



YOUNG TRAILBLAZERS: ANDRÉ KRITZINGER AND AMORÉ VILJOEN

From the Langkloof to Villiersdorp, the future of farming is in capable hands.

Eastern Cape Young Farmer of the Year 2025, André Kritzinger, and Amoré Viljoen (trailblazing farm manager of Lakeview) prove that with passion, innovation, and resilience, young leaders can transform orchards, uplift communities, and inspire an entire industry. Read here about [André Kritzinger](#) and about [Amoré Viljoen](#).

AGRICULTURAL REMEDIES IN THE SPOTLIGHT

The Department of Agriculture (DoA) convened a colloquium, themed “Transforming Agricultural Regulatory Policy within the One Health Concept”, to develop a new framework that prioritises human, environmental, and agricultural well-being. Hortgro took part in the (sometimes turbulent) discussions. [Read here>>](#)



HORTGRO SCIENCE | FROM PROBLEMS TO SOLUTIONS

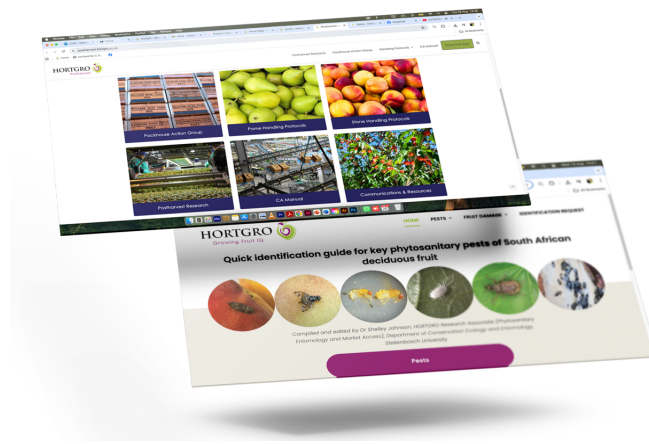
Read more about how Hortgro Science prioritises and manages industry-funded research projects and how research projects help build "human capital", or rather, postgraduate students, who often go on to join the industry.

[**Read here>>**](#)

INNOVATIVE PLATFORMS: PHYTO ID GUIDE & POSTHAVEST/PAG APP

Hortgro has launched two new platforms to help keep industry stakeholders informed. Read about it [**here**](#) and find quick links below:

[**The Quick Identification Guide for Key Phytosanitary Pests of South African Deciduous Fruit**](#) and the [**Postharvest/Packhouse Action Group App**](#).



ESG IN ACTION

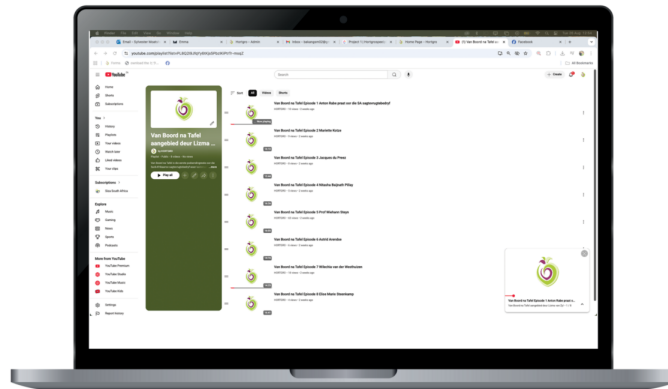
Consumer demand for sustainably produced fruit and investor preferences for ESG-compliant businesses are reshaping farming practices worldwide. In South Africa, fruit growers have long been ahead of the curve.

[Read here>>](#)

NAVIGATING THE ECONOMIC STORM

The South African economy has endured a turbulent few years marked by rolling power cuts, failing infrastructure, spiralling costs, and a volatile global backdrop. While there are glimmers of progress, both domestic and international headwinds continue to shape the country's prospects in complex ways, according to Nicky Weimar, Nedbank Chief Economist, who shared her perspective at the Canning Fruit Producers' Association (CFPA) annual general meeting.

[Read here>>](#)



HORTGRO LOODS PODSENDINGGREEKS OP YOUTUBE EN SPOTIFY

Wil jy weet wat Hortgro alles vir jou doen? Luister na 'n nuwe podsendingreeks onder leiding van bekroonde joernalis, Lizma van Zyl. Sy gesels met die Hortgro-span wat die komplekse agri-landskap moet navigeer.

[Luister na Anton Rabe en sy span hier>>](#)



AGT TOP TEN ANNOUNCED

We're thrilled to introduce the Agri's Got Talent Top 10 for 2025! Congratulations to all our finalists, we can't wait to see you shine. A special word of thanks goes to our finalists' employers for their support. [Find the Top 10 here>>](#)

And join us for an evening (19 Sept, Nooitgedacht, Stellenbosch) of tremendous entertainment and fun. Buy your ticket online at Computicket [here](#).



NEW MERGER | PLANT DISEASE AND INSECT DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES

Accurate diagnostics are critical for preventing costly errors in pest and disease management, ensuring sustainable agriculture, and protecting local crop health. With this merger, PDC Stellenbosch enhances its capacity to deliver rapid, reliable, and comprehensive diagnostics for fungal, oomycete, and bacterial plant pathogens, as well as mites, insects, and nematodes.

[Read here>>](#)

FREE HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING | EGVV

Hortgro, in collaboration with Philani, will again offer free health and safety training to EGVV members.

When: 22 & 23 September 2025, 08:30-16:30 (20 learners) and 29 & 30 September 2025, 08:30-16:30 (20 learners).

Where: Elgin Fruitgrowers Members' Hall (next to Agrimark), Elgin Fruitgrowers Business Park, Grabouw.

Hortgro sponsors the training, and the learners will be responsible for their own lunches.

Learners' names and surnames, language preferences, and a copy of their IDs must reach us by Wednesday, 17 September 2025, at 12:00.

For more information, contact Estelle Meyer (estelle@philani.co.za) or learn@hortgro.co.za

IMPORTANT FRESH NOTES

- [Packhouse Action Group Feedback | FN 225 \(August 2025\)](#).
- [Restricted agricultural remedies | FN 224 \(July 2025\)](#).
- [Restricted agricultural remedies and implementation of pest control operator \(PCO\) regulations | FN 222 \(April 2025\)](#).

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

Vrouens in ons lewens

Ek lees op Netwerk24 van “12 vreeslose vroue”. Weet nie hoe hulle geïdentifiseer of gekies is nie, maar elkeen formidabel in haar eie reg. Net so, ken elkeen van ons vreeslose vroue in ons lewens. In hierdie vroue-maand is dit dus sekerlik gepas om iets oor die vroue in ons lewens, beide privaat en in werksverband, te sê.

Kom ons los my pa se bydrae(s) uit die storie, maar eerstens sou ek nie hier gewees het sonder my ma nie. Sy is Ester, maar ons noem haar sommer Yster. Sy het ses kinders, waaronder vyf seuns, groot gekry nadat my pa jonk reeds oorlede is. Nou, ouma van tien kleinkinders en oumagrootjie van nog tien. Op amper 92 bly sy 'n voorbeeld en inspirasie vir ons almal.

En ek het ook al hoeveel keer (skaamteloos) gesê dat ek 'n redelike mislukking sou gewees het, was dit nie vir my eie vrou se rol in my lewe nie! Intendeel, ek sou maar lekker in my mo*r gewees het sonder haar. Vir haar rol, dikwels in die agtergrond en as klankbord (eintlik ook as *klaag*-bord) wanneer ek iewers stoom moes afblaas oor een of ander frustrasie of oportunisme of sinneloosheid wat my (halwe!) Duitse-bloed laat kook het, moet sy eintlik *danger pay* kry. Soos die spreekwoord lui: Agter elke (suksesvolle?!) man is daar 'n (suksesvoller!) vrou.

Dieselfde geld vir die vroue binne ons bedryf. Beslis ook binne Hortgro en die verskillende substrukture wat vreesloos, met groot onderskeiding, kundigheid en grasia hulle ding doen. Op direksies en produsenterade, en ook binne die transformasieprogramme en ekonomiese- en sosiale-ontwikkelingruimte, is daar talle stories van vreeslose vroue wat 'n verskil maak. Hulle toewyding, passie, kundigheid en bydrae op soveel terreine, is werklik onontbeerlik vir ons as bedryf, die landbousektor in die algemeen, in ons gemeenskappe en in ons privaat lewens.

Daarom is dit regtig 'n skreiende skande en aanklag (in Engels = indictment) teen ons as mans, dat daar soveel vroue is wat misbruik word en onveilig is, selfs in hulle eie huise. Ongelukkig is fisiese, emosionele, seksuele en ekonomiese misbruik oor kleur, ouderdom en maatskaplike grense heen, 'n realiteit en absoluut tragies en totaal onaanvaarbaar.

Dit is tyd dat ons as mans aanspreeklikheid aanvaar en verseker dat hierdie toedrag van sake omgekeer en reggestel word. En ook ons seuns leer - sodat die siklus gebreek kan word.

Dus: Manne staan op en doen iets.

Tot volgende keer.

Anton Rabe

Everyone has the human right to live in safety and free from violence and abuse. Society has a duty to recognise and defend this right – Women's Aid.

One man with courage makes a majority – Andrew Jackson.

→ HORTGRO UPCOMING EVENTS

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

→ HORTGRO PUBLICATIONS

- **Timely Hints**
 - [September 2025](#)
 - **Fresh Notes**
 - [225 Feedback of a Packhouse Action Group \(PAG\) meeting held in July 2025](#)
 - **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](#)



EDITORIAL TEAM

Elise-Marie Steenkamp - elise-marie@hortgro.co.za

Sylvester Moatshe - sylvester@hortgro.co.za

Alisa Farr - alisa@hortgro.co.za

CONTACT US

021 870 2900

www.hortgro.co.za

[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt Out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

258 Main St, Buitenverwagting | Paarl, Western Cape 7646 ZA

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

