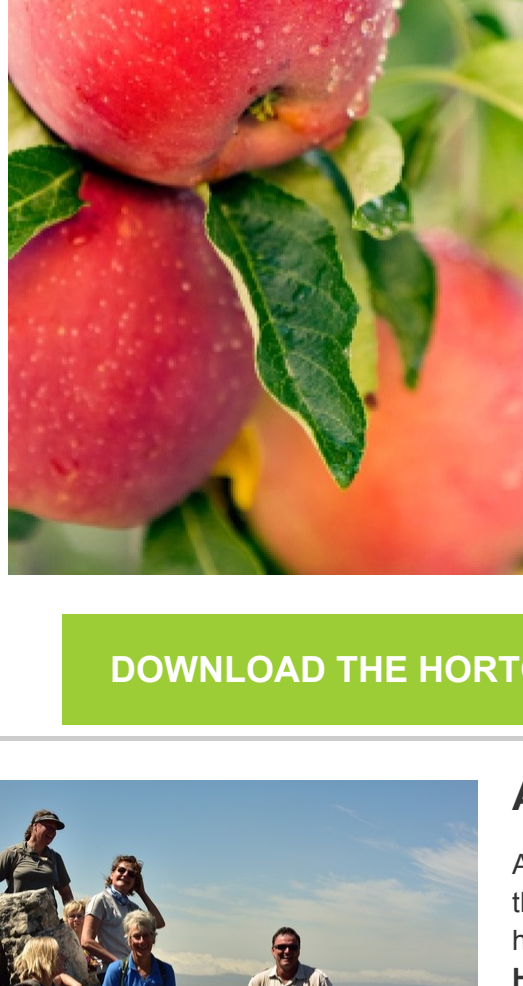


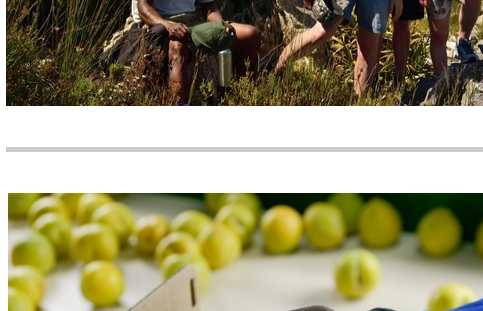
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HORTGRO ANNUAL REVIEW 2020

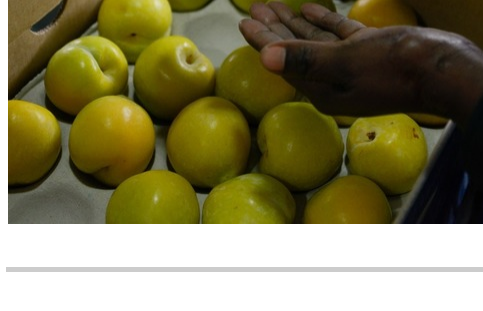
[DOWNLOAD THE HORTGRO ANNUAL REVIEW 2020 HERE.](#)



APPLES TO THE RESCUE

A group of hikers, with the help of Hortgro, Kromco and the Paul Clüver clan from De Rust Farm in Elgin created a hiking event in the Groenland Mountains. It was labelled **Hiking for Hunger**. The idea was to walk for apples for the hungry. However, before the end of the day, a different rescue was needed...

Gerrit Rautenbach tells the [story](#).



HOU PROBLEEMVRUGTE UIT DIE MARK

'n Pakhuis is nie 'n hospitaal nie en elke rolspeeler in die waardeketting moet alles in hul vermoë doen om probleemvrugte uit die mark te hou. Hortgro Science het onlangs kenners gevra om met die steenvrugbedryf oor **vermarmering en verkurking** te praat.

Lees meer [hier](#).



LANGKLOOF FRUIT FARMERS WEATHERING THE STORMS

On 13 January 2021, the Langkloof in the Eastern Cape experienced a severe hail storm that damaged roughly a 1000 hectares of apple, pear and stone fruit orchards. These orchards account for 20% of the total pome and stone fruit plantings in the Langkloof.

Read more [here](#).



LOAD SHEDDING BLUES

Load shedding in January came at an extremely inconvenient time for deciduous fruit producers, with harvesting, packing and cold store operations currently reaching a seasonal peak.

Anton Rabe and Jannie Strydom share views on the impact of continued load shedding, read it [here](#).



ADRIAAN THERON LEI STORE-IT GROEP

Adriaan Theron, voorheen 'n Hortgro-beurshouer, speel nou 'n leidende rol in die na-oes kant van die bedryf. Hortgro het vir Adriaan gevra om meer oor homself, asook die werk van die Store-It Groep, te vertel.

Lees [hier](#).



INDUSTRY WATER BENCHMARK STUDY HELPS MANAGE RISKS

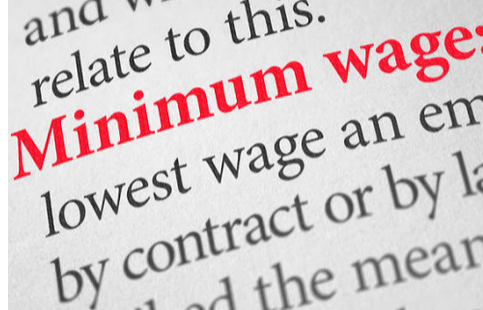
Eddie Vienings and Dianca Yssel from [Blue North](#) share more about the The Packhouse Action Group Water Benchmarking Project which was initiated to identify and manage water-related risks at the packhouse and cold storage levels in pome fruit value chains. Read more [here](#).



POME FRUIT SEASON FORECAST

Despite COVID, last year's harvest was exceptionally good.

This year, with the pome fruit harvest currently underway, there are positive expectations for 2021. Read more [here](#).



HORTGRO'S COMMENTS ON MINIMUM WAGE PROPOSALS

The National Minimum Wage Commission has recommended an increase in the national minimum wage of farmworkers from R18,68 to R21,68 per hour with effect from 1 March 2021.

Read a summary of Hortgro's submission [here](#).



SEASON'S LOGISTICS RUNNING (RELATIVELY) SMOOTHLY DESPITE CHALLENGES

All stops are being pulled out, to make logistics of fruit exports run as smoothly as possible this season.

Jacques du Preez, Hortgro's General Manager: Trade and Markets, said that weekly meetings between Transnet and the various port stakeholders are still taking place, "to collectively and pro-actively deal with issues". Read more [here](#).



HORTGRO LAUNCHES PODCAST PLATFORM

Let's grow our fruit IQ!

Subscribe and receive notifications of informative talks by industry experts.

Episode 1: [Steenvrugte Seisoen 2021](#)

Episode 2: [Hortgro boomsensus van uiterse belang](#)

HORTGRO STAFF ON THE MOVE

Read about changes at **Hortgro Science** and more, [here](#).

INTERNATIONAL PRUNE ASSOCIATION

The IPA updated their website. Have a look [here](#).

SYMPOSIUM CANCELLED, BUT EXCITING INDUSTRY EVENTS CALENDAR FOR 2021

Due to the global Covid-19 pandemic, all industry events needed to take on a more electronic approach with online tools like Zoom and MS Teams becoming common.

As we approached the end of a turbulent 2020, we still intended to host our bi-annual technical symposium in 2021. Due to the persistence of the Covid pandemic the difficult decision was taken, with inputs from the Hortgro Science Advisory Council, to cancel the event and not host any in-person events in the near future.

The aim is to host timely and informative webinars throughout the year on a range of topics:

- Plum Marbling (January 2021, already taken place)
- The ABC of cover crops (TBC)
- The various chill models and how well (or not) they fit RSA conditions (First week of June 2021)
- Developing an adaptability index for apple, plum and cherry cultivars for diverse South African growing areas (TBC)
- Lessons learned during Phase I of the OoF programme and the focus areas of Phase II (March/April)
- How climate change may affect RSA deciduous fruit cultivation in future (First week of June 2021)
- The net effect: All you want to know about the effects of nets on your deciduous crops (First week of June 2021)
- How to choose the best stone fruit rootstock for your orchard (TBC)

Please visit our event website for more information and indicate in which events you would be interested in. www.events.hortgro.co.za

Contact Thea van Zyl for more information via email on thea@hortgro.co.za

→ INFORMATION AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

- D6/Hortgro24 Information app.
- [Stone fruit app](#).
- E-mail taryn@hortgro.co.za for more information.

→ HORTGRO PUBLICATIONS

- [Key Deciduous Fruit Statistics](#)
- Hortgro Stone: [Timely Hints/Tydige Wenke: Jan/Feb 2021](#)
- Fresh Quarterly: [Issue 11](#)
- Transformation Times: [December Issue](#)

→ HORTGRO YOUTUBE KANAAL

- Vind ons videobiblioteek vol bedryfsinligting [hier](#).
- PLUS: 36 Boordopleiding video's nou beskikbaar in [AFRIKAANS](#), [XHOSA](#) en [ENGELS](#)

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S PEN

GROOT BOME WAT VAL - ORALS OM ONS

Hier aan die begin van 2021, is daar waarskynlik niemand van ons wat nie iewers self, of 'n gesins- of familieid, 'n vriend of kennis het, wat nie op een of ander wyse deur die koronavirus geraak is nie. Die volgehoue globale ontworting is enorm en in baie gevalle katastrofaal. Die plaaslike korupsie wat hiermee gepaard gaan (en steeds gaan!), en die jongste bontpratery rondom entstowwe en die landwyse uitrol daarvan is genoeg om enige mens swartgallig te maak.

Behalwe vir 'n paar sieners, het niemand die wêreldwye pandemie en die geweldige globale impak daarvan op ons lewens voorsien nie. Net so het niemand (in elk geval nie ek nie) verwag dat Suid-Afrika in die middel van ons somer 'n 2de golf sou beleef nie. En waarskynlik is ons ook in vir 'n 3de en verdere "golvende" gegewe dat s.g. "kudde-immuniteit" nie voor einde van die jaar of selfs volgende jaar eers, bereik sal word nie.

Maar nou, 10 maande en met die ervaring van 'n 2de golf later, is ons besig om aan te pas en cope ons met die ontydige heengaan van prof. **Mohammad Karaan**. Die leemte wat hy laat is enorm en ons gaan sy wysheid, insig en advies oor ons unieke uitdagings in landbou geweldig mis.

'n Ewe groot boom wat geval het, is die heengaan van J.D. Kirsten die afgelepe naweek na 'n uitmergelende siekte – nie weens Covid nie. JD se bedryfsvoetspoor en *legacy* is enorm en ook hy laat 'n groot gemis op soveel terreine.

Maar net so is daar talle ander wat in hulle gesins en/of familie-verband in sy/haar eie reg 'n baken, 'n fondament en rigsgnoer is of was, wat geval het. Elkeen 'n Groot Boom wat op sy/haar manier 'n groot leemte laat.

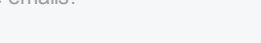
Ons innige meegevoel aan een en elk in hierdie ongekende tye wat op welke wyse ook al 'n geliefde boom verloor het. My gebed is dat elkeen van ons die krag en genade van Bo sal kry sodat elkeen op ons unieke manier hiermee kan vrede maak en pleinweg cope. Hierdie tye SAL verbygaan en daar is altyd HOOP.

Tot volgende keer.

Anton

Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all the darkness - Desmond Tutu

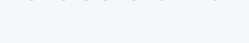
At the end of the day, all you need is Hope and Strength. Hope that it will get better, and Strength to hold on until it does – Anton



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