

# FRESH NOTES

A TECHNICAL UPDATE PUBLISHED BY HORTGRO SCIENCE



**PACKHOUSE  
ACTION GROUP**

## **Fresh Notes feedback of a Packhouse Action Group (PAG) meeting held on 30 July 2020**

Contact details are listed at the bottom of the Fresh Notes.

### **Moratorium on High-Cube Containers**

Contact: Andy Connell

The Department of Transport must still conduct the relevant research.

### **Load-out Temperatures**

Contact: Johan Strydom / Bernard Henning

People are generally not aware that PPECB has a 0°C protocol. A maximum temperature of +3.0°C for apples and +2.0°C for winter pears can be applied under current load-shedding dispensations. The plan is that these dispensations will become regulations when they expire on 31 December 2020. Meanwhile a work group will look at additional code requirements to permit countries.

### **Alternatives to SOPP**

Contact: Bernard Henning

It is understood that a commercial company is developing a new pallet sanitising product PP, and that it is expected to be available next season.

### **Minimum standard for polystyrene trays**

Contact: Dawid Malan

Minimum polystyrene tray specifications are available from supply companies. Exporters are required to include these specifications in their BRC audit.

### **Pallet testing equipment**

Contact Koos Bouwer

Dr Tarl Berry of CRI (082 419 7218) will operate the equipment as a service in Stellenbosch.

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## Packhouse Benchmarking

Contact: Dawid Malan

Updated benchmarking statistics:

| "Benchmarking" berekening 2020       |              |                |             |        |         |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|--------|---------|
| Pakhuis kode                         | PAKHUISE     |                |             | Gemid  | Std Dev |
|                                      | Gemid commit | Gemid pre-sort | Gemid beide |        |         |
| Kg vrugte getip/ Totale persoon /uur | 64.43        | 84.58          | 75.76       | 68.34  | 14.58   |
| Kg gepak/ Totale Persoon/ uur        | 48.53        | 59.82          | 55.77       | 50.86  | 11.44   |
| Kg pere getip/ pakhuispersoon /uur   | 64.27        |                | 66.41       | 64.80  | 7.57    |
| Kg appels getip/pakhuispersoon/uur   | 73.22        | 115.45         | 109.82      | 84.65  | 23.77   |
| Kg pere gepak/pakhuispersoon/uur     | 52.53        |                | 55.99       | 53.40  | 6.71    |
| Kg appels gepak/pakhuispersoon/uur   | 54.20        | 78.73          | 75.19       | 60.79  | 15.47   |
| % Pere                               | 59.48%       |                | 33.05%      | 52.88% | 0.27    |
| % Appels                             | 66.51%       | 100.00%        | 66.95%      | 70.30% | 0.30    |
| Afwesigheid %                        | 5.43%        | 2.87%          | 5.78%       | 5.22%  | 0.03    |
| Bestuurstaantyd%                     | 7.11%        | 8.48%          | 3.00%       | 6.61%  | 0.03    |
| Elektriese staantyd%                 | 1.16%        | 0.73%          | 0.29%       | 0.98%  | 0.01    |
| Meganiese Staantyd%                  | 4.11%        | 1.67%          | 0.50%       | 3.28%  | 0.03    |
| Totale Staantyd%                     | 12.40%       | 12.28%         | 4.06%       | 11.07% | 0.06    |
| PPECB Afkeuring %                    | 1.64%        | 1.13%          | 1.29%       | 1.53%  | 0.01    |
| Totale afkeurings %                  | 3.28%        | 1.40%          | 1.87%       | 2.86%  | 0.03    |
| Karton waste %                       | 0.47%        | 3.03%          | 0.51%       | 0.75%  | 0.01    |
| Sakkie & flowrap gepak %             | 31.30%       | 19.97%         | 15.12%      | 27.55% | 0.20    |
| Sakkie waste %                       | 0.21%        | 0.25%          | 0.92%       | 0.33%  | 0.01    |
| Flowrap sakkies waste %              | 2.42%        | 0.02%          | 0.68%       | 1.60%  | 0.02    |
| Geweegde gemid appel massa (g)       | 126.44       | 119.84         | 118.33      | 123.76 | 14.40   |
| Geweegde gemid peer massa (g)        | 159.78       |                | 163.67      | 160.75 | 17.52   |
| % uitpak appel                       | 70.11%       | 69.89%         | 68.84%      | 69.87% | 0.23    |
| % uitpak pere                        | 82.44%       |                | 84.21%      | 82.88% | 0.09    |

Fruit quality benchmarking statistics for apples and pears are available upon request.

## Packhouse water management project

Contact: Eddie Vienings

The project is creating awareness regarding water monitoring, and is critical for the water footprint. The report has highlighted that water metering is generally not distinguishing consumption between the packhouse, offices and ablutions, and the cooling towers. This is necessary to be able to benchmark water consumption over time. It is envisaged that the project will continue next season with the emphasis on increasing participation and improving the accuracy of the data. Packhouses are encouraged to participate.

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## **Market Access Feedback**      Contact: Jacques du Preez

Due to the lockdown, none of the respective countries inspectors could travel to SA, and DAFF performed their role. Volumes to special markets were low. Many of the negotiating processes were on hold due to the lockdown.

## **CA Meetings**      Contact: Richard Hurndall

It is envisaged that the CA meeting will be held in the form of a webinar on 3 November. A meeting of CA operators will also be convened by means of a webinar, on a date to be advised.

## **Fire Risk Insurance**      Contact: Koos Bouwer

K Bouwer will request the Cold Chain Alliance to develop guidelines to assist cold stores with fire insurance.

## **PAG Disciplines and Coordinators**

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

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