



Consumer Assurance and MRL Update

Korean MRL changes

South Korea is moving away from their existing MRL-setting approach (i.e. to refer to the Codex MRLs where no Korean MRL is set) to creating a positive list of MRLs for each citrus type. This means that unless there is sufficient data to support “Codex” MRLs these will be removed from the positive list and a default level of detection (or similar level) will apply. In June 2016 the first list of proposed MRLs is likely to be published and then a final list sometime in 2017. Therefore the changes are not going to impact the 2016 season but will start making a difference in 2017. There is an opportunity to make sure key actives are “included” in the positive list system and CGA will be working with PPP suppliers in South Africa and counterparts in the US and Australia to bring down the costs of retaining some of these key actives.

Food Business Operator Registration for South Korea

In Cutting Edge 206 released in November 2015 exporters sending fruit to Korea were alerted to the fact that they would need to register as a Food Business Operator in Korea. There was some confusion at the time but further follow-up information suggested the implementation of the requirements was delayed. New information and clarity can now be provided, including:

- Both exporters **and** packhouses have to register. This is to ensure cartons arriving in Korea are inspected by the Food Safety Office and shall bear the name and address of the exporter and packhouse – the details of which will need to correspond to parties already registered on the Korean database.
- The final date of registration is the 4th August 2016. The registration will be valid for two years, thereafter registration renewal is required.
- The link to the registration page is: www.foodsafetykorea.go.kr but you will need to navigate this in Korean. It is therefore suggested you work with your receiver to ask if they can provide assistance to register.

Confronting Climate Change (CCC): Carbon Foot-printing

CGA congratulates the CCC Project team for receiving a bronze certificate in the EnviroPaedia Eco-Logic Awards: Climate Change Category on the 21st April 2016. Well done to all involved.

The growth in the number of citrus producers benchmarking their carbon footprint has grown steadily over the last four years to 181 data points (compare: year 1 = 31; year 2 = 100; year 3 = 163). Still more producers could benefit from the information coming off the data platform, allowing new participants the opportunity to identify areas to reduce their energy consumption and therefore energy bills. Dates for future benchmarking workshops are below. One does not need to wait for a workshop to start – see the CCC website www.climatefruitandwine.co.za to begin the exercise on your own!

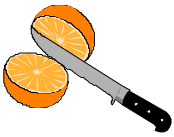
DATE	TIME	TOWN
21 st June	9:00-12:00	Ceres
20 th July	9:00-12:00	Stellenbosch
3 August	1:00-4:00	Kakamas
7 th September	9:00-12:00	De Doorns
18 th October	1:00-4:00	Brits/Rustenburg
20 th October	1:00-4:00	Hectorspruit
26 th October	10:00-1:00	Citrusdal
2 nd November	9:00-12:00	Kirkwood

CCC Train-the-trainer workshops are also being offered by the CCC team and contact should be made with them regarding the dates.

Carbon Tax for Agriculture

It is important that citrus producers have a plan regarding the Carbon Tax for agriculture when it kicks in. The CCC team have also summarized a paper entitled “*Making sense of the impending Carbon Tax and its implication for South African fruit and wine farmers*”. This publication is available on the CGA website or from the CCC team and covers:

- What is a Carbon Tax and why is it being implemented?
- When will it be introduced?
- How will it work?
- What are the implications for agriculture?
- What should I do to prepare for the Carbon Tax and how can the CCC assist?



Tesco Nurture PPPL and RAG update

The SA Year 11 PPPLs for hard and soft citrus expires on the 17th July 2016. CGA will coordinate inputs into the next PPPL and so growers and other interested parties are requested to direct these inputs to ph@cga.co.za before the 25th May 2016.

Indonesia – Country Recognition

South Africa received Country Recognition status by the Indonesians on the 11th April 2016. A revised SOP has been published by DAFF which is now already in effect. A Fruit South Africa contingent visited Indonesia last week and confirmed that all citrus types (including Mandarin-types) can be sent to Indonesia, and importantly shipments can enter via Jakarta port. The phytosanitary requirements for all citrus types are those applicable to oranges as stipulated in regulation 42/Permentan/OT.140/6/2012 (i.e. 2-3 degrees C and 16-18 days).

Recommended Usage Restriction

The next version of the Recommended Usage Restrictions will be released shortly (in a week or two), the previous version being November 2015.

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