

“One day you will wake up and there will be no more time to do the things you have dreamed of. Do them now” Paulo Coelho

CLEMENGOLD TURNS 20

It is hard to believe that it was 20 years ago that the industry was introduced to the Clemengold brand, and the vision for the brand’s future. That vision has become a reality with Clemengold, a household name in South Africa and, gaining popularity around the world. For the fast growing mandarin sector the creation of a brand to drive consumer demand was essential for South Africa – and all those involved should take a bow for their foresight and attention to detail. With even more mandarin orchards coming on stream in the future we are going to have to lure every consumer we can, to buy this fabulous fruit.

The CGA Group would also like to thank Clemengold for all the sponsorships and support over the years – Clemengold have funded many projects at the Citrus Academy, and have sponsored events at the CRI Research Symposium and CGA Citrus Summit – mostly involving fantastic Clemengold gin!!

CRI RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

Southern African citrus growers’ biggest investment is in research – investing some R170 million annually in activities managed through Citrus Research International.

In 2024 CRI will be holding their popular CRI Research Symposium in the Drakensberg (Champagne Sports Resort) from 18 to 21 August 2024. In past years this event has been sold out – and those who woke up too late did not get to attend. Since citrus growers are primary funders of CRI there is a window of opportunity to register for the CRI Research Symposium before registrations open for other delegates. Those who play golf should enter the very popular golf day on one of the most picturesque courses in South Africa.

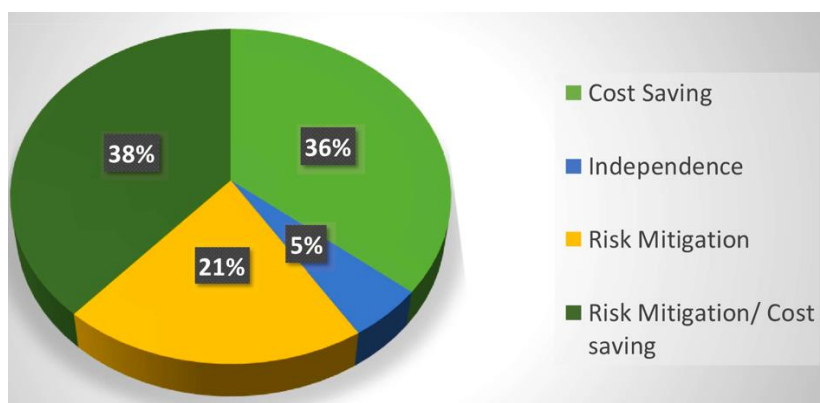
Growers should take advantage of this opportunity which is available through to end January 2024 (after which registration is open to all). Make sure to book accommodation as well as there is limited availability.

To register, visit www.symposium.citrusres.com

Also remember to register for the Gala Dinner – the most fun you can have with a bunch of scientists!!

SOLAR AS AN ENERGY SOLUTION

CGA recently conducted a survey among citrus growers regarding their perspective on the use of solar as an



alternative energy source, and the results were shared during the Citrus Sustainability Forum (CSF) (21st November 2023).

Approximately **48% percent** of respondents have some form of solar energy supply installed. The main reasons for adding solar to their energy supply mix has been cost saving and mitigating risk, which suggest proactively protecting the business from the energy crises. **51 Percent** of

respondents are generating more than half their own energy. The challenges associated with adopting solar energy include the technicalities of integrating with Eskom supply, and finding ways to “bank” energy.

Businesses can expect more administration linked to buying and selling energy and also must deal with theft of solar equipment. The full presentation at the CSF is available from albert@cga.co.za.