

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (12/17)

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Justin Chadwick 7 April 2017



“There is only one legend. That’s me” Roberto Duran

CHANGES AT THE CITRUS FOUNDATION BLOCK

While many growers are aware of the vital importance of the Citrus Foundation Block (CFB) – it is important to recognise the amazing work done by the CFB Manager – Thys du Toit. I have had the privilege of visiting the CFB on a few occasions; and every time I am blown away by Thys’ attention to detail and the pride that he displays in his facility. Every citrus tree in southern Africa originates as a bud from the CFB!! It is the nucleus of our industry and guarding that nucleus has been the ever present (37 years!!) Thys du Toit. The CRI (who oversee the CFB) have extended Thys’ tenure as long as is possible; but the inevitable day has arrived and Thys will hand over the reins. He is not lost to industry as he will continue in a new role (see CRI release below). Thys – we salute you and thank you for your loyal service to the industry. We also welcome Jacolene Meyer into her new role and wish her well as she takes over – I am sure she will pick up from Thys and take the CFB from strength to strength. The CRI release:

*CRI is proud to announce that **Jacolene Meyer** will fill the Citrus Foundation Block manager position from 1 May 2017.*

Jacolene has a Master’s degree in plant virology, is well-known in CRI circles, and specifically also experienced in Scheme-related aspects. Jacolene has applicable work experience in production, multiplication and diagnostics of citrus, banana, potato and sub-tropical crops.

Jacolene, George and their two sons are moving from Tzaneen to the Foundation Block outside Uitenhage soon, and we wish them welcome, and blessings with CRI.

***Thys du Toit**, the Foundation Block manager since 1980, will continue his service to CRI and the citrus industry as Citrus Improvement Scheme Nursery Advisor. We sincerely thank Thys for his continued service and loyalty.*

EDWARD VORSTER: CITRUS LEGEND (AS PRESENTED AT THE CGA CITRUS SUMMIT)

Scenario planners look at the factors that will play a role in the future. The role might be to add value with a positive outcome or deduct value and the resulting negative outcome. The scenario planners then give a weight to each of these factors and then build a model which predicts the possible outcomes. This defines on one extreme a High road and on the other extreme the Low road. The factor that cannot be predicted is when a person put up his or her hand to ensure a positive outcome. It is when a single person stands up as a leader; convinces others to follow, and produces the high road result in spite of the other contributing factors. We have people like that in the Citrus Industry. We are proud of those and we honour them with Legend Status.

One of our fellow Growers distinguished himself through a lifetime of positive contributions and influence which contributed to the high road results this industry has produced.

- 1) From a young age he was involved in farming citrus.
- 2) He was a Director of the South African Citrus Exchange.
- 3) He was the Citrus Representative on the South African Agriculture Union.
- 4) He was a Founding Member and Director of Houers Co-op.
- 5) He was a founding Member and Director of Granor
- 6) He was founding Member and Director of the CGA.
- 7) After the black swan event of 2000 when Citrus growers lost the required influence over the marketing of their fruit and the devastating effects of it, this person took the lead in the formation of Citrus South Africa. The result was the information systems. Terms like fixed price deals, Minimum guaranteed prices, Shared risk, and the withholding of certain quality and counts of fruit from the market that came about. The turnaround of the profitability of Citrus was phenomenal. Citrus Growers are not flying blind towards the market any more.
- 8) Edward Vorster is not just a MEGA FARMER he is also A CITRUS LEGEND

THE CGA GROUP OF COMPANIES (CRI, RIVER BIOSCIENCE, XSIT, CGA CULTIVAR COMPANY, CGA GROWER DEVELOPMENT COMPANY AND CITRUS ACADEMY) ARE FUNDED BY SOUTHERN AFRICAN CITRUS GROWERS