



KEEPING IT FRESH **fpef** fresh produce EXPORTERS' FORUM SOUTH AFRICA

News from the FPEF – 10 March 2021

Dear FPEF Members,

A year ago this was our last normal week and nobody knew it.

Here we are at Alert Level 1 of the Covid-19 lockdown regulations. The most relevant change affecting our industry is the amended curfew times (midnight till 04:00) during which a permit is (still) required for workers in an essential service such as ours when they need to travel during those hours. The template for such permits was sent to

you (Form 7), but if you have not received it, please contact Claudia Walklett: claudia@fpef.co.za.

Herewith, a summary of the latest COVID-19 Regulations and Directives:

Advanced level 1 regulations amended	Amendment for advance level 1 Declaration of level 1
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APAC Amendment Bill:

The Bill was discussed by the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development during the past two meetings of the committee and the invitation for public comments/inputs/submissions was advertised in newspapers on 7 March. The deadline for input is **9 April**.

The adoption of the Bill will undoubtedly lead to changes in the way our industry operates and thus a document indicating the changes will be sent to you within the next few days. The document can be used as a guide (template) for your submissions. We again urge you to send as many submissions as possible.

In the meantime, however, it is important to comply with the current Act.

LOGISTICS:

We are addressing the current challenges in the Port of Cape Town via daily meetings with Transnet as well as high-level interaction with other relevant departments/ministries via Agbiz.

We again remind you of the weekly meetings with Transnet which you are welcome to attend virtually. All the relevant information is shared with the industry during these meetings and you can provide input. It is important that you in turn ensure that the relevant people in your company are aware of the information.

FPEF MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES

As was mentioned at our Annual General Meeting in November 2020, we have issued certificates of recognition to our members. If you have not received yours, please contact Marletta Kellerman: marletta@fpef.co.za.

TRADE SHOWS:

Fruit Logistica Berlin 2021

Fruit Logistica Berlin will take place from 18 to 20 May 2021 in Berlin. According to current COVID regulations, if you travel from South Africa to Germany, you would need to go into a mandatory 14-day quarantine period upon arrival in Berlin. It is foreseen that this requirement will still be in place during May and thus the FPEF has decided not to attend this show.

Asia Fruit Logistica 2021

Asia Fruit Logistica is scheduled to take place in Hong Kong from 28-30 September 2021. At this stage it is not clear if there will be a South African National Pavilion. As soon as more information about participating in the event is available, it will be shared with you.

Fresh Produce India 2021

This event will be hosted online on 22 April 2021. The programme will consist of live interviews, discussions, and presentations, bringing you the best insight on the biggest trends in India's fast-growing fresh fruit and vegetable business. For more information, please visit www.freshproduceindia.com

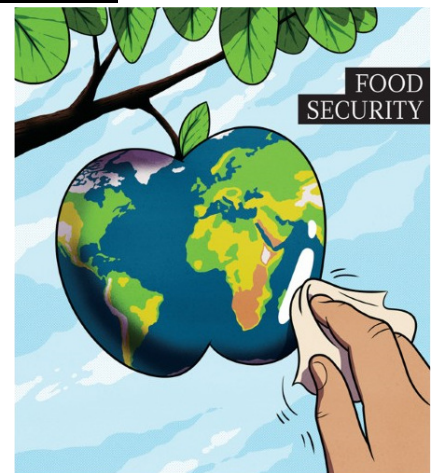
UAE Trade and Investment Webinar

The Department of Trade, Industry and Competition (dtic) in collaboration with the South African Consulate General in Dubai, are hosting a South African Trade and Investment webinar for agriculture and agro-processing on the 15th of March. An email was sent to all members with the invitation and link to register for the event. If you have not received this and would like to attend, please contact Marletta Kellerman: marletta@fpf.co.za.



SOME INTERESTING INSIGHTS FROM WANDILE SIHLOBO: CHIEF ECONOMIST - AGBIZ

- While South Africa's scoring in terms of food security declined only slightly in 2020, it is worth noting that this reflects the national picture. There are pockets of food insecurity within South Africa when one considers a household-level perspective. Over 6 million South Africans in low-income households are not food secure, primarily due to affordability. There is also wide variation across the different provinces. Food insecurity is significantly more prevalent in Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape. The affordability challenge in such regions is typically caused by higher unemployment. The rising unemployment and closure of various businesses because of the pandemic in 2020 exacerbated already challenging conditions for the provinces mentioned above. Indeed, several townships across the country experienced a similar food-insecurity challenge, as multiple studies published in 2020 and the beginning of this year have shown.
- The latest data from the *Global Food Security Index* are a clear indication more will need to be done to improve food security, not only at national level but also through household-targeted interventions. These could include agriculture-related interventions – encouraging smallholder farming. In areas where land availability and environmental conditions permit, commercial production and other programmes that improve employment prospects should be encouraged and supported by the government, NGOs and social partners.



- In terms of agriculture, Limpopo, KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape, which are amongst the most food-insecure provinces, also have vast tracts of underutilized land. These provinces should be a priority in the Agriculture and Agro-processing Master Plan. With a commercial focus where conditions permit, agriculture improvement would help in job creation and, ultimately household food security. Notably, the Master Plans' actions are the responsibility of government, the private sector and all social partners.

REMINDER: SHAFFE VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

A reminder about the SHAFFE virtual conference on **25 March**. Attendance is free, but you need to register beforehand on the website: <https://shaffe.net/shaffe-congress-2021/>. The SA speaker and panellist will be Professor Ferdi Meyer from BFAP.

Hi! my name is Anton Kruger, CEO of the Fresh Produce Exporters' Forum (FPEF)

Did you know...South Africa exports more than 2,7 million tons of fresh fruit to more than 90 countries around the globe and we are the second largest exporter of citrus in the world?

Find out more about the South Africa fruit industry including exclusive insights and market intelligence on the current production & trading situation for key temperate fruit crops

**Join me online on the 25th of March!
Free registration and info: www.shaffe.net**



**SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE
FRESH FRUIT TRADE CONGRESS
ONLINE (Zoom) 25th March 2021**

**11am CET
Asia & Oceania
5pm CET
Europe/America**

Please stay safe!

***Kind regards,
Anton Kruger***