

“Yes, English can be weird. It can be understood through tough, thorough thought, though” David Burge

CITRUS GROWERS' ASSOCIATION (CGA) APPLIES FOR RENEWAL OF THE CITRUS LEVY

After a thorough process the CGA has made an application to the Minister of Agriculture (through the offices of the National Agricultural Marketing Council (NAMC)) to administer a citrus levy for the next four years, for registration of growers and the submission of records and returns.

After approval of the levy business plan by the CGA Board, the levy proposal was discussed at fourteen grower meetings throughout South Africa. There were robust discussions and all comments were taken into consideration. Once the grower meetings had concluded, the Board finalised the application to be submitted to the NAMC.

The NAMC will now do their internal investigation. Included in this process is the publishing of the application for comments. CGA will alert growers when this publication is open for comments. Once the comments have been analysed, a final report is sent to the NAMC for approval and submission to the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD).

The NAMC will then await the Ministers' approval before promulgating the Notices in the Government Gazette.

Growers who would like a copy of the application can contact justchad@iafrica.com or tanya@cga.co.za.

CITRUS ACADEMY SUPERPOWER PROGRAMME

The Citrus Academy has developed the Citrus SuperPower programme, a train-the-trainer programme aimed at improving supervisor development in citrus workplaces. The first train-the-trainer workshop will be held on the 10th to 14th of June 2024 in Pretoria. For more information on this unique project, go to www.citrusacademy.org.za/citrus-superpower/ or email sive@citrusacademy.org.za.

LEMONS

There is a lot of interest in the 2024 lemon season, as was evident from the good turnout at the first lemon tracking session on Wednesday, with 80 participants on the virtual platform. The lemon tracking model was developed by SAFRESCO and presented by Anya Jaworski. The model concentrates on the EU market, predicts supply into the market, and shows how this compares to predicted demand. This allows exporters of lemons into the EU to see where supply exceeds or falls short of demand. Exporters can then use this information to plan their season. This model is updated regularly and shared on a virtual platform with all role-players in lemon exports to the EU. This week's model indicates that the EU market will be oversupplied in the next four weeks, while there is an undersupply later in the season. Exporters should consider this in making their export decisions.

PACKED AND SHIPPED

Further cuts to the prediction by the Lemon and Mandarin Focus Groups brings the volume for 2024 below the 180 million mark. Thirty percent of grapefruit and twenty five percent of lemons have now been packed and passed for export.

End of Week 18 Million 15kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
SOURCE: PPECB/AGRIHUB	2022	2023	2024	2023	2024	2024	2024	2023
Grapefruit	5.7 m	5.0 m	5.2 m	3.3 m	3.3 m	16.8 m	15.7 m	14.7 m
Mandarins	2.5 m	3.9 m	4.4 m	2.6 m	2.2 m	43.0 m	43 m	38.0 m
Lemons	7.2 m	11.9 m	9.1 m	9.5 m	6.2 m	37.9 m	36.8 m	35.6 m
Navels	0.2 m	0.5 m	0.5 m	0.2 m	-	25.7 m	25.7 m	24.8 m
Valencias	-	-	-	-	-	58.3 m	58.3 m	52.0 m
Total	15.6 m	21.3 m	19.2 m	15.6 m	11.7 m	181.7m	179.5 m	165.1 m