



Dear FPEF Members,

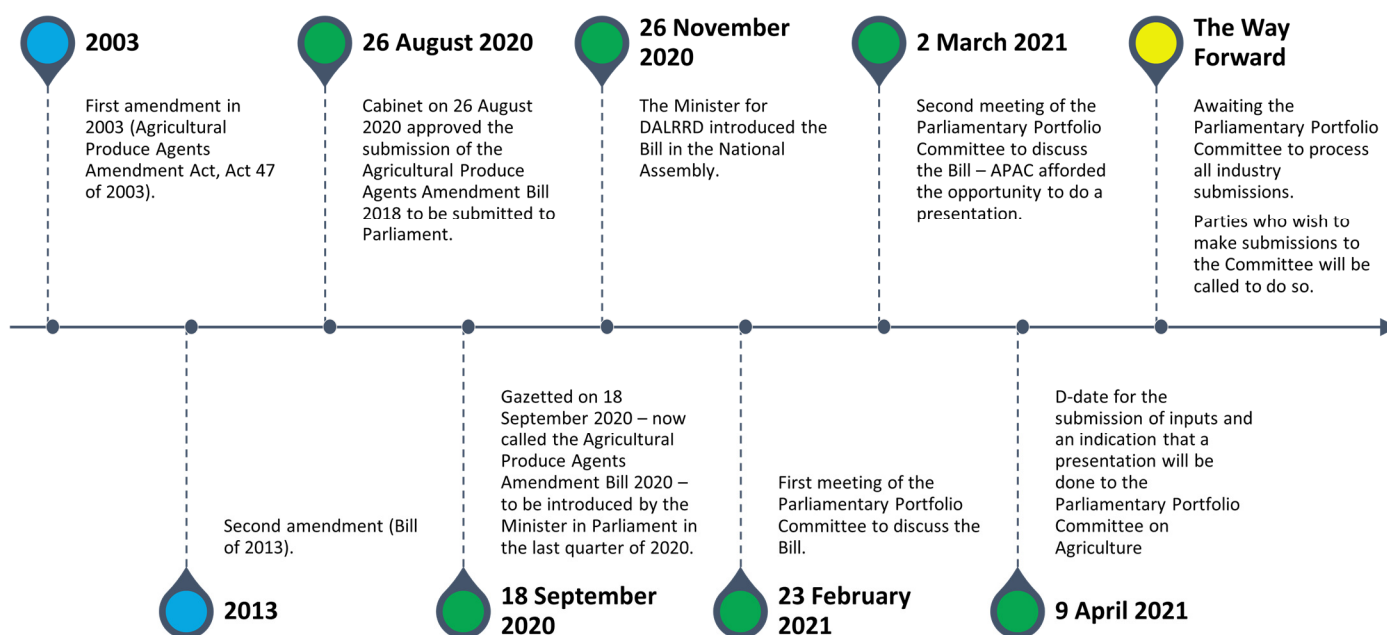
As you are aware, we are now on **COVID-19** Adjusted Alert Level 2. Apart from the measures applicable to all people in the country, such as compulsory wearing of masks, social distancing and hygiene (washing of hands), the extension of the hours of the curfew (from 11pm to 4 am) is of relevance to us. Our industry is still regarded as an essential service and thus employees are allowed to travel on official business during the curfew - with a permit. We have distributed the new Permit document to you earlier, but should you not have received it, please contact Claudia Walklett to obtain it: claudia@fpéf.co.za. A webinar titled **"Trade and Investment"** was hosted by the South African Embassy in Cebu, Philippines on the 28th of May. Thirty-four people attended the webinar where our Operational Manager, **Werner van Rooyen** was one of the speakers.

APAC - APA Amendment Bill

The *Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development* met yesterday to consider submissions made and to decide on time frames with regards to:

- Further consultations; and
- Oral presentations.

The outcome of the meeting will be shared with you as soon as it becomes available. The process so far is depicted below:



HIGH-CUBED CONTAINER ISSUE WITH REGARDS TO THE ROAD TRAFFIC ACT



The fact that the current moratorium which allows for vehicles exceeding a height of 4,3 m to be on South African roads, lapses on 30 June - and this will have a very significant negative impact on the sustainability of our industry as almost all the fresh fruit is exported in high-cubed containers (which exceed 4,3m). We have been and still are, engaging constantly with Government on this with the view to have the moratorium extended, and/or scrap the Regulation as it is still not clear what the rationale for this prohibition is. A high-level meeting took place on Monday 31 May between the Departments of Transport (DoT) and Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development and another meeting is scheduled for 3 June.

CITRUS TRADE IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE

During the period 2016 to 2020 southern hemisphere trade increased by 900 000 t. Two thirds of the growth were from South Africa, 15% from Chile (mostly soft citrus), 14% from Peru (mostly soft citrus) and 4% from Australia (soft citrus and oranges). Uruguay and Argentina registered a reduction in volumes exported over this period. Citrus production in the southern hemisphere increased to 9.4 million t – a 9% increase over 2019. All countries other than Argentina recorded increases in production.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

It gives us great pleasure to announce that we have now reached **150** members! We would like to welcome the following new members and trust that our association will be long and rewarding:

- **Jupiter SA**
- **Vrugteboom**
- **Obatala Technology (Associate member)**



NEW STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY RESEARCH CHAIR - DR ELKE CROUCH



Companies in the South African fruit industry believe that the creation of the new Post-Harvest Physiology Research Chair in Deciduous Fruit at Stellenbosch University will substantially improve know-how about the handling of deciduous fruit, and ultimately be to the benefit of both producers and consumers. The activities of the Chair are being led by **Dr Elke Crouch**, a senior lecturer in the Department of Horticultural Science at Stellenbosch University (SU). **She is also involved in our Post-harvest Innovation (PHI) programme and we congratulate her on this achievement.**

Dr Crouch focuses on ways to eliminate various physiological disorders which occur when apples and pears are stored or ripened after picking. This includes internal discolouration and blemishes on the peel of the fruit. She is searching for ways to retain the quality of fruit post-harvest until they are ready for consumers to enjoy. Her work is also increasingly focused on understanding how conditions being experienced while fruit are still on the tree affect their quality.

Dr Crouch sees the chair not only as an opportunity to do important research, but also as a chance to train future

industry leaders and to ensure greater interaction with the fruit industry and other researchers.

EXPORT DIRECTORIES 2021

Copies of the FPEF's annual Fresh Produce Export Directory were recently sent to all members via courier. Please contact Marletta Kellerman (marletta@fpf.co.za) if you have not received your copy.

E-CERTIFICATION

The NPPOZA (National Plant Protection Organisation) notified trading partners via the WTO (World Trade Organisation) on the template for phytosanitary certificates issued which will contain watermarks as an additional safeguard. The e-certification team will also start testing the digital seal within the next two weeks, directly with the sectorial head of the TRACES team (official system).

UK APPROACH TO MAXIMUM RESIDUE LEVELS

From January 1, 2021, the United Kingdom has its own pesticide regulating scheme, independent of the EU. Existing active substance approvals, Plant Protection Product (PPP) authorisations and Maximum Residue Levels (MRLs) in existence, on the other hand, will generally remain valid until their current expiration date or revisions. Active substance approvals that were set to expire before December 2023 were given an extra three years to prepare and implement the GB review program. All applicable EU law relating to plant protection product



regulation has been kept in UK law, with the same formal titles, such as Regulation (EC) 1107/2009. More information on PPP active substance expiry dates and renewal of PPP active substances.

However, as of 1 January, the UK is no longer 'dynamically aligned' with the EU, therefore any EU MRL adjustments made after that date (even if adopted before but only published in the EU Official Journal in 2021) will not be required to be implemented by the UK. This could result in a significant disparity immediately after Brexit. In terms of new applications, to acquire access to both markets, new applicants will need to apply for fresh registrations under both the UK and EU regimes. As was the case under the EU pesticides regime, applicants, authorization holders, and approval holders can be located anywhere in the world. The EU pesticides system continues to operate in Northern Ireland after 1 January 2021, in essentially the same way as it did during the Transition Period, according to the conditions of the Northern Ireland Protocol.

UK IMPORT REQUIREMENTS

You can view the UK legislative basis for import conditions, including information on special requirements in [Schedule 7 of The Plant Health \(Phytosanitary Conditions\) \(Amendment\) \(EU Exit\) Regulations 2020](#).

TRANSNET

The wage dispute between Organised Labour and Transnet is still ongoing without any information on the potential strike action. We are monitoring the landscape for any developments in this regard.

CAPE TOWN CONTAINER TERMINAL WEEKLY PERFORMANCE REPORT

| No. | Objective | Key Performance Indicator | Measurement | Target | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat | Sun | TOTAL | Comments |
|-----|--------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|--------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Increase throughput | TEUs per day | No. | 2710 | 3044 | 740 | 3021 | 1926 | 3318 | 3920 | 2169 | 18135 | |
| 2 | Truck turnaround time | All gates | Mins. | 40 | 55 | 65 | 39 | 78 | 78 | 71 | 17 | 58 | |
| | | Main gate | | | 72 | 105 | 57 | 121 | 106 | 124 | 28 | 88 | |
| 3 | Number of vessels | No. of vessels completed per day | No. | 11 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 7 | |
| 4 | Wind delays / fog delays | - | Hrs | 0 | 0.00 | 7.50 | 2.00 | 8.97 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 18.47 | Fog delays / Vessel Ranging |
| 5 | Stack Occupancy | - | % | 65% | 39% | 37% | 45% | 45% | 53% | 46% | 38% | 43% | |
| 6 | Reefer Stack Occupancy | - | % | 65% | 29% | 36% | 41% | 48% | 60% | 42% | 27% | 40% | |

TERMINAL CAPACITY

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Waterside Cranes | 6 Super Post Panamax Liebherr Cranes 2 Mega Post Panamax Liebherr Cranes |
| Gangs | 7 |
| Landside Equipment | 31 RTG's 8 Straddle Carriers 2 Reach Stackers 1 Rail Gantry 6 MT Stackers |
| Stack Area Slots | 7368 |
| Reefer Plug Points (operational) | 3300 |

(Source: Transnet)

Please stay safe!

Kind regards,

Anton Kruger

