

“I can’t be the face of athletics because I’m not an arrogant or loud person like Noah” Botswana 200m Gold Medal athlete Letsile Tebogo

ERIC NOHAMBA

It was with great sadness that we learnt of the passing of Eric Nohamba this past week. Eric was a true citrus industry leader, serving on the CGA Board from 2017 to 2022, and he was serving on the RBX Board and on the executive of the Grower Development Chamber. Eric always represented his constituency with passion, had impressive expansion plans, and was always available to represent the industry. He had an infectious sense of humour, and was firm, but fair. Eric will be sorely missed and our thoughts are with his family.

WOZA CITRUS ACADEMY

Jacomien de Klerk and Sam Louw will be on the road during September, visiting all citrus-production regions to talk about the latest news and developments in citrus training and education, and will also find out what the Citrus Academy can do to assist growers to an even greater extent.

Jacomien will be in Patensie (3 Sept), Sundays River Valley (4 Sept), Fort Beaufort (5 Sept), Nelspruit (9 Sept), Groblersdal (10 Sept), Brits (11 Sept), and Kakamas (12 Sept). Sam will be in Citrusdal (3 Sept), Paarl (4 Sept), Robertson (5 Sept), Hoedspruit (10 Sept), Letsitele (11 Sept), and KZN (13 Sept).

Register on <https://citrusacademy.org.za/woza-citrus-academy/>

AGRO ENERGY FUND AND AVO SOLAR

The Agro Energy Fund is a blended finance scheme established to help agri-businesses acquire alternative energy assets to reduce their overall energy costs and carbon footprint. It focusses on all energy-intensive activities, including irrigation and on-farm cooling facilities. It is open to both primary and secondary agri-businesses. Thus far, a small amount of the original R1.2 billion program has been taken up, and if uptake appetite is there, the fund can justify expanding the programme to R2.5 billion. The relationship between grant and loan is as follows:

Large and Mega-scale	Medium-scale	Small-scale
30% grant funding to be matched with a 70% loan portion, grant capped at the maximum of R1.5 million.	50% grant to be matched with a 50% loan portion, grant capped at the maximum of R1 million.	70% grant portion to be matched with a 30% loan, grant funding capped at the maximum of R500k.

For more information on this initiative, the Land Bank, as well as AVO solar, contact albert@cga.co.za.

PACKED AND SHIPPED

The Grapefruit Focus Group made a 100 000 carton upwards adjustment to their prediction.

End of Week 32 Million 15kg cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed	Vision 260
SOURCE: PPECB/AGRIHUB	2022	2023	2024	2023	2024	2024	2024	2023	2024
Grapefruit	16.3 m	13.1 m	13.6 m	12.5 m	12.7 m	16.8 m	15 m	14.7 m	16.2 m
Mandarins	27.8 m	32.6 m	33.8 m	27.8 m	26.6 m	43.0 m	42 m	38.0 m	39.6 m
Lemons	34.6 m	34.9 m	32.4 m	33.4 m	29.7 m	37.9 m	33.9 m	35.6 m	39.0 m
Navels	26 m	23.7 m	21.2 m	20.4 m	17.1 m	25.7 m	21.5 m	24.8 m	22.3 m
Valencia	26.5 m	27.6 m	22.7 m	19.4 m	15.1 m	58.3 m	50 m	52.0 m	55.4 m
Total	131.2 m	131.9 m	123.7 m	113.5 m	101.2 m	181.7m	162.4 m	165.1 m	172.5 m