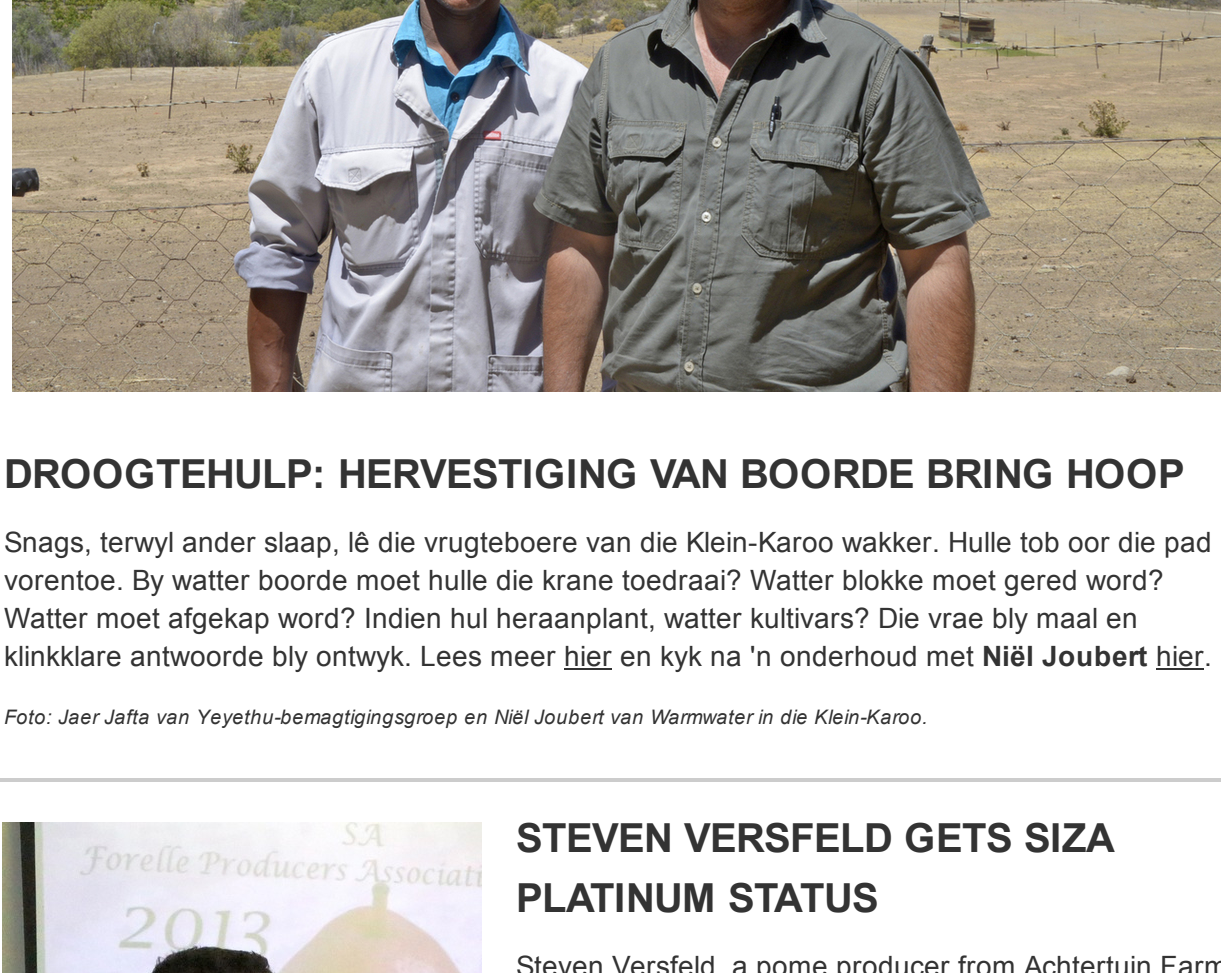


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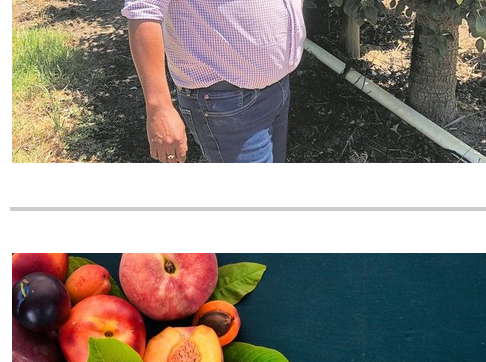
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- Sewis van der Horst nuwe Culdevco direkteur
- 'Dankbare' steenvrugseisoen
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DROOGTEHELP: HERVESTIGING VAN BOORDE BRING HOOP

Snags, terwyl ander slaap, lê die vrugteboere van die Klein-Karoo wakker. Hulle tob oor die pad vorentoe. By watter boorde moet hulle die krane toedraai? Watter blokke moet gered word? Watter moet afgekap word? Indien hul heraanplant, watter kultivars? Die vrae bly maal en klinkklare antwoorde bly ontwyk. Lees meer [hier](#) en kyk na 'n onderhoud met **Niël Joubert** [hier](#).

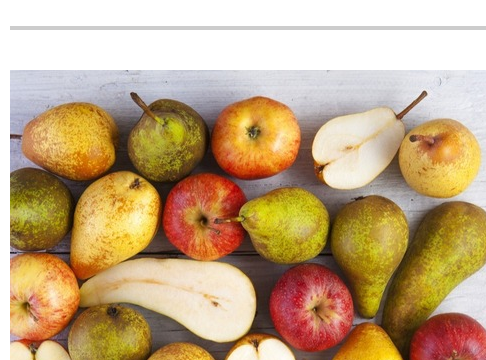
Foto: Jaer Jafta van Yeyethu-bemagtigingsgroep en Niël Joubert van Warmwater in die Klein-Karoo.



STEVEN VERSFELD GETS SIZA PLATINUM STATUS

Steven Versfeld, a pome producer from Achtertuin Farm, Ceres, became the first South African producer ever to receive platinum status without any non-compliances from the Sustainability Initiative of South Africa (SIZA).

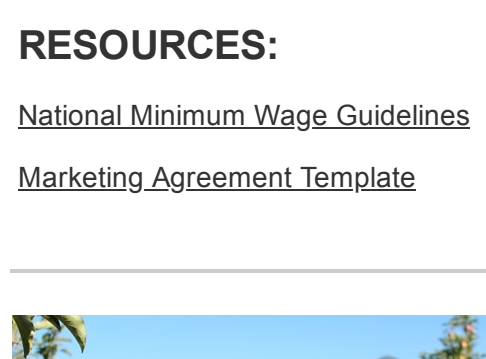
Read more [here](#).



SEWIS VAN DER HORST NUWE CULDEVCO DIREKTEUR

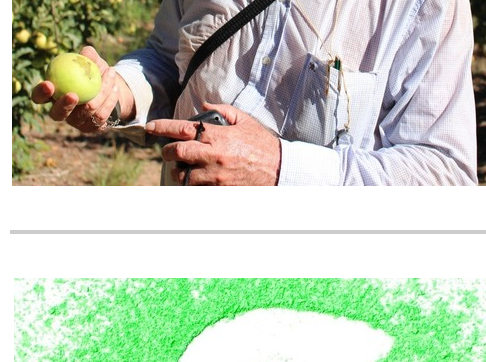
Bekroonde kernvrugboer van Villiersdorp, Sewis van der Horst, is aangestel as nuwe direkteur op die Culdevco-direksie. Van der Horst het 2019 die Toyota Nuwe Toetreders kompetisie vir jong boere gewen.

Lees meer [hier](#).



'DANKBARE' STEENVRUGSEISOEN

Na 'n paar slegte jare, is rolspeleers in die steenvrugbedryf ontsettend dankbaar vir 'n buitengewoon goeie seisoen. Steenvrugkeners **Charl Stander**, **Petru du Plessis** en **Calla du Toit** gee terugvoer. Lees [hier](#).



FEBRUARY POME SEASON UPDATE

Hortgro's General Manager: Trade and Markets, **Jacques du Preez**, gives an update of the current pome fruit season. Read more [here](#).

SHAFFE (Southern Hemisphere Association of Fresh Fruit Exporters) will launch its very first Annual Southern Hemisphere Fresh Fruit Trade congress on the 25th of March 2021. [Online registrations open, participation free.](#)

CLICK ON LINKS TO DOWNLOAD THE FOLLOWING HELPFUL RESOURCES:

[National Minimum Wage Guidelines](#)

[Marketing Agreement Template](#)



INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT - ARE WE THERE YET?

The South African deciduous fruit industry has supported an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) programme for the past 35 years. **Matthew Addison**, Crop Protection Manager at Hortgro Science, tells us why in [this article](#).

Pictured here: IPM trailblazing entomologist, Dr Ken Pringle.

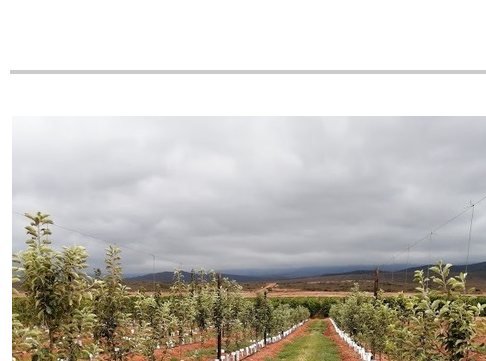


KNOW YOUR BIOPRODUCTS

Lately, there has been an emphasis on research into and development of biological products. Industry expert, **Sheila Storey** from **Nemlab**, helps producers understand bioproducts in order to make informed decisions and manage risks. [This article is the first in the series.](#)

'AREA-WIDE INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT' BOOK

In 1997 Anton Rabe and Brian Barnes got on a plane to meet with Government to lobby for support for an area-wide integrated pest management project. 'Area-Wide Integrated Pest Management' has been published by CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group. Read/download the chapter about the South African programme, written by Jan-Hendrik Venter, Nando Baard and Brian Barnes, [here](#).

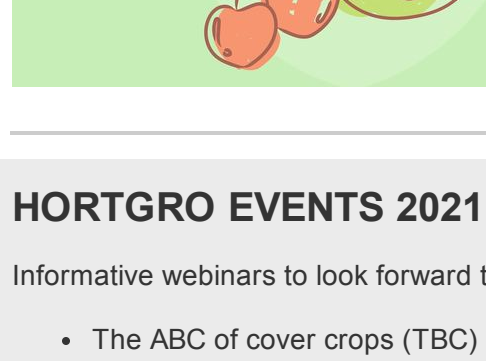


EXPLORING PLUM PROFITABILITY THROUGH MODELLING TO AID DECISION-MAKING

Hortgro commissioned the Bureau for Food and Agricultural Policy (BFAP) to investigate plum production profitability under different scenarios for the 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 seasons. Read more [here](#).

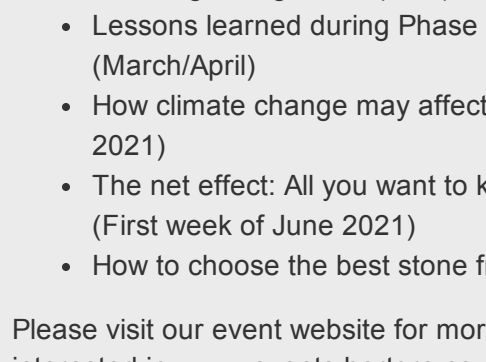
HORTGRO COMMUNICATIONS SURVEY

In an effort to stay tuned to stakeholders needs and wants, Hortgro's Communications department conducted a communications audit. One aspect of the audit was a stakeholder survey, find the results [here](#).



HORTGRO SCIENCE ANNUAL REVIEW 2020

Download your copy [here](#).

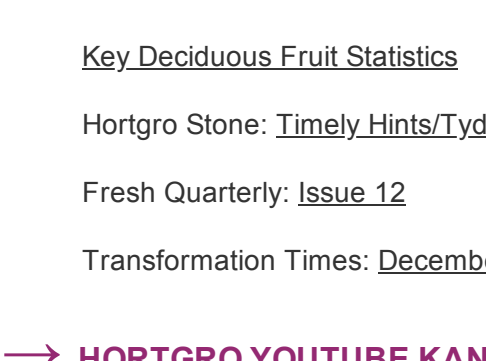


FRESH QUARTERLY ISSUE 12, MARCH 2021 OUT NOW!

[Download your copy!](#)

STONE FRUIT TIMELY HINTS MARCH 2021

Download [here](#).



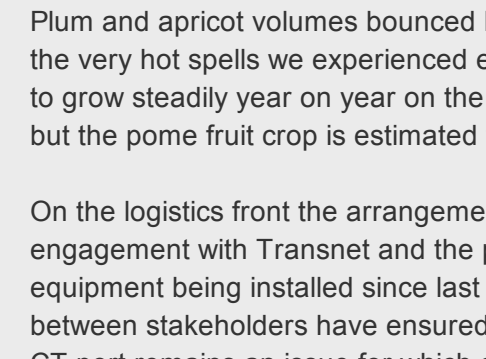
PRO-HORT BOORDBESOEKE EN PROEË

30 Maart 2021 - Nootgedacht, Ceres

31 Maart 2021 - Oak Valley, Grabouw

Meer inligting volg binnekort.

Kontak intussen vir Thea van Zyl (thea@hortgro.co.za) sou u belangstel om een van die besoeke by te woon.



HORTGRO PODCAST

Let's grow our fruit IQ!

Subscribe and receive notifications of informative talks by industry experts.

Episode 3: [Logistieke Uitdagings 2021](#)

Episode 4: [Good start for the 2021 pome fruit season](#)

HORTGRO EVENTS 2021

Informative webinars to look forward to:

- 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: March 2021](#)

Fresh Quarterly: [Issue 12](#)

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 DESK

SEASON TO DATE

After a later and bumpy start to the season with extensive damage to a portion of the crop in the Langkloof (estimated at ±1,2 million cartons, mostly apples), the harvesting season has progressed well.

Plum and apricot volumes bounced back after a few tough years during the drought period and the very hot spells we experienced early in the season the past few years. Nectarines continue to grow steadily year on year on the back of new plantings. The peach industry is struggling, but the pome fruit crop is estimated to be +4% up for both apples and pears.

On the logistics front the arrangements put in place by the fruit industry with weekly engagement with Transnet and the ports, efficiencies were vastly improved with vital new equipment being installed since last year, whilst the better information flow and coordination between stakeholders have ensured that shipments went must better. The wind factor in the CT port remains an issue for which a solution is still being sought. After indications that containers might run short, this currently seems to be well in hand.

On the trade side, some of the stone fruit markets are a bit under pressure, but with the coordinated exchange of excellent market intelligence and fruit flow information, the Joint Market Forums continue to inform decision-makers constructively on the latest global trends. The recent extremely cold spell in Europe also added further pressure in some peak shipment weeks gave some delays due to wind interruption in the port of Cape Town.

At farm and packhouse level the adaptations made to ensure the safety of workers, processes and equipment to comply with Covid regulations, seems to now have been imbedded in systems and practices. In this regard the industries' historic exposure to very high global hygiene and compliance requirements have stood the industry in good stead and enabled a very rapid adaptation to the 'new normal'.

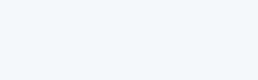
Given the essential services status of our sector, Hortgro also continues to engage with authorities to assess ways and means to prioritise our agri workers, farmers, their families and rural communities for the roll-out of the national vaccination program. We have all seen the shambles being reported on in the media in this regard, but some traction has seemingly been achieved in recent weeks. We are confident that our industry structures and infrastructure of clinics and related health services on farms and at packhouses could effectively be utilised in the rollout.

Until next time.

Anton

Sometimes our lives have to be completely shaken up, changed, and re-arranged, to relocate us to the place we're meant to be. - Anon

Change is hard at first, messy in the middle and gorgeous at the end. - Robin Sharma



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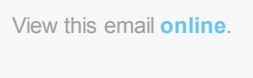
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