on the CGA Board. The following Directors have been re-elected: Jock Danckwerts (East Cape Midlands), Tommie Landman (Hoedspruit), Jan-Louis Pretorius and Andries van Wyngaardt (Letsitele), Guy Whitaker (Limpopo River), Phillip Dempsey (Patensie), Charles Rossouw and Piet Engelbrecht (Senwes), Hannes de Waal and Hennie Ehlers (Sundays River), and Paul Bristow (Zimbabwe).

Growers in the southern African citrus industry are extremely fortunate to have these Directors to represent them, they serve on the Board with no compensation and have led an Association that is unashamedly grower focussed, with the mission to maximise the long term sustainability of CGA members.

FRUIT LOGISTICA

Next week the fresh produce world descends on Berlin to attend Fruit Logistica 2024. Billed as the greatest fresh produce show in the world, the energetic buzz of thousands of fresh produce enthusiasts is definitely a highlight of the year. It reminds one of a rugby match: on the pitch it is brutal as deal makers thrash out final arrangements for the 2024 season, but off the pitch the amber liquid flows and friendships are rekindled. It looks like 2024 will be throwing up a number of new and old variables. Shipping lanes are impacted by the Red Sea unrest (affecting the Suez Canal), while the Panama Canal addresses water challenges. The world is still in a perilous state as the Ukraine invasion continues, and the Gaza conflict rages on; simmering tensions continue in other parts of the world. Add to that rising input costs impacting food security, the state of the global economy with many having lower disposable incomes, energy challenges, continued climate change risks with an increased occurrence of devastating weather events, to name a few. With these macro-economic conditions in the background, fresh produce traders will need to negotiate carefully so as to keep food affordable, while at the same time ensuring that those who produce the food, have sufficient return to stay in business.

The CGA will be representing southern Africa's citrus growers in Berlin, making sure we stay connected and informed while forging profitable partnerships.

CGA GROWER ROADSHOWS 2024

The present four-year levy cycle will be ending at the end of 2024. Growers will be asked to consider the next levy period (2025 to 2028) which will be proposed by the CGA Board and presented to growers at this year's roadshows. Please attend so that your voice can be heard.

Kindly RSVP to Tanya at tanya@cga.co.za to ensure you are catered for.

Start Time: 14h30	CGA Roadshow: Pauls Team	CGA Roadshow: Justins Team
Monday 19/2/24	Ohrigstad/Burgersfort - Buffelsvley	Senwes - Die Raasblaar
Tuesday 20/2/24	Hoedspruit - Blue Mountain Restaurant	Nelspruit - Mbombela Golf Club
Wednesday 21/2/24	Letsitele - Letaba Junction	Onderberg - Komati Fruit
Thursday 22/2/24	Limpopo River - Mopane Bush Lodge	
Monday 26/2/24	Boland - Excelsior Manor Guest House	
Tuesday 27/2/24	Western Cape - Piekenierskloof	Patensie - Suurvelder
Wednesday 28/2/24		Sundays River Valley - Africanos
Thursday 29/2/24	Northern Cape - Lake Grappa	E. Cape Midlands - Katco
Wednesday 6/3/24		KZN - Nkwalini Farmers Club



THE CGA GROUP (CRI, RIVER BIOSCIENCE, XSIT, CGA CULTIVAR COMPANY, CGA GROWER DEVELOPMENT COMPANY & CITRUS ACADEMY) ARE SUPPORTED BY AND WORK FOR THE CITRUS GROWERS’ ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA