

HORTGRO NEWS



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NEXT GENERATION SERIES: APPLES & ADVENTURE

Didi Smith-de Kock and I are sharing some coffee and words. Words about her life as a fruit farmer. Words about her as an adventurer. The backdrop to our stage is the well-known Matroosberg.

Gerrit Rautenbach writes for us.

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HORTGRO'S MARKET DEVELOPMENT CAMPAIGN REVIEW

The international and local market development campaigns recently gave their respective annual overviews of the deciduous fruit trade and market initiatives. Read the report [HERE](#).

Despite the drought shipments of South African apples to the UK market have risen by 20 percent during the 2018 season.

[READ MORE](#)



HORTGRO MONITORS WATER CRISIS IN EC AND WC

Strict water restrictions for Cape Town and surrounding areas will remain in place as there is not sufficient justification to reduce the water restrictions at this stage.

Intussen lyk dinge benard in die Oos-Kaap. Lees wat Hortgro Pome se verteenwoordiger in die Langkloof, Marius van der Westhuizen, hieroor sê.

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HORTGRO TAKES SMALLHOLDER FARMERS UP THE LADDER

“Land reform will never be addressed satisfactorily if we as an industry body do not take responsibility and become involved in the process.” - Anton Rabe, Hortgro Executive Director.

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SUID-AFRIKANER LEI PRUIMEDANTE WÊRELD

'n Bekende in landboukringe, Chris Krone, is tydens die 17de Kongres van die Internasionale Pruimedante-vereniging, in Villeneuve Sur Lot, Frankryk, as die nuwe president van die vereniging verkies. Krone, van Tulbagh, sal in die posisie leiding neem tot en met die volgende kongres wat aan die einde van 2019 in Suid-Afrika plaasvind.

[**LEES MEER**](#)



THE DECIDUOUS FRUIT INDUSTRY'S JOBS FUND INITIATIVES GET OWN WEBSITE

The Deciduous Fruit Jobs Fund Initiatives forms part of the South African deciduous fruit industry's transformation programme. There are currently 21 entities in this programme. This programme aims to establish and/or replace 316 new hectares of orchards, thereby creating 504 new jobs.

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HORTGRO INVESTEER IN 'MENSE KAPITAAL'

Die 'groei' van menslike kapitaal is 'n hoofprioriteit vir Hortgro en die Suid-Afrikaanse sagtevrugtebedryf. As deel van 'n uitreik-aksie het Hortgro en ander verwante bedryfsgroepe verskeie studiegroepe die afgelope twee maande aan die bedryf bekend gestel.

Einde Junie het 'n studentegroep van die Koue Bokkeveld Opleidingsentrum besoek afgelê by die Universiteit van Stellenbosch, FruitFly Africa, SAPO Trust en Elsenburg. Die studentegroep het bestaan uit aspirant produksiebestuurders en toesighouers.

En op 19 Julie het die graad 12-leerders van Ceres en Wolseley SAPO, Fruitfly Africa, CPUT Wellington asook Elsenburg kollege op 'n dagtoer besoek.

[**GALLERY FOTO'S**](#)



POLYPHAGOUS SHOT HOLE BORER–NATIONAL WORKGROUP KEEPING WATCH

A national workgroup was constituted to track the polyphagous shot hole borer (*Euwallacea fornicatus*) pest. This insect was recently spotted in Northern Johannesburg, Bloemfontein and Knysa. It's been found to attack a number of exotic garden trees, and more disturbingly, natural indigenous trees. Be on the lookout for symptoms which include exit holes, frass, dying limbs, and ultimately dead trees.



INTERESTING CHANGES IN CLIMATE: JUNE TEMPERATURE AND RAINFALL REPORT

While rainfall is mostly better than last year, there has been some variation in chill units this past winter. For temperature and rainfall reports [click here](#).

HORTGRO RESEARCH SHOWCASE 2018

Mark your calendars. The Hortgro Science team launched a new initiative to provide context and showcase our researchers' work. Researchers, peer-workgroups, technical advisory committee members, and fruit growers generally don't get the full picture of the research funded through Hortgro Science. This research showcase will provide an encompassing image of research and development in our industry.

Crop Protection–September 18, 2018

Crop Production–September 19, 2018

Postharvest–September 20, 2018

Venue: Olive Grove, Stellenbosch. Contact [Thea](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

3 AUGUST: Agri's Got Talent Gala Evening at Allée Bleue, Simondium. Book through Computicket.

18 SEPT: Crop Protection Research Day, Olive Grove, Stellenbosch. Contact [Thea](#).

19 SEPT: Crop Production Research Day, Olive Grove, Stellenbosch. Contact [Thea](#).

20 SEPT: Postharvest Research Day, Olive Grove, Stellenbosch. Contact [Thea](#).

INDUSTRY-RELATED TRAINING COURSES

Find information about industry-related training on our new website page [HERE](#).

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

ADAPTABILITY

I read recently about new concept Adaptability Quotient (AQ). First, there was IQ, later EQ (emotional intelligence) and now AQ. I am quite sure that I'm fairly dysfunctional relating to the first two, but I have never felt threatened by change. Change is the only constant, so I (humbly) feel that my AQ is probably not too bad!

Adapting to the ever and faster changing environment has always been my game! Evolution rather than Revolution is my motto (something like *make love, not war*). One revolution in a lifetime is quite enough, thank you!

Fact is, that we experience changes and uncertainty in all manners and means in the environment we operate in. Be that Political, Economic, Social, Technical, Legal and especially in the Environment. The so-called PESTLE analysis being very much part of strategic positioning or re-positioning.

Political upheaval, strikes, militant and destructive (plain criminal) behaviour regarding the lack of services and housing, opportunism around 'land' and the expropriation without compensation debate, ongoing slow economic growth, the legacy of badly managed state-owned enterprises and related corruption, etc.all have the potential to derail our initiatives and hi-jack our spirit.

Environmental examples are at new records everywhere. Whilst things are looking better in the Western Cape, our producers in die Langkloof are now preparing themselves for a very tough year ahead, whilst parts of the Little Karoo and the Southern Cape remain very dry.

Ultimately it is all about our individual and collective AQ and the ability to deal with change. As the adage goes – *'n Boer maak 'n plan*. Time upon time new plans are made to deal with change. As a Hortgro structure, we embrace change and will continue with our approach of "self-do" in order to favourably influence the environment within which our members conduct their respective businesses. That we will do with passion, integrity, and transparency. And we WILL NOT run out of plans!

All the best for the balance of the winter and the season we are starting to gear up for.

Anton Rabe

"It is not the strongest of the species that survives, not the most intelligent. It is the one that is most adaptable to change." Charles Darwin

"The most successful people are those who accept and adapt to constant change. This adaptability requires a degree of flexibility and humility most people can't manage." Paul Lutus



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