

# FRESH NOTES

A TECHNICAL UPDATE PUBLISHED BY HORTGRO SCIENCE



**PACKHOUSE**  
**ACTION GROUP**

## Fresh Notes feedback of a Packhouse Action Group (PAG) meeting held on 3 March 2022

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

**Feedback on visits to PAG quick link on the Hortgro Website** Contact: Elise-Marie Steenkamp

These are the top downloads:

- ▶ [Container Handling Procedures](#) 332 downloads
- ▶ [CA Manual Revised \(31 January 2019\)](#) 301 downloads
- ▶ [Jaco Visagie - Trends in Container Technology and Supply](#) 282 downloads
- ▶ [Fresh Notes 182 – PAG Feedback \(November 20\)](#) 278 downloads
- ▶ [Fresh Notes 186 - PAG Feedback \(March 21\)](#) 248 downloads

Again, the same top 5 downloads just in different order. Downloads increased a lot as well.

## Update on Logistics Chain Efficiencies

Contact: Jacques du Preez

There was a slight improvement in productivity the last few weeks, though the backlog is still high. The following measures have been implemented:

- 2 shore tensioners have been installed, and 2 more are scheduled for April
- A crane has been relocated from Durban
- Berth operations has been increased from 2 to 3

The Transnet CEO and management are open to co-operation. Public private partnerships (PPP) would be considered. This would be beneficial for acquiring additional equipment, as their budget is constrained.

# FRESH NOTES

A TECHNICAL UPDATE PUBLISHED BY HORTGRO SCIENCE

While the stack occupancy is still high, they are working at reducing the backlog. The prospect of less windy conditions would assist this. Peak deciduous volumes have now passed, though volumes would increase with the arrival of citrus.

It was noted that temperature is not managed well in the docks as the coupling of containers took too long. J du Preez requested that exporters supply him with this information.

## **Alternatives to SOPP**      Contact: Jacques du Preez

It was reported that several pallet manufacturers were not aware of the unsuitability of SOPP contamination in fruit exports. Please check with your supplier.

## **Plastics Strategy**      Contact: Dr Malcolm Dodd / Bryce McIntyre

There is a move to require PLU stickers on fruit to be compostable. France requires that no plastic be used on packages less than 1,5kg. UK would be implementing a regulation on 1 April that packaging weight and recycling percentage, not less than 30%, should be indicated on the bill of lading.

A plastics meeting is scheduled for 25 March.

## **Environmental Producer Responsibility (EPR)**      Contact: Bryce McIntyre

It was reported that the SA EPR of 5 November 2021 required that levies be charged to packaging service providers. An input/output tax rebate system operated where levies could be reclaimed once the fruit is exported.

Members were unhappy that these levies were just passed on to the clients. They recommended that there should be some negotiation regarding the sharing of these costs.

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

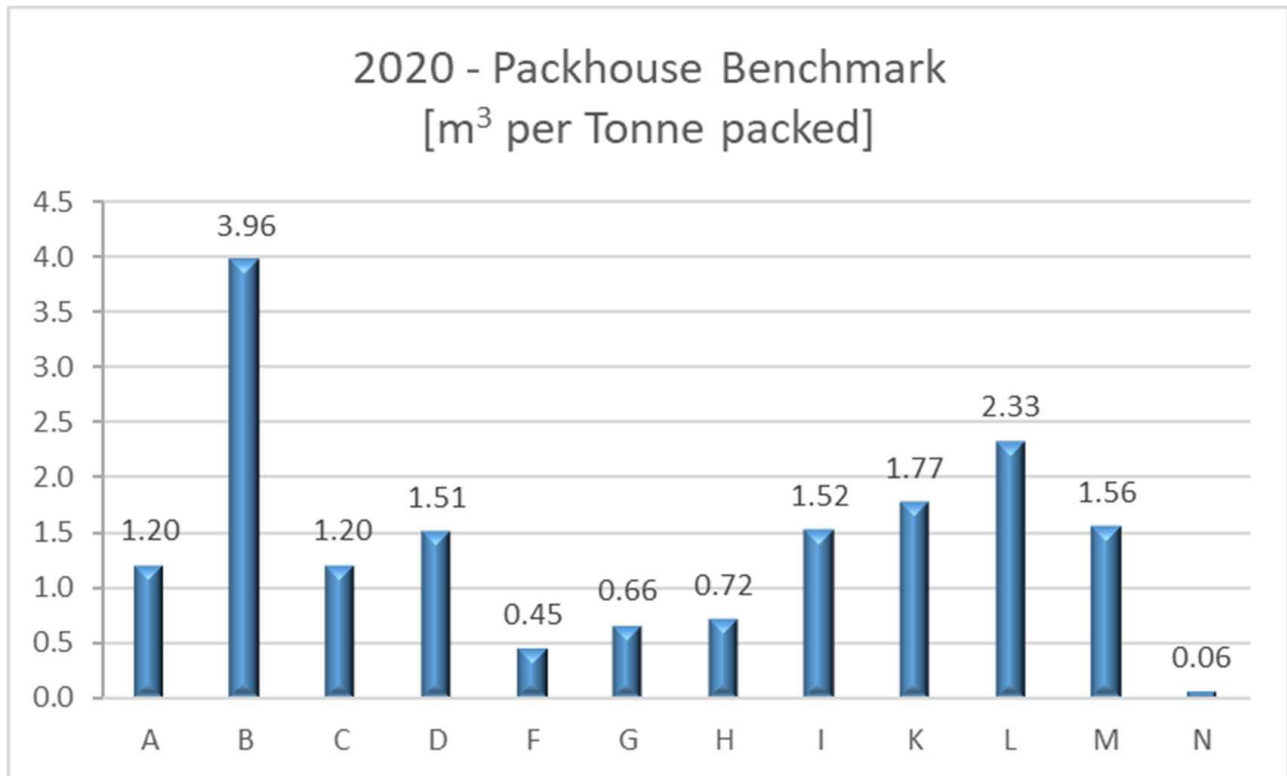
A mechanical engineer, Pierre Goosen, specialising in fire protection, has been appointed to manage the project. He will be attending a seminar on fire protection insurance for cold rooms. He would like to interview packhouses, and the Chairman appealed to packhouses to make time available for this, and to volunteer participation on this project.

# FRESH NOTES

A TECHNICAL UPDATE PUBLISHED BY HORTGRO SCIENCE

**Packhouse Water and Energy Benchmarking Projects** Contact: E Vienings

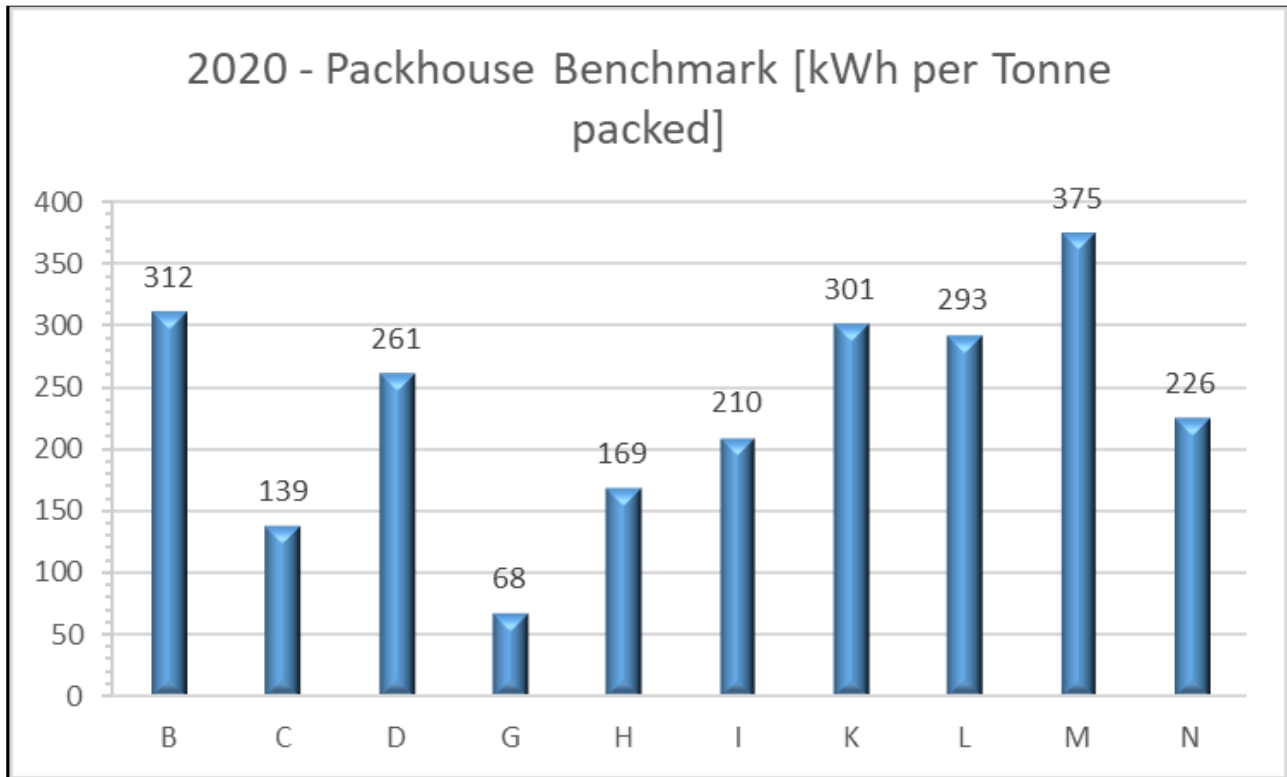
The project reports can be downloaded from the Hortgro PAG feedback web page.



Overall pome fruit packhouse water use benchmarks for January to December 2020

# FRESH NOTES

A TECHNICAL UPDATE PUBLISHED BY HORTGRO SCIENCE



Overall electricity benchmarks

**CA Engineering Meeting:** Contact: Richard Hurndall / Henk Ryke

A CA engineering webinar is scheduled for 24 May 2022.

**Market Access Feedback** Contact: Jacques du Preez / Lindi Benic

## Mexico

Hortgro is awaiting feedback from DALRRD regarding the format of inspection.

## Taiwan

Hortgro is awaiting feedback from DALRRD regarding the appropriate orchard and packhouse lists.

## India

Hortgro is awaiting feedback from India regarding in-transit steri. The process is being stalled by the Indian Department of Commerce.

# FRESH NOTES

A TECHNICAL UPDATE PUBLISHED BY HORTGRO SCIENCE

## China

China has received our pear producer/packhouse lists. They must still sign off their inspection method requirement. This could be video inspection.

## Thailand

No new information.

## Cameroon

Cameroon requires an MRL and lead sample MRL per PUC. In addition, inspection service providers are required to provide a certificate of conformity to guarantee quality.

## Saudi Arabia

They require the cultivar to be listed in Arabic.

## **PAG Disciplines and Coordinators**

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

**Chairman – Koos Bouwer** ([bouweb@orangenet.co.za](mailto:bouweb@orangenet.co.za))

**Engineering – Henk Ryke** ([henk@tad.co.za](mailto:henk@tad.co.za)), **Koos Bouwer** ([bouweb@orangenet.co.za](mailto:bouweb@orangenet.co.za))

**Packaging – Dr Malcolm Dodd** ([malcolm@alaceraer.co.za](mailto:malcolm@alaceraer.co.za)), **Bryce MacIntyre** ([bryce.macintyre@kaapagri.co.za](mailto:bryce.macintyre@kaapagri.co.za))

**Environmental Footprint – Eddie Vienings** ([eddie@bluenorth.co.za](mailto:eddie@bluenorth.co.za)) / **Hugh Campbell** ([hugh@hortgro.co.za](mailto:hugh@hortgro.co.za))

**Packhouse Large – Dawid Malan** ([dawid@tad.co.za](mailto:dawid@tad.co.za)) / **Francois Malan** ([francois.malan@cfg.co.za](mailto:francois.malan@cfg.co.za)) / **Willem Coetzee** ([willem@dutoit.com](mailto:willem@dutoit.com))

**Packhouse Small – Hendrik Claassen** ([hendrik@bellafrutta.co.za](mailto:hendrik@bellafrutta.co.za)), Vacancy

**Post-Harvest Quality – Dr Elke Crouch** ([elke@sun.ac.za](mailto:elke@sun.ac.za)), **Henk Griessel** ([henkg@tru-cape.co.za](mailto:henkg@tru-cape.co.za)), **Jaco Moelich** ([jaco.moelich@fruitways.co.za](mailto:jaco.moelich@fruitways.co.za))

**Logistics – Johan Strydom** ([pslog@mweb.co.za](mailto:pslog@mweb.co.za)) / **Andy Connell** ([andy@abarc.co.za](mailto:andy@abarc.co.za))

**Communication Strategy – Richard Hurndall** ([hurndallr@gmail.com](mailto:hurndallr@gmail.com)) / **Koos Bouwer** ([bouweb@orangenet.co.za](mailto:bouweb@orangenet.co.za)) / **Elise-Marie Steenkamp** ([elise-marie@hortgro.co.za](mailto:elise-marie@hortgro.co.za))

# FRESH NOTES

A TECHNICAL UPDATE PUBLISHED BY HORTGRO SCIENCE

**PPECB – Bernardus Henning** ([bernardush@ppecb.com](mailto:bernardush@ppecb.com))

**FPEF – Werner van Rooyen** ([werner@fpef.co.za](mailto:werner@fpef.co.za))

**DALRRD – Director: Food Safety and Quality Assurance, Billy Makhafola,**  
([BillyM@daff.gov.za](mailto:BillyM@daff.gov.za))

**DALRRD – Regional Manager: NPPPIS WC Directorate: Inspection Services,**  
**Gcobani Tsako** ([GcobaniT@daff.gov.za](mailto:GcobaniT@daff.gov.za))

**Hortgro – Jacques du Preez** ([jacques@hortgro.co.za](mailto:jacques@hortgro.co.za)), **Lindi Benic** ([lindi@hortgro.co.za](mailto:lindi@hortgro.co.za))

**Research – Prof Wiehann Steyn** ([wiehann@hortgro.co.za](mailto:wiehann@hortgro.co.za))

**SIZA – Henko Vlok** ([henko@siza.co.za](mailto:henko@siza.co.za))