

FRESH NOTES

A TECHNICAL UPDATE PUBLISHED BY HORTGRO SCIENCE



Fresh Notes feedback of a recent Packhouse Action Group (PAG) Feedback meeting to packhouses at Allée Bleue on 17 May 2018

Contact details are listed at the bottom of the Fresh Notes

Topics covered:

Supply chain management – Johan Strydom
Moratorium on Hi-Cube Containers – Andy Connell
CA research facilities & projects – Dr Elke Crouch
Container space optimisation – Koos Boucher
Packaging feedback – Bryce McIntyre
Introduction to Productivity SA – Christel Potgieter, Productivity SA
Packhouse benchmarking update – Pieter de Bruyn, Productivity SA
Packhouse water management project – Eddie Vienings
Engineering projects feedback – Koos Boucher
Market Access – Lindi Benic/Jacques du Preez
Training – Richard Hurndall

Presentations of the meeting can be viewed at:

<https://www.hortgro.co.za/science-tech-hub/packhouse-action-group-pag/>

Additional notes

Reference was made to **pome protocols**, which can be viewed at:

<https://www.hortgro.co.za/science-tech-hub/pome-stone-handling-protocols/>

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Bryce McIntyre pleaded that all fruit industries should strive for a measure of standardisation of packaging formats, whilst reconciling packaging with their various market requirements.

It was noted that resource efficiency was a key criterion when comparing benchmarks related to energy, water, labour etc. This is closely linked to sustainability.

Pieter de Bruyn of Productivity SA noted that the international benchmark for training is 5% of the wage bill, whereas in South Africa it was 1,5%. He appealed for more packhouses to become involved in the packhouse benchmarking project. View the benchmarking comparisons in his presentation. Contact Dawid Malan for more information.

Packhouse members who wish to be included in the Hortgro pome packhouse circulation list should forward their contact details to suzette@hortgro.co.za.

Market Access Feedback

Mexico

This programme, which costs in the vicinity of R0,55 M, will have to be re-evaluated in the future in the light of volumes. Volumes are expected to increase from 7 500 last season to 50 000 – 70 000 in 2018.

Taiwan

The inspection visit has been concluded and the Taiwan market has opened again. The self-regulating Phytoclean protocol must be followed diligently. A 4% inspection sample is required.

India

The Indian authorities are apparently waiting for reciprocal access for their mangoes to South Africa.

DPA Feedback

The date for an EU decision to lower the DPA MRL to 0,05 ppm is expected in August 2019. A DPA ring test is being planned for local labs, and possibly an overseas lab, to check conformance to the lower MRL.

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PAG Disciplines And Coordinators

Please contact the relevant person if you have any queries regarding the PAG.

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