

NAVEL FOCUS GROUP

MINUTES OF THE NAVEL FOCUS GROUP MEETING OF THE NAVEL FOCUS GROUP HELD AT 14:00 ON MONDAY 17TH MARCH 2014 AT BIRCHWOOD HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE, ORT, JHB.

1. Welcome

The 2013 chairman, Gabriele Van Eeden welcomed all.

2. Present

Gabrie van Eeden	(Chairman)	Western Cape
Hannes de Waal	(Vice Chairman)	Sunday's River Valley
Graham Piner		Nelspruit
Phillip Dempsey		Patensie
Eric Nohamba		Citrus Development Chamber
Barry Mildenhall		Eastern Cape Midlands
Paul Hardman		secretariat – CGA
Graham Barry		(observer – on behalf of CGA)

In attendance:

Ernest de Villiers	Eastern Cape Midlands
Deon Joubert	SRV
Martina Odendaal	Patensie
Charl Tibshraeny	SRV
Andrew Muller	Nelspruit
Peter Button	Southern KZN
Petros Shiba	Citrus Development Chamber

3. Apologies

Ben Vorster	Letsitele
Hendrik Schoeman	Senwes
Danie Matthewson	Vaalharts
Andre Austin	KZN Midlands
John Edmonds	secretariat - CGA

4. Verification of regional focus group representatives for 2013 and election of chairman and vice chairman.

Gabrie van Eeden was unanimously re-elected as Chairman for 2014.

Hannes de Waal was re-elected as vice-chairman.

5. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 21 August 2013.

The minutes were approved by Phillip Dempsey, seconded by Graham Piner.

6. Matters Arising from Minutes

6.1. Proposal from Senwes requested by NFG for standards meeting.

The industry quality standards' meeting was held in Stellenbosch on 31 October 2013 where Mr Schoeman proposed adaptations to Navel quality standards. An excerpt from the minutes of that meeting appears below:

QUOTE:

Conclusion: The meeting agreed that the proposal from Mr Schoeman for a sliding scale be adopted for Navels to South East Asia as illustrated below:

Brix (°Brix)	Acidity (%)
10.0	0.65
10.1	0.64
10.2	0.63
10.3	0.62
10.4	0.61
10.5	0.60

The meeting agreed that the standard for "Navelates" remain unchanged. END QUOTE.

The above is what was accepted at the quality standards' meeting in October 2013. DAFF promulgated the following:

- "Late Navels" was added to the minimum export standard for Oranges according to the table below, and quality specs for "Late Navels" were included (in bold).

Variety/Cultivar/Type	Minimum content for:			
	Juice	Sugar:Acid Ratio	Brix	Acid
Alpha Seedless Gusocora Seedless, Delta Seedless and Midknights	48%	7,5:1	9,5°B	0,7
Valencias	42%	7,0:1	8,5°B	0,6
Navels	45%	7,0:1	8,5°B	0,65
Late Navels	45%	7,0:1	9,0°B	0,65
Navelates	42%	8,0:1	10,0°B	0,65
All other cultivars not listed above	42%	7,0:1	8,5°B	0,6

- "Late Navels" was added to the differentiated markets for South-East Asia and South Korea, with the same quality specs for "Navels" and "Late Navels" in differentiated markets.
- The sliding scales that apply to "Navels" for (i) juice content and (ii) acidity also apply to "Late Navels" (see excerpt below).

(g) In the case of Navels and Late navels deviation from the minimum:

(i) juice content specification relative to the minimum °Brix content is allowed on a sliding scale as follows:

Minimum juice content	°Brix
45	8,5
44	9,0
43	9,5
42	10

(ii) °Brix specification is allowed on the following sliding scale:

Minimum °Brix	Acid
8,5	0,65
10,0	0,60

7. Estimates for 2014

Please refer to the appendix1 below for the latest projections.

8. General

8.1. Combined Navel and Valencia meetings: It was proposed to combine the first Variety Focus Group meeting in the year for Navels and Valencias. This proposal was accepted by the Navel Focus Group, and will be proposed to the Valencia Focus Group. A teleconference will be used to make this proposal.

Proposal to CGA (John Edmonds) and VFG chairpersons to discuss how best to structure the first meeting per year for the Variety Focus Groups.

8.2. Fruit Quality: A lot of rain, hail has been experienced this season, FCM remains a concern. The market looks positive at present, however, poor quality in the market could erode the positive outlook – avoid taking chances with marginal quality fruit, be responsible.

8.3. Definition of Navels, Late Navels, Navelates and associated standards: The meeting reflected on the standards that were set in October 2013, and John, please add the following to the Navel minutes, item 8.3

8.4.

8.5. Definition of Navels, Late Navels, Navelates and associated standards: The meeting reflected on the standards that were set in October 2013, and noted that the term “Late Navels” has been added to the quality standards, and the details of which are summarised in item 6.1 above of these minutes.”

9. Meeting dates for 2014

It was decided to hold regular meetings in the same pattern as in previous years i.e. on the third Wednesday of the month at 2pm starting in May.

10. General

Appendix1:

Estimate of Navels volume to be packed for Export in 2014 (15kg equivalent cartons.)

	Total	Total	Total		Comment
	2012	2013	2014*		Size Quality
S.R. Valley	6 143 159	6 361 323	6 679 389	5% +1	Good
Senwes	6 002 833	7 121 280	6 409 291	-10%	64,72 Hail & late rains
W. Cape	6 577 378	6 083 598	6 730 000	11%	72,88 V Good, no FCM
Patensie	2 948 197	2 625 274	2 850 000	9%	72,64,88 Good
Nelspruit	1 262 146	1 537 188	1 380 000	-10%	64,72 Late rain
E. Cape Mid	744 740	767 463	780 000	2%	64, 72
S-KZN	250 082	233 673	250 000	7%	
Boland	318 161	305 888	340 000	11%	
VaalHarts	110 259	172 339	150 000	-13%	Frost?
Other	197 450	210 862	245 000	16%	
Grand Total	24 554 405	25 418 888	25 813 680	2%	