



Dear FPEF Members,

The situation regarding the **Russia/Ukraine conflict** is changing daily. It has undoubtedly a direct effect on our exports to both countries as some of you might already have experienced – most notably on logistics (delays, limited availability of shipping to St. Petersburg, additional costs), financial aspects (payments, buying power of the Russian population, credit insurance) and limited number of other markets/destinations to which the fruit can be diverted.



Although this has a negative impact on your business, there is however some other “benefits” – one of which is the opportunity to have direct engagements with Minister Didiza on issues which have been hampering our exports for a number of years, e.g.

- Logistics: addressing the ports issues
- Market access: expediting the current applications
- Tariffs and import duties
- Credit insurance: The ECIC (Export Credit Insurance Corporation) to include agriculture in their offering.

An inter-ministerial task team between the relevant government departments to try and solve these, was established and we have provided written input with detail about these issues, including possible proposed solutions.

SHAFFE:

- SHAFFE has been creating a new members area, where all SHAFFE presentations and resources will be stored
- Link: <https://shaffe.net/id/intranet>
- Access to the members area with password and username



Southern Hemisphere Fresh Fruit Trade Congress will address rising costs, logistical disruptions, sustainability requirements and the impact of the Russia/Ukraine conflict.

30th March 2022 - Online via Zoom
Two sessions on different times to accommodate

participation across various time zones: 11h00 and 17h00 SA time



Fruit for Refugees from the Ukraine

The SA Embassy in Poland received a donation of SA fresh fruit from one of our members - which was highly appreciated in the efforts of international humanitarian aid institutions in Poland in feeding refugees. If more fruit could be donated to be used in Poland, the Embassy would appreciate it. If your company is interested in donating fruit, please contact Marletta Kellerman (marletta@fpef.co.za) at the FPEF and she will send your information to the Embassy.

TRADESHOWS:

Fruit Logistica Berlin

Despite this conflict, as well as Covid-19, some trade shows are returning in a physical format - the first one being **Fruit Logistica Berlin** from 5 -7 April. The SA Government is not contributing financially and thus we (and the grower associations) are funding our participation.

Please visit us at the **South African Pavilion in Hall 26 / stand C-19.**

For access to FRUIT LOGISTICA, one of the following three conditions must be met (information from www.fruitlogistica.com):

- **Vaccination:** Vaccinated persons must present official verification of complete vaccination (14 days after receipt of the second vaccine with a vaccine recognised by the European Union). In the case of EU residents, this proof must be digitally verifiable (QR code). A list of approved vaccines can be found on the websites of the [Paul Ehrlich Institute](http://www.paul-ehrlich-institut.de) and [EMA](http://www.ema.europa.eu).
- **Recovery:** Admission requirements for recovered persons: Recovered persons whose COVID-19 infection was more than three months in the past must present a positive PCR test result as well as proof of at least one vaccination with a vaccine approved by the European Union that was received at least 14 days prior. If the infection was verified at least 28 days and no more than three months prior, presentation of the positive PCR test result suffices. Participants from EU countries must present digitally verifiable proof of recovery from COVID-19 at admission. Exhibitors and trade visitors from non-EU countries currently must only present official proof of their status. They do not currently require an EU certificate.
- **Testing:** An antigen test must be no older than 24h, and a PCR test no older than 48h. You can find test centres in Berlin at: <https://map.schnelltestportal.de> (as search criteria, please select Digital Covid Certificate).



The identity of the persons named on the verifications will be checked against photo identification.

Furthermore, ticket sales and gift card redemption are conducted solely online. This ensures quick, contact-free admission to the event premises.

Asia Fruit Logistica

Asia Fruit Logistica is moving to Bangkok for its 2022 edition and takes place on 2 - 4 November 2022 in the Queen Sirikit National Convention Center.

the dtic extends an invitation to exporters of fresh fruit products to apply to participate as co-exhibitors on the National Pavilion. The deadline date for the submission of complete National Pavilion application forms is 30 May 2022.

Fruit Attraction: Madrid

We will meet with the organisers in Berlin during Fruit Logistica, to obtain and discuss more detail.

Fresh Produce Export Directory 2022

The 2022 edition of this annual publication will be launched at Fruit Logistica in Berlin.

Port of Cape Town

The port of Cape Town experienced some delays of late with less than 14000 TEU’s handled in the second week of March. Breakdowns of critical equipment (STS cranes and a MHC) hampered productivity. Only one MHC was operational at CPT MPT for more than a week and two STS cranes were out of operations for more than two weeks. Thus, CTCT operated with only 6 STS cranes. Additionally, the terminal experienced the normal weather delays with added NAVIS system downtime and also a power outage situation for approximately 8 hours. Equipment breakdowns seem to persist and one of the main reasons for poor performance. A positive development is the implementation of the recently acquired Shore Tensioner Units to stabilise vessel movement. At the moment, the port of Cape Town has two Shore Tensioner Units that will be deployed on a single berth, one vessel at a time, on a first-come, first-served basis until the second set of units arrives. There are plans to roll out more units across the three CTCT berths and have all vessels connected to Shore Tensioner Units in the future. On another positive note, development of an interim truck staging area is underway, which will be ready sometime in April, near Duncan Road. The demarcated area will be able to accommodate 60-80 trucks. There is also an initiative to establish a truck staging area for trucks inside the terminal when the terminal goes windbound. The area will only be able to accommodate around 40 trucks. On the long term, a permanent truck staging area will be developed near the MPT terminal.

Shipping

Shipping delays is a growing point of concern, specifically delays experienced with our NWC services, which is still ongoing. Limited berthing in the ports of Coega and PE is ongoing with added delays at the port of Cape Town. No vessel sailings available for week 11 on the AMEX, MSCEU and MSCING services, as a result of the continuous delays across the national port system.

As an example, at CTCT, a vessel in March was delayed for 12.5 days before berthing, kept alongside for 94 hours due to poor productivity, working the vessel at a ship work rate of 17.64 moves per hour with 3 STS cranes (which is less than half a crane’s work rate in Europe).

Weather delays have an impact but is not the single most contributing factor to delays. This example substantiates why vessels are bypassing the port of Cape Town and shipping lines cannot provide the services required by exporters.

Global shipping congestion are evidently impacting USA’s ports. In week 11, the port of Charleston had +/- 22 vessels, port of Long Beach had 18 vessels and the port of Oakland with 19 container vessels with the average time spent per vessel in the port, respectively 1.8 days, 5 days and 2.5 days.



*Kind regards,
Anton Kruger*

ALERT LEVEL 1	South Africa remains on Alert Level 1 With the continued decline in infections, the following measures will be in place from Wednesday, 23 March 2021:	ALERT LEVEL 1	South Africa remains on Alert Level 1 With the continued decline in infections, the following measures will be in place from Wednesday, 23 March 2021:
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <h3>Gatherings</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● With proof of vaccine or negative COVID test: no more than 50% of venue capacity and no upper limit on numbers ● With no proof of vaccine or negative COVID test: no more than 50% of venue capacity, with an upper limit of 1,000 indoors and 2,000 outdoors ● Social distance of at least 1 metre between people, except at schools ● Masks must be worn for all indoor gatherings </div> </div>		<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <h3>Mandatory mask wearing</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wearing a cloth mask or similar covering over the nose and mouth is mandatory when in public indoor spaces ● Masks are not required when outdoors </div> </div>	
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