***FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (37/19)***

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*Justin Chadwick 20 September 2019*

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| ***“It is dangerous to be sincere unless you are also stupid” George Bernard Shaw*** |

**CITRUS GROWERS’ ASSOCIATION BOARD (CGA) – 10 YEARS SERVICE**

At the CGA Board meeting last week Phillip Dempsey was recognised for his ten years’ service as Director representing the Patensie region. Phillip is also the Chairman of the Citrus Academy. He was thanked by Chairman Ben Vorster for his contribution to the CGA.

Also with ten years’ service representing Hoedspruit region is Fanie Meyer. Until recently Fanie served on the CGA Executive Committee, and presently is a Director of Citrus Research International (CRI) and Chairman of the Citrus Improvement Scheme – a man who has served the industry with distinction for some time.

**CITRUS EXPORT SHORT COURSES**

The next round of Citrus Academy short courses have been scheduled – **Citrus Production**: 2019/10/30-11/01 Patensie, 2019/11/27-29 SRV; **Citrus Business Admin**: 2019/10/22-25 Fort Beaufort, 2019/11/12-15 Nelspruit; **Export Supply Chain**: 2019/10/02-04 Cape Town, 2019/10/09-11 Paarl, 2019/11/06-08 Somerset West, 2019/11/13-15 Durban. For more information, 2020 dates or to register, go to [www.citrusacademy.org.za](http://www.citrusacademy.org.za) or contact Sive at [sive@citrusacademy.org.za](mailto:sive@citrusacademy.org.za) or 031 765 3410

**ANNUAL CITRUS COORDINATING MEETING**

Annually the Department Agriculture, Land Affairs and Rural Development (previously DAFF) hold a coordinating meeting to look back on the previous season, and plan for the forthcoming season. This year’s meeting will take place in **Nelspruit on Wednesday 6 November 2019 from 09h00 to 13h00.** This is the most important event of the year for those involved in the export of South African citrus.

Part of the recap of 2019 will be to look at the initiation of the FCM Management System (FMS). Although the majority of exporters can be well pleased with the first year of implementation, there are areas for improvement. The meeting will delve into these improvements, with discussion on how to continuously improve on performance.

**CITRUS MARKETING FORUM (CMF)**

CGA and FPEF have decided on the date for the final CMF for 2019: this will be held in Cape Town (venue to be decided) on 9 October 2019. Final details will be made available as soon as possible. For more information contact John Edmonds [johne@cga.co.za](mailto:johne@cga.co.za)

**PACKED AND SHIPPED**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Million 15 Kg Cartons to end Week 37 | Packed | Packed | Packed | Shipped | Shipped | Original Estimate | Latest Prediction | Final Packed |
| **SOURCE: PPECB/AgriHub** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2018** | **2019** | **2019** | **2019** | **2018** |
| Grapefruit | 15.5 m | 18.5 m | 16 m | 16.9 m | 14.4 m | 17.1 m | 16 m | 18.8 m |
| Soft Citrus | 13.3 m | 15.9 m | 18 m | 15.2 m | 16.8 m | 18.3 m | 19.1 m | 16.2 m |
| Lemons | 18.9 m | 19.1 m | 21.5 m | 18.4 m | 18.7 m | 22 m | 22.4 m | 19.9 m |
| Navels | 21 m | 26.5 m | 24 m | 26.1 m | 21.4 m | 26.9 m | 24 m | 26.7 m |
| Valencia | 47.2 m | 45.6 m | 42.3 m | 37.4 m | 33.8 m | 52.9 m | 46.3 m | 54.4 m |
| **Total** | **115.9 m** | **125.6 m** | **121.8 m** | **114 m** | **105.1 m** | **137.2 m** | **127.8 m** | **136 m** |