



NEW CHAIRMEN FOR HORTGRO POME AND HORTGRO STONE

Earlier this month Hortgro Pome and Hortgro Stone welcomed new chairmen and directors. After 22 years as Hortgro Pome Chairman, Nicholas Dicey handed over the baton to **Calla du Toit**. En na ag jaar in die Hortgro Stone warmstoel het André Smit plekke geruil met **Charl Herbst**. Nicholas Dicey bly steeds die Hortgro-direksie se voorsitter. Hortgro verwelkom Calla en Charl as die nuwe bedryfsleiers en sien daarna uit om saam met hulle te werk in hierdie dinamiese sektor.

[More info about Calla>>](#)

[Lees meer oor Charl>>](#)

DIE SEISOEN WAT DIE KERNVRUGBEDRYF NODIG GEHAD HET

Anna Mouton het met 'n paar tegniese bedryfskenners gepraat oor die afgelope kernvrugseisoen. Dit lyk asof produsente se



INSIGHTS FOR NEW FARMERS | PEARLS OF WISDOM FROM PIETER DU TOIT

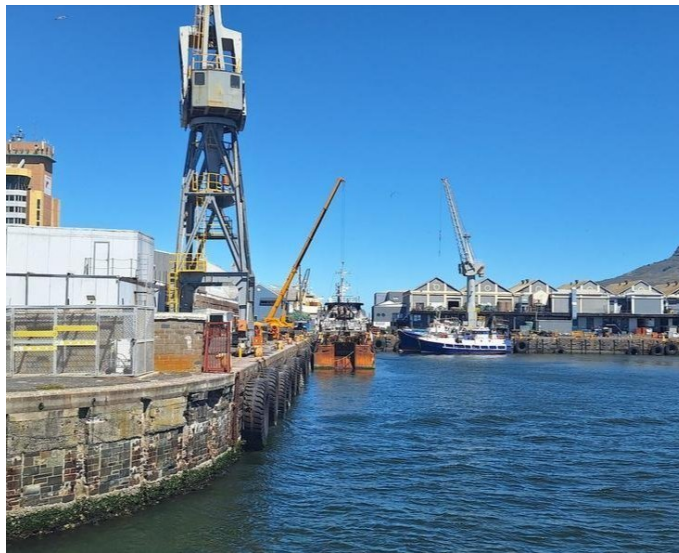
While **Pieter du Toit** wraps up a notable career as Managing Director and now Chairman of the Dutoit Group, his lifelong passion for agriculture and commitment to excellence culminate in invaluable lessons for young and beginner farmers entering the agricultural community.

[More info>>](#)

HORTGRO SE NAVORSING EN TEGNOLOGIE TREK INTERNASIONALE AANDAG

Meer as 500 afgevaardigdes het onlangs by die Lord Charles Hotel, Somerset-Wes, saamgetrek vir twee toonaangewende landbougeleenthede: die **Hortgro Research Showcase** en die **Hortgro Naoes-symposium**. Dié byeenkomste, wat elke tweede jaar aangebied word, het vanjaar ook internasionale belangstelling gelok.

[Lees hier>>](#)

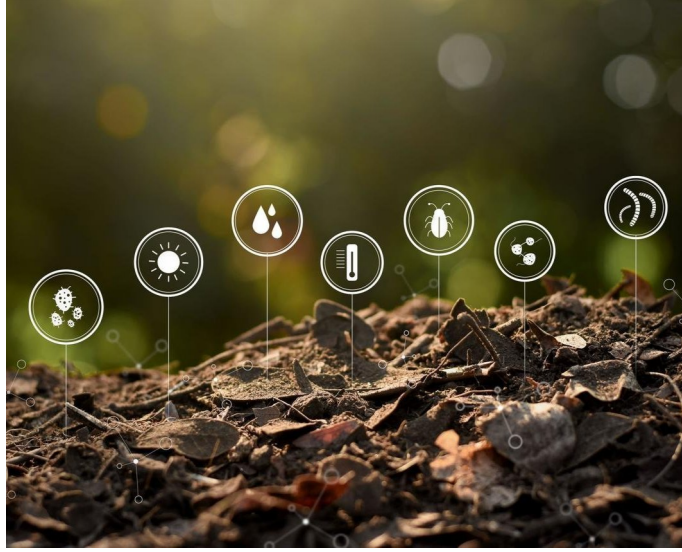


STUDY PROVES PRIVATISATION IS KEY TO UNLOCKING EFFICIENCY AND TRADE COMPETITIVENESS IN SA PORTS

A recent study by **Link Supply Chain Management**, owned by several of the Western Cape's leading fruit exporting companies, demonstrates the significant advantages achieved through port privatisation across Africa. The findings underscore the urgent need to privatise the port of Cape Town to unlock similar benefits for the Western Cape economy. [More info>>](#)

PRECISION CROP PROTECTION | SMARTER, SAFER AND MORE SUSTAINABLE

The agricultural sector is undergoing a transformative shift toward sustainability, and the launch of the **Hortgro Science Precision Crop Protection Workgroup (PCPW)** signals another step in this direction. The PCPW aims to reduce the environmental and human health impacts of crop protection strategies while maintaining production efficacy and profitability. [More info>>](#)



PLASTICS AND PACKAGING | A EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE

Nitasha Baijnath-Pillay, Hortgro Sustainability and Natural Resources Manager, interviewed **Philippe Binard**, General Delegate of Freshfel Europe, for the recent Footprint webinar about the packaging and plastics. Here is a transcript of their discussion.

[More info>>](#)

TIPS TO BECOME A MORE SUSTAINABLE FRUIT GROWER

Nitasha Baijnath-Pillay, Hortgro Resource and Sustainability Manager, shares some tips for growers on how to develop a sustainable perspective on their farms.

[More info>>](#)



Over the past two decades, Hortgro has played a central role in the robust economic growth of South Africa’s deciduous fruit industry, transforming it into a key agricultural powerhouse. It represents 1128 pome and stone fruit producers, and a total of 46% of production is exported.

[More info>>](#)



DOWNLOAD HERE: [New Roots](#) | [July 2025](#)



Fresh Quarterly

DOWNLOAD HERE: [Freshly Quarterly June 2025](#)



Hortgro Research Showcase | Pome | Stone

Watch the presentations here:

[Pome Fruit Playlist](#) | [Stone Fruit Playlist](#)



Hortgro Post-harvest Symposium

Watch the presentations here:

[Post-harvest Symposium playlist](#)

WATCH: Click on image to watch the Footprint Webinar on Sustainable Packaging and Plastics

Search Q + Create

Sustainable Packaging and Plastics

Wednesday 11 June
12:00 - 12:50



Dr Mariana Jooste
Postharvest Programme Manager
(Hortgro Science)



Con Louw
Logistics Manager
(Ceres Fruit Growers)
Packhouse Action Group Representative



Philippe Binard
General Delegate
(Freshfel Europe)
RECORDING



Moderator
Nitasha Baijnath - Pillay
Resource Management & Sustainability Manager
(Hortgro)



0:00 / 39:50

AGRI'S GOT TALENT 2025 NOW OPEN

This competition isn't just about showcasing the talent of our agricultural workers—it's about recognising their immense contributions to our sector and our nation. Agri workers, we salute you. Get ready to shine on stage. WhatsApp your voice entry to 082 372 1557 today.

[MEER INLIGTING>>](#)



**STEP INTO THE
SPOTLIGHT, UNLOCK
YOUR POTENTIAL!**



AGRI'S GOT TALENT

2025

AGT is a platform empowering agricultural workers in the fruit and wine industries to showcase their singing talents, develop life skills, and make a lasting impact on their communities.

Entries close 31 July 2025!



**ENTER BY SENDING US A WHATSAPP ON
082 272 1557**

IMPORTANT FRESH NOTES

- [Summary of actions for export of apples – to the Kingdom of Thailand \(March 2025\)](#)
- [Restricted agricultural remedies and implementation of pest control operator \(PCO\) regulations \(April 2025\)](#)
- [Feedback of a Packhouse Action Group \(PAG\) \(March 2025\)](#)

NEW! HORTGRO SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PLATFORMS

- Hortgro Science Research Library. Find it [here](#).
- Hortgro Science Climate Change App. Find it [here](#).

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S DESK

RUS TYD EN RUSTYD

Die winterskoolvakansie is tradisioneel rus tyd en rustyd in die sagtevrugtebedryf. Gelukkig is daar van ons wat nie meer skoolgaande kinders het, of kleinkinders het wat al skool gaan nie, en kan diesulkes òf 'n bietjie vroeër òf 'n bietjie later rus tyd en rustyd neem.

Ek het egter wel al die afgelope week of drie agtergekom daar is 'n paar manne (seker vroue ook) wat MIA is. *Missing in Action*—In die jagveld! Self is my jagdae getel, maar ek het geen probleem met diegene wat die tydverdryf beoefen nie. Veral nie die uitkoms van sodanige tydverdryf nie: wildsvleis, biltong en droëwors. My "jag" is deesdae om wild (en voëls) te kyk—nie skiet nie—met werklik ikoniese prentjies in my kop oor absolute unieke ervarings oor baie jare op verskillende plekke in en om Suid-Afrika. Inderdaad 'n wonderlike voorreg om dit steeds te kan doen al is die ou lyf bietjie strammer as voorheen. Nooit fênsie witlakentrips nie, maar heel gemaklike kamptrips met karavaan (die laaste 12 jaar of so, voor dit met tente) en 'n properse gerigde-kar vir sulke *off the grid* trippies.

Be that as it may, it is time for a well-deserved rest after another challenging season, which turned out better than what we hoped for in October last year. Additionally, on the logistics front, we still have a long way to go. Still, at least the trajectory is

upward, thanks to new equipment, which leads to better productivity and quicker catch-up after wind and other weather-related delays.

The stone fruit season is well and truly done and dusted, but for pome fruit, an extended marketing season still lies ahead. This is in a global trading environment that remains highly volatile, with haphazard US tariff policies and politics, as well as reciprocal actions, and various regional conflicts, all of which have the potential to escalate into more severe events involving multiple nations.

That would be a real disaster, but the resultant consequences on oil prices, interest rates and exchange rates have a direct and immediate bearing on our daily lives. Hopefully, cool heads and sanity will prevail, and we will not end up with WW3, which will be “too ghastly to contemplate” as the Groot Krokodil used to say.

Lekker rus tyd en rustyd vir almal in ons bedryf. Skakel af en wanneer ons terugkom, fokus ons op die goed binne ons beheer, om ons bedryfsomgewing die beste te maak wat ons kan.

Tot volgende keer.

Anton Rabe

Once a year, go somewhere you have never been before – Dalai Lama

Life's short. Eat dessert first, work less and vacation more – Lea Mishell



→ HORTGRO UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Hortgro Awards**, 12 September 2025
- **Agri's Got Talent**, 19 September 2025

→ HORTGRO PUBLICATIONS

- **Timely Hints**
 - [July/Julie 2025](#)
 - **Fresh Notes**
 - [220 Implementation of pest control operator \(PCO\) regulations](#)
 - **Hortgro News**
 - [All previous issues](#)
 - **Fruit South Africa**
 - [Transformation Summary](#)
-

→ INFORMATION AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

- All of Hortgro's online platforms in one place, click [here](#)
 - E-mail info@hortgro.co.za for more information
-

→ HORTGRO YOUTUBE

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



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