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KOUE-BOKKEVELD BAKGATBOORD: WELTEVREDE PEARS - TESTIMONY FOR DRIP IRRIGATION

While the perception that drip irrigation is not the best option for pome fruit is a common one, a beautiful orchard of Abate Fetel pears on Weltevrede farm tells a different story. Despite the rocky nature of the site, this piece of land with its consistently high production figures delivered an impressive 80 tons/ha in 2019. Read more [here](#).



MARIETTE KOTZE JOINS PPECB BOARD

Mariette Kotze, Hortgro's Group Operational Manager, was recently appointed to the Perishable Products Export Control Board (PPECB), as representative of the pome and stone fruit industries. Read more [here](#).



BOLAND LANDBOUSKOOL HUISVES PRO-HORT BLOKKE

Die Boland Landbouuskool buite die Paarl gaan voortaan proefblokke huisves as deel van die Pro-Hort kultivar-evalueringsprogram. Lees meer [hier](#).



BUKS NEL EN HENK GRIESEL BY SAGTEVRUGTEFYNPROE OP WOORDFEES 2020

Die Suid-Afrikaanse sagtevrugtebedryf is vol geskiedenis, stories, staaltjies, wetenskap en propvol nuwe smake, en ons is vanjaar vir die heel eerste keer by die Toyota US Woordfees. Die Sagtevrugtefynproe word op 13 Maart by Die Khaya in Ryneveldstraat, Stellenbosch aangebied, vanaf 12:00 die middag. En jy kan twee kaartjies wen deur Hortgro se plasing op Facebook, Instagram of Twitter te 'like' en te 'share'. Lees meer [hier](#).

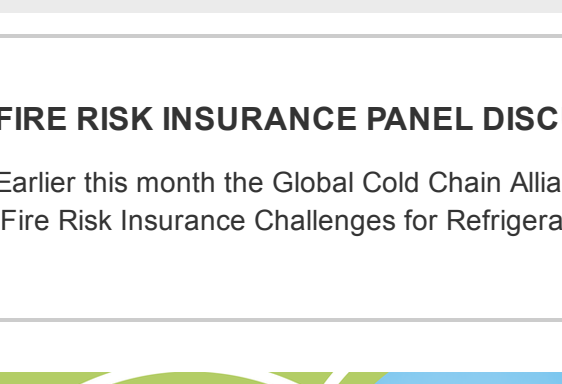


OPTIMISTIC OUTLOOK FOR POME FRUIT

A normal pome fruit season is anticipated for the 2020 season. With good 2019 winter rain, many of the growers are able to prepare a good crop. Read more [here](#).

SOLID APPLE AND PEAR EXPORT GROWTH IN FAR EAST

The South African 2020 apple export season has started amidst some uncertainty as to how the COVID-19 outbreak will influence international trade. What is certain though, is that there has been a strong West-East trade shift over the past two decades. With around 70% of the annual apple crop destined for the Far East, South East Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. Read Jacques du Preez's take on the current situation [here](#).



HUMAN DEVELOPMENT ON FARM LEVEL

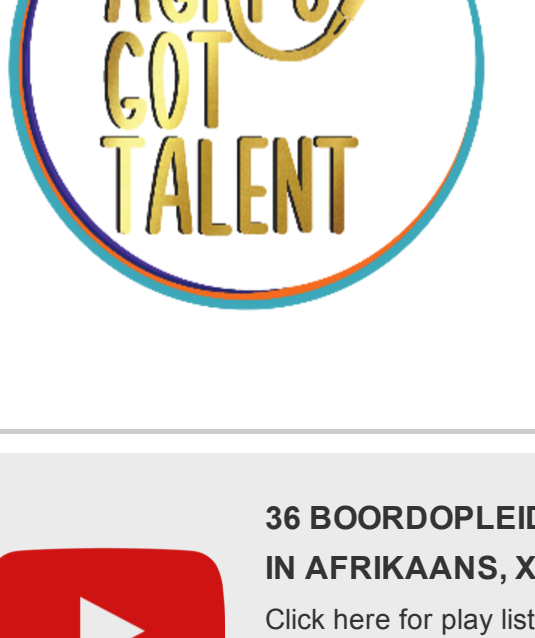
It doesn't matter where or who you are, we all have the same essential drive. To not only make it, but also to make a difference. On a certain day in the Bokkeveld this universal truth was yet again revealed when an amazing spread of thinking questioned the concept of the meaning of life. Read more [here](#).

FIRE RISK INSURANCE PANEL DISCUSSION

Earlier this month the Global Cold Chain Alliance held a panel discussion in Cape Town about 'Fire Risk Insurance Challenges for Refrigerated Warehouses'. Read more [here](#).

Come and meet the researchers and more than 50 postgrad students involved in the projects funded by Hortgro. Also learn what research is being conducted and how it aims to increase the international competitiveness of our growers.

26 and 27 May 2020 (Pome and stone fruit focus respectively)
Venue: Lanzerac Wine Estate, Stellenbosch
Find the programme and register online: events.hortgro.co.za

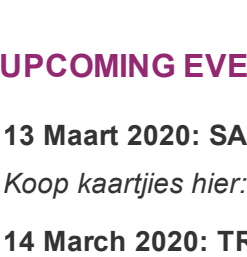


INSPIRE AND BE INSPIRED WITH AGT 2020

The countdown to the most exciting event on the South African agricultural calendar has begun! Agri's Got Talent will be hosted for the seventh time this year and will give workers in the citrus, deciduous fruit, and wine industries, respectively, the chance to showcase their singing talents!

ENTRIES OPEN 2 MARCH 2020

Visit the AGT website [here](#).



36 BOORDOPLEIDINGS VIDEO'S NOU BESIKKBAAR IN AFRIKAANS, XHOSA EN ENGELS

Click here for play lists:

[Afrikaans](#)

[Xhosa](#)

[English](#)

→ UPCOMING EVENTS

13 Maart 2020: SAGTEVRUGTE FYNPROE by die Toyota US Woordfees.

Koop kaartjies hier: <https://woordfees.computicket.com/>

14 March 2020: TRU-CAPE HERITAGE ORCHARD TOUR. Visit [Quicket](#) to book your spot.

26 and 27 May 2020: HORTGRO RESEARCH SHOWCASE, Stellenbosch

Contact Thea van Zyl (thea@hortgro.co.za) for more information on our events.

→ HORTGRO PUBLICATIONS

Fresh Quarterly Issue 6: [Salinization / Verbrakking](#)

Fresh Quarterly Issue 7: [What's next for plastics?](#)

[Key Deciduous Fruit Statistics](#)

Hortgro Stone: [Timely Hints/Tydige Wenke: March 2020](#)

→ HORTGRO YOUTUBE KANAAL

Vind 'n magdom van bedryfsinligting in ons videobiblioteek [hier](#).

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

TRADE RISKS, MARKET EXPECTATIONS, COMPLIANCE AND SIZA

SIZA continues to grow and currently has 2,023 members from all nine provinces. Almost 82% of these members are from the fruit industry, but membership in the flower, Rooibos tea, sugar and meat industries is growing. After a rocky patch, SIZA is now a stable organisation with competent staff, fully self-sustaining and funded. A leader in its field, globally. The envy of many of our competitors.

During the recent Fruit Logistica trade fair in Berlin, SIZA in conjunction with Fruit South Africa, presented a seminar to a wide range of global stakeholders to inform them on the SIZA programmes (which now includes an environmental module) and to assure them of South African suppliers' commitment to the third party verification, risk management, and compliance on behalf of the trade. Attendees gained first-hand experience of the complexities producers, packhouses, and exporters have to deal with relating to ethical trade and environmental issues within a South African context.

Audit analysis of the last few years, indicate that the average number of findings with regard to non-compliances are reduced year on year. However, roughly 74% of these findings relate to 'health and safety (40%); wages/working hours (34%)'. Issues dealt with were: risks, inadequate management, faulty payslip, miscalculated wages/working hours/overtime, leave and employment contracts. These matters can be avoided and employers are encouraged to utilise the vast pool of expertise available from SIZA to address shortcomings in their administration and management systems.

The recent hefty fine one of the leading domestic retailers incurred given various contraventions of labour legislation (for amongst others failure to issue employees with contracts, long working hours without overtime compensation, Sunday pay, public holidays and leave not granted according to the law, hiring of illegal foreign nationals and illegal deductions) is proof that the pro-active manner in which the various fruit exporting industries have positioned SIZA to manage trade risks and assist the industry supply-base with compliance issues have a meaningful impact on the standing of South Africa in the international trade environment.

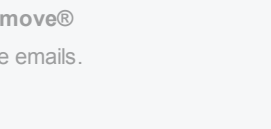
Although challenges remain, it should be clear that SIZA has become a real asset for the industry and country at large. A new electronic platform for ethical trade and environmental compliance is currently being developed and would no doubt prove to be yet another meaningful arrow in the quiver of the South African supply-base to ensure trade compliances and risk management.

Until next time.
Regards

Anton Rabe

If you don't invest in risk management, it doesn't matter what business you're in, it is a risky business. Gary Cohn

If you think compliance is expensive, try non-compliance. Former US Deputy Attorney-General, Paul McNulty



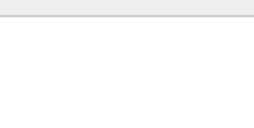
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