



KEEPING IT FRESH

fpef
fresh produce
EXPORTERS' FORUM
SOUTH AFRICA

News from the FPEF – 09 March 2022

Dear FPEF Members,

Amidst increasing volumes of fresh fruit to be exported, our industry's resilience is constantly tested; if not by the local logistics challenges, then by other disruptions such as the conflict in Eastern Europe and the apparent resurgence of Covid infections and deaths in some of our markets. As always, our industry seems to find solutions to continue.

The latest communication we have shared with you regarding the Russian/Ukraine situation was that most shipping lines will not sail to Russia and discharge cargo destined for Russia at the ports of Rotterdam, Antwerp and Bremerhaven. This leads to congestion in those ports as each consignment needs to be scanned. Payment remains an issue because of sanctions against Western banks and suspension of SWIFT payments. The situation however, changes daily and we will continue updating you.

The finalisation of **market access applications** is still not progressing as soon as what we would like. However, some positive news is that the protocol for the export of pears to **China**, has eventually been finalised and implemented and the Chinese authorities are already working on our application for avocados.

We would like to inform you that we are now officially a member of the **Cape Chamber of Commerce**.

REMINDER: "HAVE YOUR SAY"

Herewith a reminder to request that you assist us to stop the new mandatory cold treatment portion of the upcoming EU emergency legislation on False Codling Moth which threatens the 2022 import season of South African oranges. **Please assist to stop this new legislation by lodging your objection on the European Commission's "Have Your Say" website at the latest tomorrow, 10th of March 2022.**

The Minister of DALRRD recently appointed **new members** to serve on the **Agricultural Products Agents' Council (APAC)**.

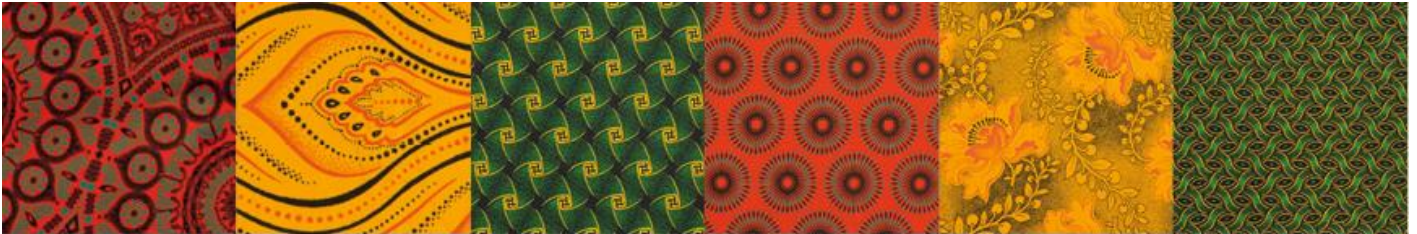
We are pleased to inform you that three of the people whom we nominated were appointed to represent export agents:

- **Angelo Petersen (ex-Capespan and former Chairman of APAC in 2006 – 2012)**
- **Aileen Zulch (Tru-Cape)**
- **Liezl Gelderblom (Producer Ally)**

We thank them on behalf of our industry for their willingness to serve the industry in this capacity and wish them every success.

Fruit Logistica Berlin 2022

All members interested in attending **Fruit Logistica Berlin 2022**, can buy **visitor tickets** here:
<https://www.fruitlogistica.com/en/trade-visitors/tickets/> at a discount of 15 EUR for 70 EUR with voucher
code: **AV_SW@FRUIT2022_110**



You are invited to join us at the
**SOUTH AFRICAN
PAVILION** 
at **MESSE BERLIN
HALL 26 / C19**

2022

**FRUIT LOGISTICA
BERLIN
5 - 7 APRIL**



Asia Fruit Logistica 2022

the dtic extends an invitation to apply to participate in the Asia Fruit Logistica 2022 exhibition, scheduled to take place from 07 – 09 September 2022 in Hong Kong. The deadline date for the submission of complete National Pavilion application forms is 07 April 2022. For more information, please contact Marletta Kellerman:
marletta@fpéf.co.za

Improved cold treatments = increased exports

False codling moth disinfestation treatments that are progressively more successful, efficient, cost-effective and scientifically defensible remain a goal for South African researchers.

Every new export market that has opened for South African citrus since 1999 that required official bilateral negotiations to establish a protocol, has required that fruit receive a stand-alone cold disinfestation treatment, usually specifically for false codling moth (FCM). It is very important that South Africa execute this system effectively, to the satisfaction of the EU, otherwise export opportunities to this market could be compromised for the producers. This needs to be avoided at all costs, as the South African citrus industry alone exports more than 35% of its produce to Europe annually.

Additionally, as South Africa's other export markets grow in volumes, conventional cold disinfestation (sub-zero temperatures for 22 days or more) becomes increasingly less feasible.

With so much at stake, a project was designed to refine existing and develop improved cold treatments that are less onerous, both as standalone disinfestation treatments and as components within a systems approach. As part of a systems approach, the precise level of mortality required by a specific cold treatment is determined by the measured efficacy of the preceding steps in the system.

The study

According to project leader, **Dr Sean Moore**, previous studies have quantified the efficacy of cold treatments at 1°C, 2°C, 3°C and 4°C for different durations against fourth and fifth instar FCM. "What remains to be done, are trials at these temperatures that test various other parameters such as extended time periods, effects of cold treatments on different FCM populations, field-collected larvae in fruit vs larvae in artificial diet, and characterisation of symptoms of larvae surviving cold treatments, indicative of continued survival or mortality thereafter."



Dr Sean Moore, CRI.

Notable findings

To achieve 100% mortality of FCM larvae with temperatures of 0, 1, 2, 3 and 4°C, durations of 16, 19, 20, 24 and 28 days were required, respectively. For a temperature of 1.2°C to provide Probit-9 efficacy as a postharvest disinfestation treatment for FCM, 19 days is the absolute minimum time required.

Cold treatment of 28 days at 4.5°C will result in 100% mortality of FCM larvae.

Next steps

Although a tremendous amount of progress has been made in developing full and abbreviated cold treatments for FCM for phytosanitary disinfestation use, work in this field will need to continue for as long as FCM remains a regulated pest. The development and implementation of an even wider range of improved cold treatments will preserve and grow fruit export industries worth an estimated R30 billion per year.

"With the development of effective and practical treatments, we can be instrumental in not only keeping our high-value fruit industry afloat, but can even facilitate increased exports, including to new markets," concludes Prof Moore.



Dr Marcel van der Merwe and Luke Cousins inoculating oranges with FCM eggs for cold treatment trials (photo: David Taylor)



A mature FCM larva (photo: David Taylor)

And then, last but not least you would have noticed that you don't receive communication from Claudia Walklett in our office anymore. That is because she is now **Mrs Ross** after getting married 02-02-2022 at 2:20 pm. Congratulations once again Claudia!

*Kind regards,
Anton Kruger*

