***FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (1/21)***

**(Follow me on Twitter justchad\_cga)**

*Justin Chadwick 15 January 2021*

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| ***“Those who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities” Voltaire***  |

**BEST WISHES FOR 2021**

Unfortunately moving into a new year does not make all the problems of the old year fall away. Some may say that at least in 2021 we know what to expect, something most of us were oblivious of this time last year. We definitely learnt a lot in 2020, and we will need to put those learnings to work in the next season. Having said all that I would like to wish you all a fantastic 2021, may you achieve all you wish to achieve, and may you remain healthy in body, mind and spirit. As an industry, in the entire supply chain, we have the most resilient and “can do” people that one can imagine; in 2021 we will do our best, we will make things happen and we will do it with a smile on our faces. We will remember those that are not having it so good, we will be empathetic and we will assist those who need to be assisted.

Soon we will start with our CGA Covid Response Committee meetings – to plan appropriately for the year ahead. If you have any tips as to how we can do things better, or possible opportunities and challenges that we need to know about please drop me a mail justchad@iafrica.com

**CRI POSTHARVEST WORKSHOP**

Lockdown regulations mean that the CRI has no choice but to offer their hugely popular CRI Postharvest Workshop on a virtual platform. The workshop will be held over one day on 26 January 2021 starting at 09h00 at a cost of R300 per registration. There will be three sessions covering 15 topics – each topic about 15 minutes. There are opportunities for questions after each session. I have looked at the agenda and have registered – and would strongly recommend that all involved in producing, packing, storing or distribution of citrus do the same. For more information visit https://events.citrusres.com or email events@cri.co.za

**PACKAGING AND PALLETS**

The CRI has updated the guideline document Packaging Material Specifications and Palletisation Protocols for the 2021 Citrus Export Season. To get a copy contact Dawid Groenewald dawid@cri.co.za

**WEEKLY STATISTIC**

I love statistics and so decided to put out a statistic every week: it may just be one number or it may be more. This week it is a graph from the European Commission showing orange prices.

