Portfolio Committee visits ARC

The Portfolio Committee, Agriculture and Land Affairs, visited the ARC, Infratec-Nietvoorbij Institute, Stellenbosch in February. In the picture are Mr Ngema - IFP, Mr Guma - ARC, Mr Dlali - ANC, Mr Kotswan - ANC, Mr Bici - UDM, Mr Thabiso Mudau - ARC, Dr Tau Mzanane - President of ARC, Mr Nel - DA, Mr Masithela - Chair of the Committee from ANC, Mr Abram - ANC and Dr Masia - ARC.

Capespan sponsors Whoosh

Slip-sliding on sticky grapes underfoot and stomping for all their worth, the grape pressing teams participating in Worcester’s 2nd annual Whoosh grape treading festival from 4 to 6 March certainly got results, as litres of frothy grape must came gushing forth under the barrels.

The festival kicked off with the Worcester Standard School grape pressing competition, and the kids certainly had barrels of fun getting grape juice between their toes. Capespan sponsored Lanner House’s School’s team and provided them with fruit to sell at their stall.

Terminal for specialised citrus fruit launched

A multi-million rand terminal for specialised citrus fruit has been launched in Durban on March, 31st. South African Ports Operations (Sapo) and the Oceana Group teamed up to invest in the R61 million Maydon Wharf Fruit Terminal (below).

Officials say the terminal will allow South Africa to compete more effectively with other major citrus fruit exporters. The terminal also satisfies the stricter contamination protocols of importing countries. Maria Ramos, the CEO of Transnet, officially opened the terminal. Ramos says the terminal will literally "bear fruit."

Tauf Morwe, the CEO of the Sapo, says this new steri-fruit facility will also put South Africa on par with countries like the US, which is Japan’s major citrus fruit supplier. Most of the export citrus crop from the eastern and northern parts of the country is processed in Durban.

The Maydon Wharf Fruit Terminal is expected to boost the export market, particularly the specialised steri-citrus market in Japan. The terminal is an ultra-modern facility built to secure market position and growth. The terminal is set to start operating at the end of next month. During the citrus season, between May and August, 150 job opportunities are expected to be created.

Mr Trevor Grant has been appointed Managing Director of Omnia Fertilizer Ltd with effect 1 April 2005.