***FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (4/20)***

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*Justin Chadwick 31 January 2020*

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| ***“The most important thing is to try and inspire people so they can be great at whatever they want to do” Kobe Bryant*** |

**NGQURA AND PE CONTAINER TERMINALS GETTING READY FOR SEASON 2020 [Mitchell Brooke]**

Realizing the massive impact of 2019, TPT are readying the Ngqura (NCT) and PE container terminals (PECT) to ensure citrus exports from the Eastern Cape are better managed. Massive planning and operational staff recruitment has been underway from July 2019 that has included extensive training by external consultants. NCT will be ready with 8 [eight] waterside and landside gangs by March 2020. An additional 600 [six hundred] reefer plug in points will be installed by 31 April; these will be made up of 3 [three] banks of ground slots. 3 [Three] reach stackers and 2 [two] straddle carriers have been procured to work these banks, this will permit reefer containers to be accepted during certain windbound periods where RTG’s normally stop. PECT will have 1 [one] ship to shore crane and 2 [two] mobile cranes in place by 31 April and these will be serviced by 3 [three] waterside and landside gangs. The importance of PECT is that the SAECS, MESA and AMEX services can be handled at PECT to prevent ship bottlenecks at NCT. The CGA and TPT are planning to hold a preseason workshop on 18 March in PE. Attendance by packhouses, cold stores, container depots, transporters, PPECB, shipping lines and exporters (or agents) will be crucial to discuss identified initiatives to ensure the smooth flow of reefer containers into terminal is achieved. An invitation will be distributed in due course.

**FRUIT LOGISTICA BERLIN**

Next week the world’s fresh produce family will gather in Berlin at Fruit Logistica for their annual reunion. It is such an important event on the fresh produce calendar, a great opportunity to meet a lot of people in one place (but make sure you get your appointments in place before the event – it gets crazy busy), look at what other countries are showcasing and see latest trends and innovations in global fresh produce.

Please come and visit the South African members of the fresh produce family in Hall 26, D19 – the stand is always a buzz as friends meet again.

South African fruit growers are very proud of SIZA – the Sustainability Initiative of South Africa. Farm workers are a valuable asset on South African fruit farms – and SIZA membership ensures ethical production of fruit. In addition, South African fruit growers understand the massive responsibility of environmental stewardship on their farms. SIZA and Fruit South Africa will be holding a seminar on ethical and environmental compliance in South African trade. The seminar will be on 6 February 2020 from 11h00 to 13h00; venue Hub 27, Beta 3. Please come along and hear more about this wonderful initiative – RSVP Carmen Botes carmen@siza.co.za (seats are limited).

 **CIRAD STATISTICS**

CIRAD recently released their Citrus Statistics Book. The following are the leading exporters (tonnes):

EASY PEELERS: Spain 1 383 000; Turkey 740 000; Morocco 698 000; China 550 000; Pakistan 392 000; **South Africa 242 000;** Chile 170 000; Peru 159 000; Greece 107 000; Israel 88 000

ORANGES: Spain 1 560 000; Egypt 1 540 000; **South Africa 1 168 000**; USA 512 000; Turkey 459 000; Greece 298 000; Morocco 146 000; Italy 106 000

GRAPEFRUIT: **South Africa 271 000**; Turkey 189 000; Israel 68 400; USA 57 600; Spain 52 400; Egypt 20 000; Mexico 16 900; Cyprus 8 502

LEMONS: Spain 615 600; Turkey 527 000; **South Africa 299 380**; Argentina 268 700; Chile 88 300; USA 87 600