



**Dear FPEF Members,**

With the onset of the 2020 Spring season, South Africa is still in the COVID-19 lockdown - as was the case with the onset of Autumn and Winter - however, on different alert levels. Indeed, a strange year, but again it showed the resilience of our industry. Quite a few of us had the experience of being in South Africa for a longer consecutive period than what we have been used to in the past. At this stage, it seems it will remain as such with South Africa's borders still closed and physical **international trade shows** having been cancelled and/or converted into virtual events. The events are:



#### **Asia Fruit Logistica 2020**

Please visit <https://www.asiafruitlogistica.com/> to register for Asia Fruit Logistica ON (the digital format). The date is from 18 to 20 November.

#### **PMA Fresh Summit 2020**

Please note that the PMA's *Fresh Summit* in October (13th to 15th) will be a virtual event. For more information, please visit <https://www.pma.com/events/freshsummit>.

#### **Fruit Attraction Madrid:**

FPEF is waiting for feedback from Fruit Attraction Madrid if there will be a virtual platform available.

#### **PHILIPPINES - MARKET ACCESS FOR CITRUS**



It is a pleasure to share some good news with you regarding market access for citrus to the Philippines! There are some pre-conditions and industry is engaging DALRRD to try and see if some shipments are possible in 2020 to test the system. It is really heartening to see that the time and money spent on visits to the Philippines for the past couple of years, were worth our while.

It is almost time for our annual **Transformation webinar** which will take place on **16 September** via **ZOOM** from **10h00 to 12h00**. The Webinar is aimed at business leaders within the fresh produce export value chain. Our speakers this year are Prof JJ “Dons” Kritzinger, former professor at the University of Pretoria and former director of IMER, now retired and involved in community work in Clarens and Mahlatse Mashua regional director for RZIM Africa and senior consultant to the Kolisi Foundation. Mahlatse is an accomplished speaker with a passion for exploring conversations on justice, conflict resolution and race relations. **Please RSVP to [johannes@fpéf.co.za](mailto:johannes@fpéf.co.za).**

## FPEF TRANSFORMATION WEBINAR

Wednesday 16 September  
10h00 - 12h00

FREE



From the FPEF's side we are involved in the development of moving away from paper-based export documentation. One such example is **TITAN 2.0** which has reached a milestone of capturing 1 million cartons on 27 August since its inception in November 2019. Some benefits of TITAN 2.0 are: real time information, electronic certification for export, integration with the Tracking Unit Register (TUR) and clients can apply for electronic phyto-sanitary certificates via the ePhyto platform.

As the FPEF is the official **fresh produce Export Council** registered with the dtic, we are closely involved in some of the activities and initiatives of the department. The latest was the launch of the **Export Barriers Monitoring Mechanism (EBMM)** on Monday 31 August. We provided information to the relevant presenters and thus our industry has received considerable exposure. The main objective of this initiative is to provide a single entity through which the barrier can be managed - both within South Africa and internationally. Any matter that is limiting an exporter to competitively export can be reported. The FPEF will report issues of which we are aware and which you inform us about, but individual exporters and other entities involved in the supply chain, can also report it individually at: [ExportBarriers@thedtic.gov.za](mailto:ExportBarriers@thedtic.gov.za). The mechanism also gives the FPEF, as Export Council, the opportunity to improve our monitoring of the export environment.

### **KOREA**

Interim measures to the pre-clearance program of Citrus fruits (Orange, Lemon and Grapefruit) produced in the Republic of South Africa for the Republic of Korea, has been reviewed. Citrus exports from South Africa may continue, as these interim measures will be extended for September and South Korea will accept the phytosanitary certificates of South Africa issued by 30 September.

### **STRENGTHENING OF THE FMS SYSTEM FOR EXPORTS TO THE EU**



**The following temporary measure, to prevent further FCM interceptions in the EU in 2020, will apply as of 01 September 2020 for the remainder of the season.**

For the export of oranges (*Citrus sinensis*) to the EU in Reefer Containers, as of 01 September 2020, PPECB will only allow exporters to make a booking for such exports under shipping regime codes as specified under Option C in the Citrus FMS. FMS Category A oranges will also be allowed to be shipped under shipping regime code ECW0 out of the Cape Town port.

The additional measure applies only to oranges shipped in containers. Requirements for other citrus types and specialised reefer vessel (conventional) shipments remain unchanged. Where other citrus types are combined with oranges in a mixed consignment, the temporary measure will apply to the consignment in accordance with the principle of the lowest common denominator.



### **SATI/FPEF COVID-19 TASKTEAM**

The Task team function primarily as a central hub of communication and liaising during the coming 2020/2021 season. The aim is to plug into relevant information sources like that of Agbiz and AgriSA and others to assist producers with the most relevant Covid-19 related information. Unsolved questions will be referred to the relevant organisation for assistance. Updated information on COVID-19 regulations and measures for implementation at pack house level, will be circulated in due course.

### **B4SA NOTES ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESUMPTION OF UIF TERS PAYMENTS**

Business for South Africa (B4SA) notes the announcement by the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) that Temporary Employer/Employee Relief Scheme (TERS) benefits are to resume following a halting of payments due to investigations into system integrity problems.

“The move is greeted with relief, though it is still unclear why it was necessary to bring the entire system to a standstill for several days,” says B4SA Labour Workstream chair Robert Legh.



### **AgriCAREERConnect 2020, VIRTUAL**

This is your company's opportunity to engage with young graduates with fresh thinking attitudes. Be the first in line to spot and employ the fresh new minds of our industry - for first jobs, internships, or holiday work.



Last year's AgriCAREERConnect events reached more than 1000 students, and exhibitors were impressed with the high calibre of talent. AgriCAREERConnect Virtual 2020 is again organised in close collaboration with universities of Pretoria and Stellenbosch. Attracting students to AgriCAREERConnect Virtual 2020 is easy, as universities have been teaching students virtually since March this year, resulting in established and effective communication channels. The dates and venues are as follows:

**University of Pretoria - 8 October 2020**

**Stellenbosch University - 15 October 2020**

*Please use the following link to participate: <https://www.agrijob.co.za/agricareerconnect/>*

Herewith, a **summary of the rules and regulations** which have been published in the Government Gazette since the previous edition of *Keeping it Fresh*:

<b><i>New directions issued for Alert level 2</i></b>	<a href="#">Directions for air travel</a> <a href="#">Directions for public transport</a> <a href="#">Directions for tourism</a> <a href="#">Home affairs amendment level 2</a>
<b><i>New directions: Sport, Arts &amp; Culture</i></b>	<a href="#">Amendments for level 2</a>



Amidst all the things happening around us with COVID-19, the fact that the **FPEF celebrates its 20 years of operating** under the name of the **Fresh Produce Exporters' Forum**, almost got neglected. You will be informed about the activities being planned to celebrate it in due course, but at this stage we can mention that it will be focussed on recognition to you as our members.

***Kind regards  
Anton***