



# Cutting Edge / Snykant

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## UNCERTIFIED PLANT MATERIAL POSES A RISK

By Hannes Bester

It has come to CRI's attention that budwood, especially certain new cultivars, is being cut in orchards for the purpose of making citrus trees for commercial plantings. This budwood has not been shoot-tip grafted which is an imperative process as it destroys dangerous pathogens. Budwood that has not been shoot-tip grafted can potentially cause problems of the type encountered in the past, e.g. Exocortis in Benny Valencia, Impietratura in the Nkwaleni Valley, and seed in seedless Eureka lemons.

**Producers are warned not to make use of uncertified budwood material and to abide by the regulations regarding citrus plant material. This will ensure that orchards will not be destroyed by the Department of Agriculture and that no risks will be imposed by orchards containing trees grown from uncertified budwood.** It is in all producers' interests to prevent the infection and spread of citrus diseases. Enormous losses occurred in Australia during the past season due to the presence of citrus canker cause by the use of illegal plant material.

When planning new citrus plantings, it is strongly recommended that producers insist on certified material irrespective of the nursery from where the material is purchased, and that enquiries be made regarding the origin of the plant material. Certified citrus trees must conform to certain minimum standards to protect producers from dangerous diseases and inferior plant material.

Queries regarding the above can be directed to Thys du Toit (Manager: CIP) at the Citrus Foundation Block, Tel: 041-9925366; Cell: 0828892363 or email at [tdt@cri.co.za](mailto:tdt@cri.co.za).

## ONGESERTIFISEERDE PLANTMATERIAAL SKEP RISIKO

deur Hannes Bester

Dit het onder die aandag van CRI gekom dat enthout, van veral sekere nuwe kultivars, in boorde gesny word om bome vir kommersiële aanplantings te maak. Hierdie materiaal het nie deur groeipunt-enting gegaan om skadelike patogene uit te skakel nie, en kan gevolglik potensieel dieselfde tipe probleme veroorsaak as wat Exocortis in die Bennie Valencia, Impietratura in die Nkwaleni-vallei en saad in saadlose Eureka suurlemoene in die verlede veroorsaak het.

**Produsente word gewaarsku om nie van ongesertifiseerde plantmateriaal gebruik te maak nie en om die wetgewing op die beweging van sitrus plantmateriaal na te kom. Dit sal verseker dat boorde nie deur die Departement van Landbou vernietig sal word omdat dit bepaalde risiko's vir die bedryf inhou nie.** Nakoming hiervan is in almal se belang om die infestasië en verspreiding van siektes ten alle koste te verhoed. Groot verliese as gevolg van sitruskanker is die afgelope seisoen in Australië gelei as gevolg van die gebruik van onwettige plantmateriaal.

Wanneer enige nuwe aanplantings beplan word, word sterk aanbeveel dat produsente aandring op gesertifiseerde bome, ongeag by watter kwekery dit bestel word, en dat navraag gedoen word oor die bron van die plantmateriaal. Gesertifiseerde bome moet aan sekere minimum standaarde voldoen om produsente teen gevaarlike siektes en minderwaardige plantmateriaal te beskerm.

Enige navrae in hierdie verband kan aan Thys Du Toit (Bestuurder: SVS) by die Citrus Grondvesblok gerig word by Tel. 041-9925366; Sel: 0828892363 of per e-pos by [tdt@cri.co.za](mailto:tdt@cri.co.za).