

HORTGRO 

ANNUAL REVIEW 2019

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This report provides an overview of the range of functions and services delivered by Hortgro and its related industry sub-structures throughout 2019.

HORTGRO JAAROORSIG

Hierdie oorsig gee 'n blik op die reeks funksies en dienste wat deur Hortgro en verwante bedryfsubstrukture gedurende 2019 gelewer is.

NOTE

Due to constraints, it is not possible to provide all the content in both our operating languages (English and Afrikaans). We tried to balance the content as far as possible. Should you require a translation of a specific section in this report, or more detail on any aspect, please contact us. We appreciate your understanding in this matter.

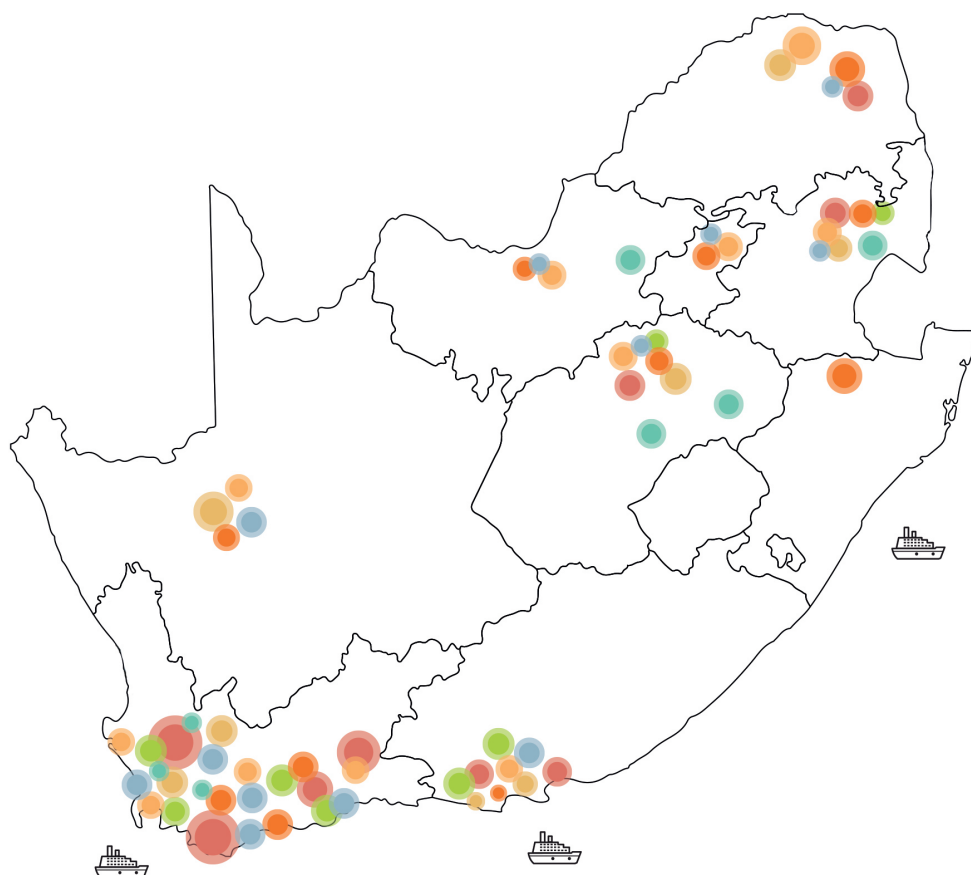
NOTA

Weens koste- en spasiebeperkings is dit nie moontlik om die verslag in beide die twee hoofbedryfstale (Afrikaans en Engels) te publiseer nie. Ons het sover as moontlik probeer om die verslag tussen die twee tale te balanseer. Indien daar 'n spesifieke gedeelte is wat u graag in die ander taal, of in meer detail wil sien, kontak ons gerus. Ons waardeer u begrip hiervoor.

At HORTGRO we focus on
production research and
technology, communication,
trade and markets, and
transformation within the
deciduous fruit industry.

We support the grower.

Area Under Cultivation Per Deciduous Fruit Type



APPLES (24 176 ha)

PEARS (12 319 ha)

APRICOTS (2 737 ha)

PEACHES (6 586 ha)

NECTARINES (2 100 ha)

PLUMS (5 486 ha)

CHERRIES (388 ha)

Vision

INSPIRING INCLUSIVE GROWTH

Mission

To create an enabling environment for all industry stakeholders to enhance equity, sustainability, profitability and competitiveness of the pome, stone and related horticultural industries through the following programmes:

Communication and industry representation

Economic development and land reform

Good governance, administration and financial management

Independent evaluation (cultivars and rootstocks)

Industry information and statistics

Plant material management, including cultivar development and acquisition

Plant improvement and certification

Scientific research, development and technology transfer

Skills and human resource development, including socio-economic development

Technical market access, protocols and product standards

Trade and market development, including market intelligence

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General Review



Board of Directors



Nicholas Dicey
Chairman & Pome
Director

Nicholas Dicey is a fruit producer from the Wolseley district. He has served the industry on various boards over several decades. He is currently the Hortgro Chairperson and the Hortgro Pome Chairperson. He is also the President of the World Apple and Pear Association.



Dr Mono Mashaba
Director

Dr Mono Mashaba is the Managing Director of Africa Excel Advisory Services - a consulting company advising SA fruit industry associations to broaden their international market access. He spent eight years in China as an agriculture attaché at the South African Embassy in Beijing facilitating market access for South African agriculture products to the East Asian markets. He also serves as a Director for FPEF as well as PPECB, and various other industry organisations.



Bongiwe Njobe
Director

Bongiwe Njobe studied in Bulgaria and was the longest serving Director-General for the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries - holding the position for eight years. She is the Managing Director of her own company and joined Hortgro as director in 2016. She also serves on various other boards.



Anton Rabe
Executive Director

Anton Rabe studied agricultural economics and had a brush with journalism before he fell head over heels into the deciduous fruit world. He has been the frontrunner of the industry for more than two decades and spearheads the transformation of the industry with passion and pragmatism.



Pitso Sekhoto
Director

Pitso Sekhoto is an accounting graduate and businessman from the Free State who entered the deciduous fruit industry ten years ago. He is also a board member of the DFDC, ASUF and AFASA.



André Smit
Stone Director

André Smit has been at the helm of Hortgro Stone since 2015. He has extensive experience 'on farm' and in the industry. His passion is to help close the gap between producer and consumer.

General Overview

Anton Rabe
Executive Director

Dis dit het 'n cliché geword dat verandering die enigste konstante is en dat die tempo van daardie verandering toeneem. By Hortgro, sien, ervaar, en beleef ons dit elke dag. Nuwe kwessies en nuwe uitdagings wat tradisioneel nie op die agenda van 'n bedryfsorganisasie soos Hortgro sou beland nie, is nou ter tafel. Die omgewing waarbinne ons werk, waar owerheidsdienste en funksies toenemend faal, laat ons met geen ander keuse as om van die take en verantwoordelikhede aan te pak nie. Die uitdaging bly om nie alles vir almal te probeer wees nie, maar om te fokus op sleutelkwessies wat 'n bemagtigende omgewing vir ons lede kan skep waarbini hulle in 'n uiters kompeterende wêreldmark kan oorleef en volhoubaar en winsgewend kan bly produseer.

In the 2018 Hortgro annual review, I indicated that it was “the most difficult and challenging” year that I have experienced in more than 30 years in the industry. I can now say with equal conviction that 2019 was no less difficult and challenging, but for different reasons. The knock-on effect of the drought had a huge impact on the quantity and quality of the 2018/19 crop. We can expect significant changes in our crop/product mix in traditional production regions with a new look at deciduous and related crop production in non-traditional areas. Going forward, the pressure on climate-adapted plant material tried and tested in various microclimates will also remain a high priority.

Whilst we have experienced more winter rainfall in many of our production regions with a positive outlook for 2020, the drought is still devastatingly real in especially the Little Karoo. The hardships of our producers, their workers, and their families, and the broader rural communities is heartbreaking and we can all only try to assist in whatever little way we can. The re-development of this area will be one of our main focus areas for years to come, whilst the continued lack of drought-assistance and risk mitigation for long term crops urgently needs to be addressed.

Produksie in ander provinsies was meer normaal, maar volgehoue beleidsonsekerheid met betrekking tot ons produksiefaktore (grond, water en arbeid); volgehoue uitdagings met ekonomiese ontwikkeling en transformasie van ons bedryf se waardeketting waar toegang tot voldoende fondse ons hoofprioriteit is; stadige marktoegangsprosesse met betrekking tot nie net nuwe markte nie, maar ook die behoud van ons bestaande markte, is enkele van die makro-uitdagings waarmee ons daagliks stoei en konstruktief planne voor probeer maak. Die reeks kwessies en fokusareas rakende produksie, markte/handel en transformasie, waarmee Hortgro en sy substrukture (ook in alliansie met ander bedrywe en binne VrugteSA (FruitSA)) te doene kry, word deurlopend in hierdie verslag tegelig.

We are heartened by some positive signs flowing from the country's new leadership after the general election in May 2019. It is clear that the horticultural industry – and specifically the fruit exporting sector – is very high on the agenda of various government departments. Our sector ticks all the proverbial “boxes” of the various aspects that are vital for the rebuilding and transformation of our country with economic development and empowerment in the value chain, job creation, rural development, including housing and ownership of houses, and the earning of foreign exchange.

If we continue to create and build on the linkages via continued effective public private partnerships – of which we have some very good working examples – we will materially change the face and nature of our sector as contemplated in the National Development Plan and various other strategies, policies, and plans.

As a public-private collective, we just need to implement those plans and strategies and align the limited resources, capacity, and expertise in the public and private sectors. We need to think and do differently.

Om die vele bedryfsuitdagings suksesvol aan te spreek is Hortgro se voortgesette deelname aan forums en werkgroepe noodsaaklik. Op die korttermyn moet daar dringende oplossings gevind word vir uitdagings by hawens en met logistieke infrastruktuur, want daarsonder kan produkte fisies nie uitgevoer word nie. Nog 'n uitdaging is om markte vinniger toeganklik te kry vir 'n wye verskeidenheid produkte. Ander kwessies moet op die medium- en langtermyn aandag kry. Wat wel met sekerheid gesê kan word, is dat internasionale handelstendense met betrekking tot die vloei van mense, produkte en dienste na dese nooit weer dieselfde gaan wees nie. Verdere makro-veranderinge gaan volg op die rug van die VSA-China handelsoorlog, die volgehoue geskille tussen die EU en Rusland, asook 'n ontstuiimige en rigtinglose Brexit. Dit skep uiteraard uitdagings en risiko's, maar net so is daar ook geleenthede hierin opgesluit wat ons tot voordeel van ons land en bedryf moet benut.

Daar moet ook indringend na die waterbeleid gekyk word sodat water vir langer periodes opgegaar kan word. In die opsig, is die herhaalde vertragings met die verhoging van die Clanwilliam-damwal, verbeterings by die Brandvleidam, en die gebrekkige instandhouding van kanale en uitkeerwalle om beskikbare water meer effektief op te vang, om die minste te sê, skokkend.

Verskeie ander produksiekwessies soos: klimaatsaangepaste kultivars, effektiewe watergebruik deur nuwe tegnologie, en gebruik van nette om opbrengs en gehalte te verhoog, groterwordende omgewingsrisiko's en bekostigbare versekering, asook vinnige en voldoende ramphulp, moet oor die mediumtermyn aangespreek en opgelos word.

Hortgro continued is participation in collective fruit actions via FruitSA and the Fruit Industry Value Chain Round Table (FIVCRT) where key issues relating to trade, resources, infrastructure, research and labour are being addressed. The objective remains to develop and adopt a Social Accord through which the various social partners commit themselves to key programmes to materially transform the sector.

During the past year we also successfully motivated and applied for a new industry levy cycle. The proposals linked to a clear action plan to focus on the needs and priorities of the industry with very high (+95%) producer support. We also now successfully integrated the dried tree fruit sector and the cherry producers into the Hortgro structure. Hortgro also continues to provide a range of services to alternative crops. This is reported later on in this review.

In addition to the various levies, Hortgro administered a number of grants and plays an integral role in entities providing user pay-services to the broader industry. This includes entities such as SAPO, Culdevco, FruitFly Africa and the SA Fruit Journal. Over the next few years a Tissue Culture Facility will also be established to ensure that virus-free and true to type rootstock and scion material can be supplied to nurseries for further propagation.

Levies administered during 2018/19

EXPORT AND DOMESTIC VOLUMES

Apples (Fresh Fruit)
4,75 cents per kg

Apple Concentrate
R8,75 per fresh ton

Pears
4,75 cents per kg

Apricots
19 cents per kg

Peaches and Nectarines*
12 cents per kg

Plums
15,75 cents per kg

EXPORT MARKET DEVELOPMENT

Apricots
10 cents per kg

Peaches and Nectarines*
20 cents per kg

Plums
9,5 cents per kg

Apples and Pears
2,8 cents per kg

* including cling peaches

Principal Members





Hortgro Pome

Nicholas Dicey
Hortgro Pome Chairman

The 2019 apple and pear season can be described as one where although more normal rainfall was experienced in most of the regions, the climatic conditions during blossom time led to some challenges on the quality side, whilst some varieties were negatively affected on the volume side. At the time of writing and in comparison with the 2018 season, apple exports were up 7% while pear exports stayed the same.

The marketing of our fruit also presented us with challenges with certain markets being somewhat oversupplied with a "basket of fruit". Some of these markets were, therefore, less attractive than in the past. This sentiment was not only confined to the South African industry. During the World Apple and Pear Association (WAPA) meeting held in Belgium in August 2019 many of the European delegates also sketched a very negative picture of how their previous season had played out.

Marktoegang en die behoud van bestaande markte, is belangrike items op die Hortgro Pome begroting en bly kritieke bedryfsaktiwiteite vir die personeel. Hierdie boodskap is ook baie duidelik vanuit die bedryf ontvang tydens verskeie gebiedsvergaderings wat vroeër in die die jaar gehou is en wat op die hernuwing van die bedryf se statutêre maatreëls gefokus het. 'n Herprioritisering van die begroting het daartoe gelei dat daar voortaan meer fokus op bogenoemde aspekte geplaas gaan word. Gedurende die jaar is verskeie vergaderings met die departement van landbou gehou om die kritiese belang van marktoegang te beklemtoon en om nuwe maniere te kry om samewerking op hierdie terrein tot voordeel van nie net die appel- en peerbedryf nie, maar ook die hele land te bewerkstellig.

The Hortgro Pome Board as well as the Pome Producer Council met on numerous occasions during the year to debate the activities that make a positive difference to our producers. The budget items of especially Research and Development, Trade and Market Access, Transformation and Training and General Industry Services and Communication were thoroughly debated to ensure that the producer levy is being spent in the correct and most cost-effective way. Not only does the industry call on its board and council members to give inputs on behalf of the industry, but there are also numerous other platforms that call on experts and representatives within the industry to add value and give the board and personnel additional support on specific technical and marketing matters. Specific areas that were focused on include amongst others the new plant breeding and acquisition strategy, independent evaluation, continued debates on transformation objectives and strategies which included comments on the expropriation without compensation issue, market access and retention, and effective communication strategies.

Daar is toenemend druk op ons bedryfsorganisasie om meer kwessies as ooit tevore te hanteer. Dit plaas groot druk op die begroting en kapasiteit van Hortgro se personeel, van wie daar verwag word om meer dienste met 'n beperkte begroting te verrig. Fokus op kerndienste en funksies en vermyding van enige duplikasie bly 'n prioriteit in ons oorsigrol. Potlode is herhaaldelik skerp gemaak en berekeninge weer en weer gedoen, om te verseker dat die styging van die heffing vir die volgende 4-jaar siklus (vanaf Oktober 2019) binne perke bly, maar dat maksimum uitsette tot voordeel van die bedryf behaal word.

The contribution, time and effort spent by the Hortgro Pome Board and Hortgro Producer Council can therefore not be underestimated and I would like to thank them and all the personnel for their inputs in helping steer the strategic direction of our industry and ensuring that we remain a competitive and relevant participant in the world apple and pear environment. Together with Anton Rabe and his very capable team, Hortgro Pome strives to create an enabling environment in often very turbulent times for the apple and pear producer to flourish in.

I wish all apple and pear producers a blessed and prosperous 2020 season.

Hortgro Stone

André Smit
Hortgro Stone Chairman

Being a farmer is not an accident. It is perseverance, hard work, learning, sacrifice and most of all, a love of what you do – these words truly describe the farmers in South Africa, and especially those in the drought-stricken areas. Despite the drought and although production volumes were down, farmers prevailed by still producing a crop worthy of all export standards and of high eating quality.

The 2018/2019 season was a very tough stone fruit season with a year-on-year decrease in export volumes. Apricots were down 21%, nectarines 5% and peaches and plums were down 15% and 14% respectively. A decrease in hectares, poor fruit set, and the ongoing drought in the Little Karoo (which is where the most fresh apricots are produced), contributed to the low apricot export volumes.

The decreases of nectarines, peaches, and plums can be attributed to a heatwave during October 2018, which had the largest negative impact on plums during the flowering period. This resulted in much lower than anticipated volumes; however, growers still managed to deliver an excellent crop.

Die grootste uitvoermarkte gedurende die 2018/2019-seisoen was Europa (39%), Verenigde Koninkryk (VK) (29%), Midde-Ooste (22%) en Verre Ooste en Asië (elk 4%). Alhoewel die fokus meer op uitvoere was, is die plaaslike mark steeds 'n hoë prioriteit vir die steenvrugbedryf. Die bedryf se strewe is om die plaaslike mark van dieselfde goeie kwaliteit vrugte te voorsien wat voldoen aan dieselfde standaarde en voedselveiligheid as wat deur die buitelandse mark vereis word.

Die vereniging het ook 'n naamsverandering ondergaan en SASPA sal voortaan as Hortgro Stone bekend staan. Hortgro Stone se fokus sluit onder meer in:

- Marktoegang en markontwikkeling (insluitend eetgereedprodukte/ ready to eat);
- Inligting en logistiek om die bedryf van tydige inligting te voorsien;
- Kommunikasie / beeld van die steenvrugbedryf met ander rolspelers;
- Kultivarverkryging (insluitend onderstamme); onafhanklike kultivarevaluering en plantverbetering;
- Regeringsverhoudinge;
- Navorsing en ontwikkeling (insluitend tegnologie en innovasie);
- Finansiële volhoubare, effektiewe en doeltreffende bedryfstrukture;
- Bedryfstransformasie, ekonomiese ontwikkeling en werkskepping;
- Sanitêre en fitosanitêre kwessies – vereistes raak al hoe strenger; en
- Internasionale netwerke.

The 2018 Hortgro tree census indicated that plum hectares are still increasing (+5% Y-O-Y) whilst peaches (both dessert and clings) and apricot hectares are on the decline; however the rate of decrease seemed to have slowed down. The drought had also contributed to older and more marginal hectares being taken out and utilisation of limited water to keep the premium trees alive. Nectarine plantings have now entered a consolidation phase with re-establishment taking place in the mid-season varieties. This will help to ensure a more balanced supply throughout the season. Plum investment is focused on red and black plums which help to extend the export season.

Marktoegangsvereistes word elke jaar strenger. Die steenvrugbedryf het die afgelope seisoen die Phytclean beheerstelsel vir valskodlingmot (FCM) en die uitvoer van perskes en nektariens na die Europese Unie en VK met groot sukses toegepas. Hierdie vereistes gaan toenemend uitbrei en ons kan verwag dat uitvoermarkte toenemend as sogenaamde "spesiale markte" hanteer sal word. Die doel van Phytclean is om as 'n bestuursbeheerstel aan die Suid-Afrikaanse oes-, verpakkings- en hanteringskant te dien om te verseker dat geen FCM uitgevoer word nie.

Highlights during the 2018/2019 stone fruit season can be summarised as follows:

- **The Joint Marketing Forum was well attended throughout the season, thereby contributing to the success of the industry in mitigating potential risks;**
- **Very good discipline within the industry by adhering to Phytclean and excellent cooperation by growers to manage and mitigate the risk of false codling moth. We had zero interceptions on nectarines and peaches in the EU during the past season.**
- **The continuation of various market development campaigns both internationally and locally.**
- **The renewal process of statutory measures for the period 2019 – 2023 with support by growers of 96% for both the traditional industry and trade and markets levies, and 95% support for the local market development levy.**

The 2019/2020 season is already underway and not without its challenges. The theoretical stone fruit estimate has been released and adjusted accordingly and export volumes are indicating a potential increase of between 6% and 15%, with the exception of apricots which is projected to be down by another 7%. This is mainly due to the fact that parts of the Little Karoo region which is the main production region for fresh apricots are still experiencing issues with water availability.

Over the last five years, many new orchards have been established and these young orchards will now start to come into bearing. Although the past winter received better rain, trees have taken stress over the past few seasons. It is the younger orchards that will be the main contributor to the positive year -on-year export increase. All stone fruit exported to the EU during 2019/20 must also now adhere to Phytclean in terms of fruit fly. As an industry, I know we can commit to all protocols and still deliver the excellent fruit that South Africa is renowned for.

Implementing these new market access requirements would not have been possible without the professional approach from the Hortgro personnel and cooperation from our growers. It is when we are faced with new technical and bureaucratic challenges that the value of a well-functioning industry body like Hortgro is highlighted.

It is a pleasure to serve as chairman yet again. I would also like to use this opportunity to thank my fellow board members, producer council, stone fruit producers and all industry stakeholders for their contribution and support at the various levels required to ensure that Hortgro Stone can continue to effectively serve its constituents and continue to create a stable and sustainable environment for the industry to thrive in.



3

Services



Management Services

Louis van Zyl
General Manager

Since its inception in 2005, Hortgro has been providing sound and cost-effective financial and administrative services to a number of horticultural industry structures. The number of entities that Hortgro services has since grown to 33 legal entities of which Hortgro Pome, Hortgro Stone, FruitFly Africa, SA Plant Improvement Organisation, Deciduous Fruit Producer's Trust, Fruit Workers Development Trust, SA Fruit Journal, Deciduous Fruit Industry Development Trust count as its principal clients. Hortgro has also been contracted to provide these services to a range of alternative crops such as berries, cape flora, figs, honey bush tea, olives, pecan nuts and pomegranates and focused groups such as SA Pink Lady, Greenstar Kanzi, Forelle Association, SA Fruit and Vegetable Canners Association and Sustainable Initiative of SA (SIZA).

Hortgro implements the statutory measures as provided by the Agricultural Products Marketing Act and collects statutory levies on behalf of the following organisations: Hortgro Pome, Hortgro Stone, Fruit Fly Africa, SA Olive, Cape Flora SA, Pomegranate Association of SA and SA Pecan Producers' Association. Levies are ring-fenced within dedicated accounts for every entity. In addition, Hortgro also invoices and collects payment for the various user pay industry services.

Hortgro is also contracted to implement various programmes in conjunction with other role players:

- The Treasury's Jobs Fund project in conjunction with contributions from the industry, the Western Cape Department of Agriculture (WCDA), and the Deciduous Fruit Development Chamber for the economic development of 21 BEE farms in Western and Eastern Cape
- The US Department of Agriculture's Agriculture, Plant Health Inspection Services (USDA APHIS) for the pre-clearance programmes for citrus, flower bulbs and deciduous fruit
- The WCDA for the Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP) to support emerging producers and the Alternative Crop Fund supporting emerging industries
- SIZA - for the SIZA electronic platform.

Die administratiewe funksies wat Hortgro aan die bedryf verskaf, sluit onder meer die volgende in:

Werk as 'n veranderingsagent vir grondhervorming, opleiding en ander sosio-ekonomiese dimensies wat die landbousektor raak.

Koördineer die inligtingvloei tussen verskillende regsentiteite en alternatiewe gewasse, provinsiale en nasionale regering en ander belangegroepe.

Verskaf inligting, landbou-ekonomiese norme en perspektiewe oor alle aspekte van die vrugtebedryf.

Die beskerming en uitbreiding van die marktaandeel gebaseer op tegniese ondersteuning en kommunikasie.

Verbeter die langtermyn ekonomiese lewensvatbaarheid en volhoubaarheid van die bedryf om sodoende die bedingingsposisie van produsente te verhoog.

Die gunstige posisionering van tuinbouprodukte onder teikengehore deur die insetkoste te verlaag, die verbetering van doeltreffendheid in die uitvoer-waardeketting gebaseer op langtermyn strategiese verhoudings.

Human Resources

Astrid Arendse

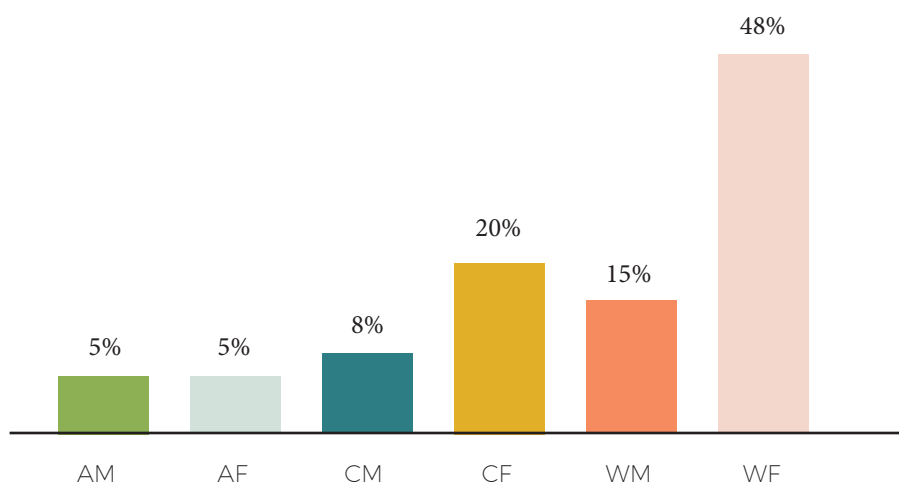
The main focus of the human resources department (HR) is to maximise the efficiency of the organisation through various HR functions. This includes:

- Recruitment, selection and maintaining an effective workforce.
- Employee wellness
- Employee development by creating opportunities to learn and grow.
- Skills development
- Compliance with statutory requirements
- Skills plans and reporting
- Employment equity plans and reporting
- Applications/motivation for AgriSETA/ grant funding
- Coordination of training and the bursary scheme.

In a rapidly changing environment with the 4th Industrial Revolution looming over us, where many new career opportunities within agriculture await, Hortgro continues to be a learning organisation. Our employees are motivated to develop their skills as part of their personal and professional journeys. Our internal bursary programme is another way in which we ensure that we attract and retain individuals with a passion for agriculture.

Employment Equity continues to remain an important factor within our country, our industry, and our organisation. We strive to fill available positions with qualified, passionate individuals from previously disadvantaged groups in order to more closely reflect the demographic.

Within Hortgro, we are focussed on nurturing our culture of Ubuntu by creating and maintaining a value system with a focus on respect, integrity, and accountability.



Hortgro Equity Figures 2019

Communications

Elise-Marie Steenkamp
Group Manager

Hortgro's Communication Department is currently operating on 40 different platforms that range from printed media, social media, newsletters, web sites, e-mail and the organising of a range of industry events. Over the past year, two independent media monitoring agencies namely, Red Book (print and broadcast) and Meltwater (social media) evaluated our outputs. Hortgro scored exceptionally well with a combined R24m in AVE (advertising value equivalent) and with more than 150 million people reached. Media monitoring is based on specific AMPS (all media products survey), algorithms and set formulas.

Events

Over the past year, Hortgro held 26 events and in that respect hosted almost 3,200 industry role-players. Of these, the Technical Symposium is our flagship event, which again drew an excellent mix of stakeholders with a cumulative total of 1413 delegates that attended the five-day event. In an effort to solve post-harvest problems, Hortgro Pome invested R2,5m in a world-class controlled atmosphere facility at Stellenbosch University. The facility was officially opened at the end of 2018.

Over the past year, Hortgro also created and was part of excellent stakeholder engagement opportunities. In January 2019 the then Department of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (DAFF) Minister, Senzeni Zokwana, and DAFF Director-General, Mike Mlangana, visited the deciduous fruit industry at Two-a-Day's facility in Grabouw. We also hosted several NAMC and Jobs Fund industry visits; the previous Western Cape Minister of Agriculture, Beverley Schäfer, delivered the keynote address at our annual bursary function; the current Western Cape Minister of Agriculture, Ivan Meyer, opened our Technical Symposium, and more recently David Maynier, Western Cape Minister of Economic Opportunities, visited Hortgro's office in Paarl where key challenges were highlighted.

On 17 April 2019, after successfully searching for a Witte Wijnappel tree in Holland and importing it back to South Africa, Hortgro and Tru-Cape Fruit Marketing re-planted the Witte Wijnappel in the Company's Garden (in Cape Town) near the place it originally stood. Similarly, in August 2019, Tru-Cape and Hortgro gifted a Witte Wijnappel tree to Babylonstoren for planting in its heritage garden.

In April we honoured legendary agriculturist and writer, Koos Lötter (92), for his contributions to the deciduous fruit industry and specifically also to the development of alternative crops. It is with great sadness that we learned that "Oom Koos" passed away in October 2019 – a true industry legend.

Agriculture often finds itself in a pit of negativity, which makes Agri's Got Talent, our singing competition for agricultural workers such a shining beacon of hope on our annual calendar. Similarly, we celebrate and acknowledge the hard work of individuals in the industry at our annual Fruit Industry Gala Awards Evening. This year, Pieter Graaff, was awarded the O.S.H. Reinecke Industry Leader Award, whilst Raymond Koopstad received the industry's New Generation Award.

We have also expanded our newsletter collection by introducing the Transformation Times. Together with the monthly Hortgro News, the Timely Hints, and the Fresh Notes, producers can pick and choose information sources. Hortgro Science's Fresh Quarterly is striding ahead as our science and technical publication, while the South African Fruit Journal welcomed Catherine Milward-Bridges as its new editor.

Our social media community is healthy, active, vibrant and strong. With:
An average of 7500 web visits every month



3 585 followers (Hortgro)
3016 followers (AGT)



1772 followers



728 followers



275 videos with 381
subscribers and
68 158 views.

Wat doen ons?

1

Ons kommunikasie-strategie is gewortel in reputasiebestuur (reputation management), die identifisering en strategiese bestuur van kommunikasie-risiko's (temas/persone/gebeure) wat Hortgro of die bedryf se reputasie kan skaad of wat valshede versprei. In die verband skakel ons gereeld met belangegroeppe en die algemene media op verskeie forums.

2

Strategiese boodskappe word op verskillende maniere en deur alle platforms/stories gewee. Hierdie boodskappe word gekoppel aan die Hortgro handelsmerk en openbare betrekkinge profiel en sluit in:

- Transformasie van vrugtebedryf deur te fokus op: vroue en die jeug; asook werkskepping; algemene sosiale opheffing in gemeenskappe.
- die belang van landbou vir SA ekonomie;
- gesondheidsfeite van ons produkte/die belang van vrugte in gesonde dieet;
- voedselveiligheid en voedselsekureit en
- etiese volhoubaarheid van die bedryf (arbeid/omgewing).

3

"Storie-vertel" as tegniek is 'n belangrike voertuig om inligting oor te dra; saam met uitstekende visuele kommunikasie is dit die beste resep vir kennisopname en gedragsverandering. Dit geld ook vir tegniese kennisoordrag, kritieke besigheidsinligting, en wetenskapkommunikasie.

Communication is a two-way street. We can only reach producers if we have their correct contact detail, therefore we urge producers to make sure that contact information is up to date (by contacting hortgro@hortgro.co.za).

Staying abreast with technology and innovation and in an effort to give producers more freedom and control in what, when, and where they receive information from Hortgro, we are rolling out an information app in the coming year. So watch this space...

Hortgro Science

Hugh Campbell
General Manager

Governance and Funding

Strategic leadership is provided by the Hortgro Science Advisory Council ably led by Stephen Rabe as chair. The other Hortgro Science Advisory Council members are: Grant Smuts (vice-chair), Linde du Toit, Frikkie Jacobs, Charl Stander, Louis von Broembsen, Raymond Koopstad, and Wesley Hendricks. Thanks are extended to Joseph Hendriks and William Myburgh for their contributions during their tenure of over 10 years which ended in 2019.

Progress on the five strategic initiatives that have driven Hortgro Science over the past four years is reported on in the Hortgro Science annual report for 2018/19. During August 2019 the council identified six key activities that will lead the process for the next period.

The three research programmes (production, crop protection, and post-harvest) have been aligned closely with the 17 focus workgroups that identify the research questions that are then transformed into research projects. Five peer work groups and four technical advisory groups reviewed all 96 research projects funded by the pome and stone fruit industry. The industry remains indebted to the 200 odd individuals who contribute to these workgroups.

The leverage of external funding has become more of a challenge. Funding through government agencies has reduced quite dramatically in recent years. The levy now represents 77% of the research funding - up from 51% in 2016/17.

Twenty research facilities were utilized to conduct research during 2018/19 with 48 out of the 96 projects being funded at seven departments at the University of Stellenbosch.

Kapasiteitsontwikkeling

Die kweking van die volgende generasie van wetenskaplikes en tegniese persone wat die bedryf kan dien, is 'n belangrike produk van die navorsingsproses. 53 nagraadse studente is gedurende 2018/19 teen 'n totale koste van R3,9 miljoen befonds. 16 van hierdie studente studeer vir hul PhD's en 60% van dié studente is swart.

18% van die navorsingsbegroting is vir die befonding van navorsingsposte – wat meestal aan die Universiteit Stellenbosch geskondeer is. Soos die bedryf ontwikkel raak dit van kritieke belang om te verseker dat die strategiese toegepaste navorsingskapasiteit in sentrums van hoër onderwys en ander navorsingsfasiliteite gehandhaaf word.

Kommunikasie

Die Fresh Quarterly het homself gevestig as die sleutelvoertuig om navorsingsresultate aan produsente te kommunikeer en so word aan een van die sleuteldoelwitte van Hortgro Science voldoen. Sedert sy ontstaan in Junie 2018, is ses uitgawes met 55 relevante artikels gepubliseer.

Die Hortgro Tegniese Simposium 2019 is oor vyf dae gehou met 'n totaal van 1 413 afgevaardigdes.

28 wetenskaplike en tegniese artikels is in die Suid-Afrikaanse Vruchtejoernaal gepubliseer en 12 Fresh Notes oor belangrike tegniese kwessies is versprei.

Die ander platforms wat gebruik word om te kommunikeer sluit die volgende in: Tydige Wenke vir steenvrugte, die Hortgro Science-webwerf, video's, pamflette, seminare, werksinkels, kort kursusse, boordstappe, en velddae.

Research Programmes

- The cultivar development programme, previously reported on under Hortgro Science now falls within a broader programme within Hortgro and will be reported elsewhere in this annual report.
- The research strategy of the **Crop Production Programme**, ably led by Prof Wiehann Steyn is aligned with the requirements and risks associated with the Orchard of the Future. Rootstocks, plant quality, water, and climate-related research are the strategic priorities of this programme. The Crop Production research programme is structured around six research themes, namely, Dormancy, Farming Technology, Irrigation and Nutrition, Rootstocks and Nursery Tree Quality, Growing Season Climate and Reproductive Biology.
- The **Crop Protection Programme** under the direction of Matthew Addison is a multidisciplinary programme that focuses on nematology, entomology and plant pathology. There is a strong focus on phytosanitary issues aimed at the effective management of various fruit flies, false codling moth, and other phytosanitary pests and diseases.
- The **Post-Harvest Research Programme** has been taken over by Prof Wiehann Steyn after the retirement of Richard Hurndall. This programme absorbs 44% of the project funding, and supports and enhances the processes throughout the supply chain critical to ensuring that product integrity is maintained and that a quality product is available to the end-consumer in local and distant markets.

For comprehensive review of Hortgro Science's activities read:
Hortgro Science Annual Report 2019/19 on
www.hortgro-science.co.za

Trade and Markets

Jacques du Preez
General Manager

Dis it voel asof die doelpale deesdae gereeld geskuif word. Die nuutste vereiste vir die steenvrugbedryf is die nakoming van die versagtingspraktyke (mitigation practices) vir vrugtevlieg. Dit moes vanaf 1 September 2019 geïmplementeer word om te verseker dat ons steeds die uitvoer na die Europese Unie (EU) kon voortsit - 'n sperdatum waaraan die bedryf kon voldoen.

The first changes occurred two seasons ago when the stone fruit industry had to implement a risk management system for false codling moth (FCM) for peaches and nectarines. But the peach and nectarine growers complied and passed the test with flying colours with not a single interception in the EU. Now the rest of the stone fruit industry has to step up and manage fruit fly as well. Given the latest demands, the EU has become a difficult market to supply to. Stone fruit growers, packhouses and exporters will have to be vigilant to ensure we retain access to this crucial market.

In addition, we are also experiencing continued pressure on the use of chemicals, not only on the production side but also in the supply chain (pallets, cleaning agents, containers, etc.).

The Phytclean orchard and packhouse registration and risk management system have now successfully been rolled out to the whole stone fruit industry as well as to the other special markets, such as the USA, Mexico, Taiwan, and China – these last mentioned markets are, however, mainly applicable to pome fruit. This is a great example of where a partnership with the government (the Department of Agriculture) and the other fruit industries, worked well together. Without this partnership, it would have been virtually impossible to gain or maintain access to traditional and new markets as all market-related issues are eventually government-to-government deals.

Ongelukkig is sommige produksiegebiede, veral dele van die Klein-Karoo, nog steeds in groot moeilikheid, weens die voortslepende droogte. Buitengewone warm weer en swaar reën het ook al skade berokken aan die komende 2019/20-seisoen.

Commercially, the European market is expected to be tough as the impact of the discount retailers in the UK is putting a lot of pressure on price. Additionally, competition from Chile is heating up too. We cannot take our eye off the ball. To produce quality (the best-tasting fruit in the world), we cannot succumb to becoming bulk/commodity producers that are willing to accept unsustainable prices. Market intelligence is of vital importance to ensure that informed, commercial decisions can be made in order to achieve our market premiums. Timeous supply of information through AgriHub, the PPECB, and the Joint Marketing Forums aim to equip the industry with business intelligence. To ensure long term success, producers must make the right cultivar choices for their specific growth conditions, as well as make the correct choice with regards to export markets.

We have entered a new four-year budget cycle with some changes in our trade and markets strategy that will be implemented. A much bigger focus will be on market access and the GRO-strategy (growth of new markets, retention of existing markets and optimisation of markets we have access to). Op hierdie front is ons na baie jare se gesukkel in die pylvak met marktoegang onderhandelings vir pere na China. Hopelik sal die eerste peerhouers teen die tyd wat u hierdie lees, al in China aangekom het! Die aansienlik laer appeloos in China het 'n korttermyn geleentheid geskep om meer soontoe uit te voer wat die uitvoer van appels gedurende 2019 met 350% laat klim het. Die kernvrugbedryf sal die handelsontwikkelingsaktiwiteite in Duitsland en die Verenigde Koninkryk afskaal en hierdie fondse sal na Indië, Afrika en China herlei word.

There has also been encouraging movement from Thailand and the process to regain access for pome fruit seems to be gaining momentum after many years of going nowhere. Slowly but surely we are opening doors to new markets although this remains a bureaucratic process. We have to convince our government that the fruit industry must be elevated with regards to better market access within the BRICS grouping. The new Minister of Agriculture, Thoko Didiza, has indicated a willingness to join hands with the fruit industries in expediting these processes.

Brexit... Wie weet wat daar aangaan! Hortgro het die situasie noukeurig saam met die regering dopgehou en glo dat die uittrede van Brittanje, op watter grondslag ook al, nie 'n negatiewe uitwerking op ons vermoë om met sowel die EU as die VK handel te dryf, sal hê nie. Dit kan selfs 'n paar voordele vir ons inhou.

Beide die kern- en steenvrugbedrywe het besluit om 'n groter gedeelte geld in marktoegang te belê, en dit sal 'n verhoogde tegniese- en navorsingskapasiteit op die gebiede van entomologie en plantpatologie meebring; asook binne die steunwerwings, diplomatieke, en politieke beleidsareas.

The Packhouse Action Group (PAG) under the auspices of Hortgro Pome continues to debate and explore the needs, issues and opportunities to improve packing, grading, logistics, chemical usage and the use of new technologies, to name but a few activities.

The Forelle Early Market Access (FEMA) programme is also reaching maturity, although we need to keep the focus on enhancing the eating experience of the consumer.

So, although the goalposts are continually moving we manage to counter the challenges by being pro-active and innovative to ensure long term sustainability. And so far, as a collective, we have proven that we are able to do just that.

Information, Logistics and Transformation Support

Mariëtte Kotzé
Group Operations Manager

Die afgelope paar seisoene is gekenmerk deur onsekerhede op verskeie terreine soos klimaat, water, markte, en die politieke omgewing wat alles oorspoel na die ekonomie. Hierdie omstandighede noodsaak juis meer, beter, tydige en geïntegreerde inligting om die risiko's beter te kan bestuur en munt te slaan uit geleenthede.

At Hortgro, we continue to be service orientated in addressing the needs of our stakeholders through being innovative in our approach to data collection, the packaging of information and dissemination thereof to all growers and relevant stakeholders. The key focus remains on profitability, competitiveness, and sustainability. We strive to add value from the very grassroots level all the way throughout the supply chain.

From the information services rendered, Hortgro provides the following:

- The development and maintenance of a detailed database of all growers and key stakeholders in the supply chain to ensure that we are able to organise and communicate to our constituents on a regular basis.
- The continuous development and maintenance of the database (benchmarks and norms) of all fruit plantings, per producer, per farm per region. Including the year planted, cultivars grown and tree densities. This information is updated on an annual basis. Hortgro has already introduced an online platform for growers to update their individual records and to access these records as and when required. This information is vital for long-term and strategic planning relating to production, infrastructure requirements, supply markets, and logistics.
- Additional to the tree census database, similar information is captured for the crops that fall under Hortgro's alternative crops umbrella. Data is presented as and when needed at the various annual general meetings and for other purposes.
- Die gewilde Sagtevrugte Statistieke bly steeds 'n brondokument vir die meeste produsente en belanghebbendes. Dié publikasie bevat inligting oor die kern- en steenvrugbedrywe en sluit in riglynproduksiekostes, produksiegebiede en tendense, kultivarverspreiding, produksieneigings, indiensnemingsyfers sowel as 'n fokus op die markte en die mededingendheid van SA in vergelyking met ander produserende lande.
- Inligting word weekliks beskikbaar gestel via die Hortgro webtuiste, en produsente, bemarkers en ander rolspelers kan toegang kry tot ondermeer plaaslike mark - sowel as uitvoermarkverslae. Hierdie markverslae word verder ondersteun deur data vanaf AgriHub sowel as die varsproduktemarkte. Ons poog ook om deur die streekskantore (Ceres, Langkloof en EGVV) kommunikasie met produsente te verbeter.
- Ongoing support is provided to the Joint Marketing Forums (pome, stone and Cape Flora) where market issues are discussed and industry role-players have the opportunity to exchange information.

- Uitvoerskattinge vir beide kern- en steenvrugte bly 'n groot prioriteit gegewe die onsekere produksieomstandighede vanweë die water situasie asook die impak van die droogte. Gereelde opdatering vind deurgaans plaas deur middel van voorraadopnames in koelopberging en 'n netwerk van produsente, pakhuise en bemerkers sowel as skakeling met streekskantore om meer gereelde terugvoering te kry soos die seisoen vorder. Hierdie inligting word ook gebruik om tydigte aanpassings in die vrugsoortbegrotings te maak.
- More efficient information exchange with the Southern Hemisphere and Northern Hemisphere counterparts resulting in added value to our constituents via continued participation within Southern Hemisphere Association of Fresh Fruit Exporters and World Apple and Pear Association.

The industry continues to add value to our existing services and to be the desk that handles and facilitates industry enquiries and provide assistance to growers in terms of feasibility studies and investment decisions. Our aim is to ensure a stable environment within which our growers can remain competitive and sustainable.

Commodity Approach

The specific focus on land reform and business development support required by small scale farmers were continued. The main focus of support provided collaboration, administration, and implementation of the Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme (CASP) funding in the Western Cape through the commodity project allocation committees (CPAC's). The Public-Private-Partnership with the Western Cape Department of Agriculture has again proven to be very successful. The relationship with the Department was strengthened and now includes support services to be rendered to the Citrus CPAC, some of the alternative crops, the 50 Commercial Farmers project and the Departmental Sub-Committee. A new memorandum of understanding was signed to cement the relationship for the next five years.

The Jobs Fund

Chrismaine Abrahams
Project Coordinator

It is bittersweet to announce that we have reached the final year of implementing the Deciduous Fruit Development Chamber's (DFDC) Commercialisation Programme. The programme, which started in January 2016, is almost at its end. All project-related activities will be finalised in 2019. During 2020 one year of post-project support will be provided to growers. In terms of our project targets, the objectives were to establish 306 hectares of deciduous fruit orchards over a four year period and to create 355 permanent jobs. At this stage, it is safe to say that we will exceed our target in terms of established hectares.

Die skepping van permanente werksgeleenthede was egter 'n groot uitdaging. Die hoofrede hiervoor was die droogte, wat veroorsaak het dat van die geoormerkte plase in 'n finansiële verknorsing beland het. Eerder as om nuwe werknemers aan te stel, het die meerderheid produsente gebruik gemaak van hul huidige werksmag om die nuwe aanplantings te voltooi. Die droogte het ook veroorsaak dat sommige aanplantings uitgestel moes word. 'n Groot gedeelte van die aanplantings moes reeds in 2017 geskied het, maar weens die droogte is die meerderheid hektare eers in 2018 gevestig. Die skepping van nuwe permanente werksgeleenthede sal dus nie noodwendig binne die projekperiode gebeur nie, maar wel sodra die bome begin produseer. In terme van seisoenale- en korttermynwerksgeleenthede, is teikens behaal.

Although job creation is a key objective of the DFDC Commercialisation Programme, we were able to reach an agreement with National Treasury in terms of revised project milestones. The target for permanent jobs was reduced based on a comprehensive report that highlighted our challenges. Not only was the permanent job target revised, but the project implementation period was also extended by another year. This was done to enable us in reaching our new target of 241 permanent jobs that have to materialise by October 2020.

An assessment was done to determine the commercialisation status of each of the 21 entities (100% black-owned) that are part of this programme. Indicators include hectares under production, yields, integration into the value chain, access to finance, and financial performance. The assessment indicated that 60% of all JF beneficiaries will graduate from the programme and become self-sustainable. However, the remaining 40% will still require further support. Hortgro and the Western Cape Department of Agriculture still need to decide on the best strategy in this regard.

In closing, the DFDC Commercialisation Programme is proof that partnerships between the private sector and government are possible and that it works well if all the right components are in place. This approach should be duplicated and extended to other provinces as these programmes contribute to sustainable growth in our rural economies thereby providing stability.

Deciduous Fruit Development Chamber

Thembi Xaba
Chief Executive Officer

The DFDC held a summit launch in Mpumalanga Province aligned with the industry's strategy of 'doubling the deciduous fruit industry by 2050' with a special focus on non-traditional production areas. The launch drew in industry, government, funders, and marketers and managed to communicate the transformation strategy of the deciduous fruit industry with the theme of focusing on an 'inclusive economy'.

In December 2018, the DFDC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, for the DFDC to be an implementing agent to revitalize the Mpumalanga Province deciduous fruit projects and also align with the department's plan of increasing the number of hectares owned by black producers. This plan resonates well with the DFDC as it is one of our high-level objectives. This approach will be duplicated in other provinces.

Die DFDC het ook 'n ooreenkoms met die Departement van Landelike Ontwikkeling en Grondhervorming onderteken om sagtevrugteprojekte wat in die stimuluspakket geïdentifiseer is, te implementeer. Hierdie ooreenkoms is tot dusver nog nie aanvaar nie, aangesien daar uitdagings met die implementering van die projek was. Die DFDC gaan egter nie tou opgooi nie, en projekte met dié departement gaan voort. Een spesifieke projek in Gauteng lyk veral belowend.

Wat die versterking en bestuur van die DFDC se Akte van Oprigting (Memorandum of Incorporation) betref, is algemene jaarvergaderings in die Wes-Kaap en in Mpumalanga gedurende November en Desember 2018 gehou. Verkiesings is gehou vir lede om op die direksie van die DFDC te dien. Daarna is 'n groter algemene jaarvergadering in April 2019 gehou waar nuwe bestuurslede in hul amp bevestig is.

Appreciating the role of governance not only at board level but extending it to DFDC members, Governance and Finance workshops were facilitated for DFDC members in the Western Cape and Langkloof regions. This intervention covered Governance: the role/fiduciary duties of directors and trustees; and on Finance: cash flow management, tax compliance, and UIF.

The DFDC also managed to leverage funding from Coca Cola and the Minthiro Foundation for two projects in Mpumalanga - both apple projects, with the end game of seeing the two projects being revitalised, but most importantly to be part of the value chain on agro-processing.

New engagements have also started with the Limpopo Department of Agriculture where the DFDC is partnering to deliver on the Department's Revitalization of Agriculture and Agro-processing Value Chain (RAAVC) plan. An MoU will be signed once the areas of partnership have been firmed up.

It has also been encouraging from land ownership (tenure security) for PLAS (Pro-active Land Acquisition Strategy) beneficiaries, as they received 30 years lease agreements with the option of purchasing the farms after 30 years. This has been a milestone as DFDC members are geared towards owning land as a strategic asset.

Die DFDC het deur die befondsing van die Departement van Handel en Nywerheid aan Fruit Logistica Asia in September 2019 deelgeneem. Dit was 'n uitstekende netwerkgeleentheid vir DFDC-lede.

Hierdie positiewe inisiatiewe was nie sonder uitdagings nie. Waterinfrastruktuur en waterregte bly 'n groot kopseer vir produsente, bedrywe en die regering. Toegang tot finansiering bly 'n kwessie wat versnel moet word en samewerking verg, veral aangesien markte nog nie broodnodige ontwikkeling genoeg ondersteun nie.

Corporate Social Investment and Training

Astrid Arendse
Human Resources Officer

Agri's Got Talent, a joint venture between, Hortgro, the Vinpro Foundation, the South African Table Grape Association, the Citrus Growers Association and the Western Cape Department of Agriculture is annually gaining in popularity. Since AGT's inception in 2014, we can now proudly claim a national footprint.

AGT is a singing contest for agricultural workers, providing them the platform to share their singing talent with the industry. For many of these finalists, AGT is the start of bigger things including some of them launching their singing careers.

Each year the top ten finalists are chosen and they participate in a weeklong training and personal development programme building up to the Gala Evening where the winner is announced. The finalists participate in various training interventions including vocal, stage and media training. Stress management and personal development form part of the package which is facilitated by a full - time social worker who assists the finalists during the week.

2019 was the year of the ladies as our top three winners showed. Nonkululeko Sambo from KMI Farms in Nelspruit walked away with the title. Magdaleen Philander from Nonna Estate in Worcester was the runner-up and Zenobia Pietersen from Marianne Wine Estate in Stellenbosch was in 3rd place. These ladies will be given the opportunity to perform at various industry events. Further to this, an aftercare programme provides additional support, skills and personal development to each of the ten finalists.

Beursprogram

Hortgro het tans 27 voorgraadse studente in sy 2019-beursprogram. Hierdie studente studeer aan verskillende instansies onder andere: Universiteit van Stellenbosch, Universiteit van Pretoria, Universiteit van die Vrystaat, Elsenburg-landboukollege en die Kaapstad Universiteit van Tegnologie (CPUT).

Die beursprogram het R 1.3 miljoen spandeer op beurse in 2019 en word befonds deur Hortgro Pome, Hortgro Stone, AgriSETA en die Sagtevrugtebedryfsontwikkelingstrust. Oor die laaste vyf jaar het Hortgro R5.5 miljoen spandeer aan beurse vir 116 voorgraadse studente.

Management & Leadership Development Programme

Management and Leadership are critical skills required in all businesses. Unfortunately, these are also a scarce skill in many organisations.

To address this skills shortage, Hortgro contracted Mazars as our service provider to develop a Management and Leadership Development Programme for Production Managers.

The first pilot programme was completed and the feedback from the participants was positive. The pilot was funded by AgriSETA. We are excited to roll out this programme to the industry and to equip our managers and leaders with the right tools to lead, motivate and inspire their team to increased productivity and job satisfaction.

Landbou-dagtoere

Hortgro het die afgelope jaar weer skooltoere gereël vir leerders van die Ceres streek. Die leerders het besoek afgelê by SAPO Trust, FruitFly Africa, CPUT Wellingtonkampus en Elsenburg-landboukollege.

Hierdie toere bied aan leerders blootstelling aan verskillende loopbaangeleenthede binne die landbousektor asook die bedryf in geheel.





Industry Service Entities



SAPO Trust

Shawn Coetzee
Chief Executive Officer

SAPO (South African Plant Improvement Organisation Trust) is vanjaar 45 jaar oud en toon steeds sedert sy ontstaan in 1974 'n konstante groei te midde van 'n snelontwikkellende bedryfslandskap. In ooreenstemming met die gesegde "verandering is die enigste gewaarborgde konstante", is SAPO trots daarop om op hoogte te bly van die nuutste internasionale tendense en ontwikkelings die afgelope jaar. Die organisasie gaan voort om praktyke te herontwerp en die dienslewingsmodel aan te pas, die kapasiteit en raamwerk vir betrokkenheid van belanghebbendes te verbeter, terwyl die fokus op aanlegverbetering bly.

Ná 'n ampstermyn van 14 jaar het Peter Dall die tuig as direksievoorsitter neergelê. SAPO Trust en die belanghebbendes in die vrugtebedryf het die voorreg gehad om van 'n merkwaardige man afskeid te neem. Peter is 'n legende wat 'n groot bydrae gelewer het tot die vrugtebedryf. Hy het die leisels aan Stephen Rabe in September 2019 oorhandig. SAPO sien uit na Stephen se leiding en samewerking met die raad van trustees, terwyl 'n nuwe era getrotseer word.

SAPO Trust led the way in exploring the viability of an industry-owned Tissue Culture Facility (TCF), now being designed for operationalization in the latter part of 2020. This exciting new development, structured as a separate industry service entity, sparks a new era towards plant improvement and is earmarked to expedite the production of mainly rootstocks through this technology.

The Variety Development and Intellectual Property Management (IP) unit remains an important facet of SAPO's activities and now manages more than 350 varieties for more than 40 different Variety/IP Owners/Plant Breeder organisations. Fuelled by the desire to ensure the best value proposition to its partners, SAPO Trust has made a concerted effort to attract new skills to this unit and would soon see the entry of Dr. Waheed Mahomed and Ms. Tinneke van Zyl, both with a solid academic background in agricultural sciences and intellectual property management.

SAPO het ook 'n ooreenkoms met die swartbemaagtigingsgroep De Fynne Kwekery aangegaan, wat voorts plantmateriaal aan SAPO sal verskaf - 'n verdere bydrae tot die transformasie van die bedryf.

Operating Highlights Plant Material Supply

The demand for table and dried grape plant material was 7% higher than the previous season with the demand for Selma Pete, Sugra 39 and Merbein Seedless (all dried grape varieties) revealing the biggest volume growth. This demand is predicted to remain in the medium term.

Peach and apricot seeds demand from nurseries decreased by 11%, compared to the previous planting season mainly due to low demand for peach seedlings. Demand for clonal stone fruit rootstocks (GF677, Viking and Atlas) are increasing due to their better adaptability to soil problems and higher production potential. Approximately 29% of propagated trees are still on seedling rootstocks.

The availability of cherry, peach, and apple in vitro rootstocks also increased during the 2018 planting season. This was mainly due to the special permission obtained from the Department of Agricultural on the import regulations in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Agricultural services through CAV and Vitroplant in Italy. The top Geneva performing apple rootstock (G.778) supplied to nurseries increased substantially during the 2018/19 season.

Die verskaffing van steenvrugplantmateriaal gedurende die 2018 botseisoen het met 6% afgeneem, hoofsaaklik as gevolg van die laer aanvraag na pruime. Die aanvraag na amandels was nog steeds goed, terwyl 'n klein toename in die aanvraag na perske- en nektarienplantmateriaal ondervind is.

Demand for apples increased by 13%, but the demand for pears decreased by 18%. Big Bucks (Flash Gala™) attracted the highest demand followed by the lower chilling Afri-varieties (ARC and Culdevco), Granny Smith and Royal Beaut. Pear varieties that were very popular included Cape Rose (Cheeky™), Packham's Triumph, Rosemarie selection, Forelle and Early Bon Chretien.

Plant Pathology Laboratory

A total of 57 958 ELISA tests were completed during the reporting period. SAPO continues to develop new test capabilities to support the industry in its quest to ensure the cleanest plant material possible.

With the focus on plant material quality, SAPO increased the size of foundation blocks of fruit and table grapes to ensure that enough material is available to establish a greater number of mother blocks. Inspections have also been increased to ensure that diseases and/ or pest risks are mitigated optimally.

Nursery Services

SAPO Trust's Tygerhoek nursery established new rootstock blocks for pome and stone fruit to address shortages in the industry. Tissue culture plants to multiply rootstock cultivars such as promising Geneva selections G.778, G.210, G.213 and G 6969 in foundation apple layer blocks were utilised.

Tygerhoek Nursery was able to deliver higher volumes of the promising Atlas peach rootstock, which was in high demand from stone fruit nurseries. New land was sourced to meet the future demand for rootstock foundation blocks to supply to the deciduous fruit industry. The foundation stone fruit scion blocks were also expanded to supply more certified plant material according to the rules laid down by the South African Plant certification scheme.

Evaluations Conducted

	Apples	Pears	Peaches	Plums	Cherries	Grapes
Rootstock Trials	3	2	2	2		1
Sites	6	3	2	2		1
Nr of rootstock selections	10	2	6	6		2
Scion Selections	11	1	2	2	3	7
Advance Screening evaluation	11	1	2	2	3	7
Full Trail Evaluation	0	0	0	1	0	0

Culdevco (PTY) Limited

Dr Leon von Mollendorff
General Manager

As mentioned in the previous annual report, Culdevco signed a new licensing agreement with the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) in March 2018. According to this agreement, Culdevco is continuing to exclusively manage a long list of older and newly released ARC bred selections and cultivars. The Culdevco office was moved to Fleurbaix in Stellenbosch to enhance its communication with stakeholders.

During the past year Hortgro Pome and Stone negotiated a new pome and stone fruit breeding programme with the ARC. The negotiations between parties are currently in its final stages and will hopefully be finalized by early 2020. The signing of this agreement will have a direct positive impact on the future of Culdevco as this will ensure that the dwindling ARC breeding output will be reversed in future years.

Die voortslepende droogte en wisselvallige klimaatstoestande gedurende die lente van 2018, het 'n groot negatiewe effek op die hele sagtevrugtebedryf gehad. Veral die steenvrug- en tafeldruifbedrywe is swaar getref. Alhoewel sekere streke van die Wes-Kaap wel goeie winterreëns in 2019 gekry het, kom erge droogtetoestande steeds in die Karoo en Klein-Karoo voor. Produsente in dié streke is onder enorme finansiële druk. Dit, tesame met die bemarkingsuitdagings in die inmaakbedryf het nuwe en vervangings aanplantings grootliks beïnvloed. Boombestellings van Culdevco-gelisensieerde kultivars het gevolglik afgeneem. Dit het 'n negatiewe invloed op Culdevco se inkomste vir die afgelope boekjaar gehad.

Cultivar Development

Under the new Culdevco-ARC agreement, Culdevco manages 163 commercialized cultivars, which include cultivars of apples, pears, plums, peaches, nectarines, apricots and table grapes for the fresh, dried and canning deciduous fruit industries. Culdevco makes use of experienced independent evaluators, technical advisors, producers, and exporters/marketers to further assist in identifying new cultivars that will keep all our clients ahead of our competition.

During the 2018/19 season, Culdevco released another unique red plum from the ARC's world-class plum collection. Flavour Star provides an exceptional and distinct eating experience and setting a new benchmark for flavoursome plums. Flavour Star ripens a week after Laetitia and when fully ripe, has red flesh. Flavour Star has undergone third party assessments across the Western Cape in various climates. It has a medium chilling requirement and it is recommended to apply a rest breaking chemical in lower chilling regions such as Robertson. The initial semi-commercial feedback received from the major UK supermarkets is that Flavour Star is one of the best-tasting plums they ever received in their stores. The plant material of Flavour Star is now widely available. Culdevco planned to commercialize and protect this variety in the major deciduous fruit producing countries worldwide within the next three years.

Daar is ook ander belowende kultivarontwikkelings binne die Culdevco evaluasieprogram wat tans hoë prioriteit geniet en in die finale stadium van evaluasie is. Dit sluit onder meer die volgende in:

- 'n Baie vroeë blos peer wat einde Desember ryp word.
- 'n Rooi/pienk pitlose, ferm tafeldruif wat net na Flame ryp word.
- 'n Plaasvervanger vir Kakamas inmaakperske sowel as 'n lae-koue behoefte inmaakperske wat 'n week na Kakamas ryp word.
- 'n Helder rooi, gestreepte laer koue behoefte appel met 'n besondere eetkwaliteit.
- 'n Pruim, soortgelyk in eetkwaliteit as Flavour Star wat twee tot drie weke voor Flavour Star (week 2) ryp word.
- 'n Vroeë muskaat wit pitlose druif met 'n bo-gemiddelde produksie vir die rosyne bedryf.

Planting of Culdevco licensed cultivars in other countries

As a result of frequent visits and the technical experience with especially Culdevco licensed plums in South Africa, Culdevco has made significant progress in the marketing of plums in key European countries. In this regard cultivars such as Ruby Star, Sun Kiss and African Delight® are already commercially planted in this region, while others such as Ruby Sun, Flavour Star, and Ruby Crisp are showing commercial potential in countries such as France and Italy. The first commercial volumes of Nectargold® (yellow nectarines) produced in Greece, was marketed with great success in the UK through a leading retailer.

It remains one of Culdevco's key priorities to protect the local producers by ensuring registration and controlled commercialisation of plant material in key Southern and Northern Hemisphere producing countries.

FruitFly Africa

Nando Baard
General Manager

Dit blyk of die sagtevrugtebedryf se toewyding tot area-wye geïntegreerde plaagbestuurprogramme (AW-IPM), vir die beheer van vrugtevlieë, baie goeie resultate lewer. Populasievlakke (gemeet in vlieë per lokval per dag) het met die uitsondering van een streek, in al die streke waar die steriele-insektegniek (SIT) gebruik word, die laagste vlakke sedert die begin van die program bereik. Die meegaande grafieke toon die tendense vir hoofproduksie gebiede waar die volle AW-IPM program gevolg word:

- Wanneer die gemiddelde vlieë per lokval per dag (FTD) gedurende die oestydperk vir 2017 met dié van 2019 vergelyk word, het die FTD's in die Hexriviervallei met 34% gedaal.
- Dieselfde vergelyking vir die Elgin/Grabouw area dui op 'n populasie vermindering van 52% en vir die Warm Bokkeveld 53%

The release of good quality sterile male Medflies forms an integral part of the AW-IPM program in most regions serviced by FruitFly Africa (FFA). During the 2018/19 season, an average of 56 million sterile males was produced per week for release into the areas. For the most part, the quality control parameters of these flies did not only exceed our targets but also exceeded international standards for the production of sterile insects. Of the quality control parameters, probably the most important for successful mating is flight ability and irradiated male sterility. Both of these were well above target for the past season.

Gedurende die afgelope seisoen het ±32 000 hektaar onder die moniteringsprogram geval. Dit sluit 2 670 Medvlieg-, 1 559 Bactrocera Dorsalis- en 2 736 FCM lokvalle in. Onder die lugspatprogram is daar altesaam 180 000 hektaar in tien verskillende areas gespat. Areas het enige iets tussen twee en tien lugspatte ontvang, afhanklik van populasie druk en die ander komponente wat in die area-wye program gevolg is. Daar is weekliks 40 miljoen steriele mannetjie Medvlieë oor 'n area van ±39 000 hektaar uit die lug losgelaat. Die areas waar lugloslating geskied het, is die Warm Bokkeveld, Wolseley, die Hexriviervallei, De Wet, Brandwacht, en Elgin/Grabouw. Grondloslating van steriele vlieë het in die ander areas (14 miljoen steriele mannetjies) op 'n weeklike basis in Tulbagh, Vyeboom en die Hemel-en-Aarde vallei plaasgevind. Die uitbreiding van die loslatingsprogram na nuwe streke word vir 2020 oorweeg.

During the past season, we had BD interceptions in two different areas under the FFA fruit fly monitoring program. In the one case, the delimiting (high density) survey is ongoing, while eradication procedures were followed in the second area and no further catches were made. This area was thus declared BD free after 12 weeks without any further catches. The BD monitoring program will also be extended in 2020.

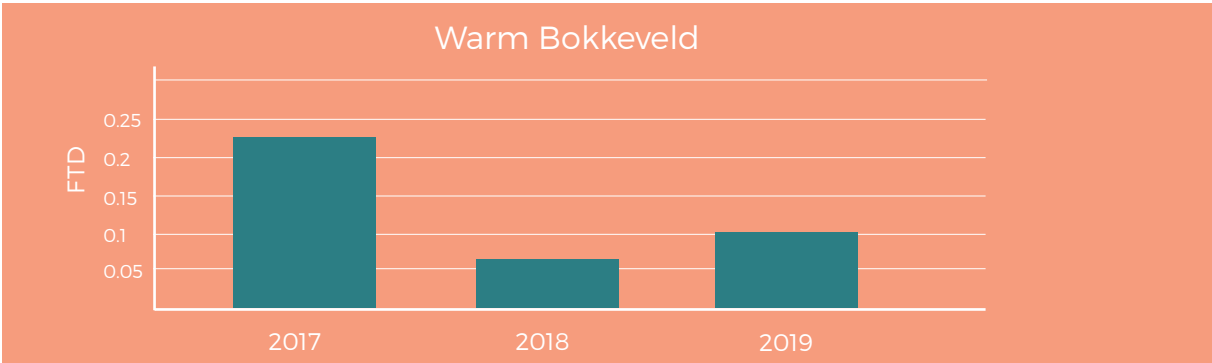
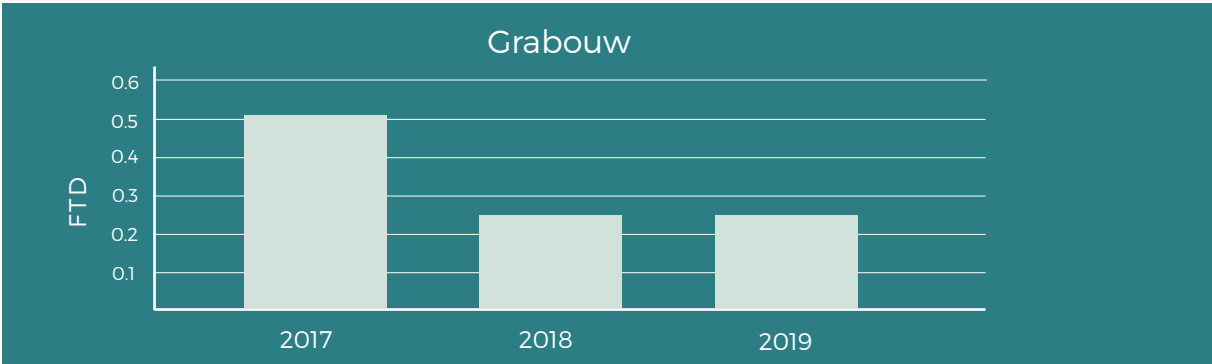
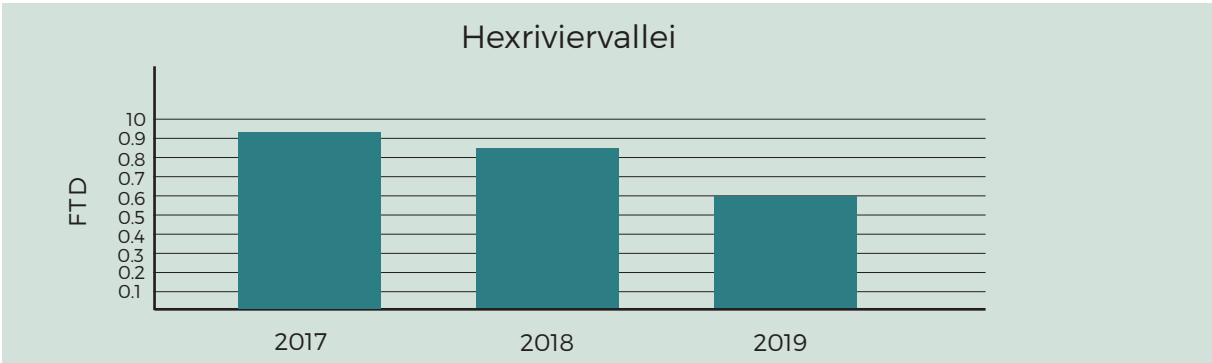
Verder wil ons graag ook van hierdie geleentheid gebruik maak om produsente in die teikenareas te bedank vir hulle voortgesette ondersteuning en samewerking. Hierdie programme is deur die bedryf in plek gestel om die risiko wat vrugtevlieë vir marktoegang meebring te bestuur en die sukses daarvan hang grootliks van die samewerking van alle produsente af. Sonder dié produsente se toegewydheid tot populasiebestuur en hul gewilligheid om insette te lewer ten bate van die bedryf, sou die suksesse wat tot dusver behaal is nie moontlik wees nie.

Dit is baie duidelik dat klimaatsverandering ook 'n impak op die gedrag van insekte en patrone van gasheerplante het. Area-wye programme is die beste manier om hierdie risiko op 'n kollektiewe en pro-aktiewe streeksvlak tot die voordeel van die hele gemeenskap in sodanige streke te bestuur.

Grafiek 1: Gemiddelde Medvlieg populasie gedurende oesseisoen (Gemeet in FTD) - Hexriviervallei

Grafiek 2: Gemiddelde Medvlieg populasie gedurende oesseisoen (Gemeet in FTD) - Elgin/Grabouw

Grafiek 3: Gemiddelde Medvlieg populasie gedurende oesseisoen (Gemeet in FTD) - Warm Bokkeveld





Hortfin

Michael Brinkhuis
Chief Executive Officer

Within the first ten months of its existence, the huge interest in Hortfin resulted in the over-subscription of the fund.

Initiation

This industry-led initiative to find a constructive mechanism to pro-actively contribute to transformation and expansion of the deciduous fruit industry and its value chain was initiated in the latter part of 2018. Joining forces with industry partners such as Vinpro, SAWITU, and SATI, who demonstrated putting money where their mouths are, the DFPT/Hortgro and DFDC were enabled to launch the Hortfin Industry Loan Fund. The initiative was also keenly supported by the Western Cape Department of Agriculture, their head of department and senior officials, and built on the very successful Jobs Fund and Hortgro planting projects that were launched in 2008.

Die Hortfinfonds is die nuutste toevoeging tot 'n reeks kreatiewe bedryfsprogramme wat deur die die sagtevrugtebedryf en vennote geloods is. Die Hortfin-model het 'n unieke aanslag en werkswyse om die teikenmark, naamlik nuwe bedryfstoetreders, tot kommersiële status te verhef. Só word nuwe vennootskappe gevorm tussen gevestigde kommersiële entiteite en swart vennote. Hortfin is doelbewus ontwerp om hierdie segment van die bedryf te ondersteun en sodoende suksesvolle toegang tot finansiering te bewerkstellig waar dit voorheen nie moontlik was nie.

Through the strong industry involvement, which stretches from the origination, through the due diligence and viability assessments of the project and as part of a post-disbursement support programme, these businesses are assisted by skillful and competent industry experts to operate and grow to successful and sustainable enterprises.

Hortfin loans are accessible to applicants from the deciduous fruit value chain comprising of the pome, stone, table grape and wine grape industries. Eligible businesses must be operating in these industries, be able to create new sustainable jobs, be 51% plus transformed and fundamentally able to service its loan repayment obligations.

Through this fund, the deciduous fruit industry, together with its financial partners, the Jobs Fund and Land Bank, is able to play a meaningful role in the expansion and transformation of the industry while creating valuable new jobs in the process.

Sedert die ondertekening van die ooreenkomste in Augustus 2018 is 'n goeie projekpylyn opgebou. Die behoefte na hierdie tipe finansiële produk word weerspieël in die aantal aansoeke wat reeds ontvang is. Die aansoeke wissel van eenmansake tot groot kommersiële vennootskappe; van primêre produksie-eenhede tot sekondêre verwerking- en verpakkingsbesighede.

Challenges

It was realistically anticipated that the first project or two would be guinea-pigs to determine and craft the principles, processes and operating procedures for this newly established "vehicle" of the industry. Valuable lessons were learnt over the past 12 months which are putting the project in good stead as we go forward. Although the expectation for project approvals and disbursement of funds were much higher, and the programme being slightly behind in that respect, acknowledgement is extended to all involved for the hard work and persistence that finally resulted in the approval of the first two projects in October 2019.

Prospects

There is a huge invested interest from partners, government, potential funders, etc. to make Hortfin a success. This model is hinted to pave the way for illustrating how development initiatives in the financial and related support programme sectors could assist developmental programmes. The model and valuable lessons are also able to be duplicated in various other sectors and industries.

Hortfin is excited to be part of the expansion and success of the deciduous fruit sector which continues to contribute significantly to the GDP of the province as well as the country, while simultaneously sustaining vast numbers of employment.

Gratitude is extended to all stakeholders, partners, funders and operational members for the long hours, sacrifices, persistence and commitment in laboring through this taxing year to reach our achievements. Hard work still lies ahead but we are positive and look forward to being of service to this "missing middle" to enable them to take their businesses to the next level.

It is foreseen that the Hortfin vehicle can be expanded and augmented with other funding sources to also serve the needs of programmes and projects that initially start below the 51% black ownership threshold.

Deciduous Fruit Workers' Trust

Wimpie Paulse
Voorsitter

Die DFWT-beleggings is steeds besig om teen 'n bestendige pas te groei. Die Trust is finansieël gesond en het ondanks die huidige swak ekonomie, 'n gesonde opbrengs op belegging getoon. Oor die afgelope jaar het meer plaaswerkers as begunstigdes laat registreer.

Daar is ook 'n groter bewustheid van die Trust onder landbou-instellings en ons kry meer en meer navrae. Finansiële voordele uit die Trust word direk aan begunstigdes uitbetaal.

Groot insette word gedoen om die beleggings van die Trust goed te bestuur asook om nuwe beleggingsgeleenthede te identifiseer. Dank en waardering word in hierdie verband teenoor Stephen Hobson uitgespreek.

Die administrasie van die Trust word deur Hortgro behartig. Ons kry net die beste diens en spreek ook ons waardering teenoor Hortgro uit. Dank en waardering ook aan die Trusteë.

Deciduous Fruit Industry Development Trust

Ismail Motala
Chairperson

The Deciduous Fruit Industry Development Trust (DFIDT) manages the Deciduous Fruit Board's remaining assets, and is administered by Hortgro.

Trustees may only allocate the return on capital to projects. Due to relatively low interest rates the last few years, a decision was made to reinvest the funds. Currently the DFIDT has R16 470 307 invested.

The Trust approved that R350 000 of the proceeds of the investment be utilised for bursaries at Stellenbosch University during 2019. Those bursaries were awarded to six previously disadvantaged students. These students are all in the process of obtaining their BSc degrees in Agriculture, Horticulture, Agri Business Management, and Agricultural Economics. These students received between R 50 000 and R 60 000 each towards their studies.



Alternative Crops



SA Olive

Karien Bezuidenhout
Manager

World olive oil production for 2016/17 was at 2.5 million tons which indicates a 20% decline over the previous year with overall demand forecasted to exceed supply.

Here in South Africa, the drought has put severe pressure on production but our industry has shown great resilience. The hectares planted to olives are growing and domestic oil production is currently estimated at one million litres.

Die aantal ekstrasuiwer olyfolies wat vanjaar aan die SA Olive Toekennings deelgeneem het, is 'n aanduiding van 'n gesonde bedryf wat groei. Van die 93 olies wat ingeskryf het vir die kompetisie, het 25 goue medaljes ontvang, 35 silwer, en 21 brons. Dus is 87% van die deelnemende olies met medaljes vereer. Die goudwenners het voortgegaan om aan die Absa Top 10 kompetisie deel te neem. Die Absa Top 10 gee erkenning aan kwaliteit en help om die bedryf in die kollig te plaas.

International appreciation for the quality of South African extra virgin olive oil (EVOO) continues to grow, as demonstrated by the accolades won by a number of our producers at prestigious international competitions. Special mention needs to be made of the 6th edition of the Sol d'Oro Southern Hemisphere olive oil competition, held in Peru during Sept 2019. Seventy-five Southern Hemisphere EVOO's entered the competition and were blind-tasted by an international panel of olive oil experts from Italy, Spain, Chile, Peru, Greece, Australia, and South Africa. The gold medal was awarded to a South African oil. We also walked away with the bronze medal and five of our oils received a grand mention.

Daar was vanjaar aktiewe skakeling met die regering op verskillende terreine.

Die drie jaar projek wat boomstamsiektes ondersoek en gesamentlik deur SA Olive en die Departement van Handel en Nywerheid befonds word, naby voltooiing en het bruikbare resultate opgelewer. Die bedryf het ook gebruik gemaak van regeringsondersteuning vir ons generiese bemerkingsveldtog wat daarop gefokus is om verbruikers in te lig oor die voordele van olywe en olyfolie.

The generic marketing strategic plan aims to inform the consumer of the health benefits associated with extra virgin olive oil and olives. These include: lowering the risk of cardiovascular disease; preventing breast, bladder, ovarian and digestive tract cancer; reducing risk of cognitive decline and dementia; lowering the risk of diabetes with type 2 prevented or delayed.

Danksy die uitmuntende werk van SA Olive se organoleptiese proepaneel, word die vrywillige Commitment to Compliance (CTC) sertifikasieskema met volgehoue sukses bestuur. Dié paneel ontmoet twee-weekliks om olyfoliemonsters te proe en die kwaliteit te bepaal. Die metodes wat toegepas word is belyn met internasionale standaarde en metodologieë. Ons paneelleier was weer vanjaar deur Sol d'Oro genooi om 'n lid te wees van die hooggeagte beoordeelaarspaneel van die Suidelike Halfrond se ekstrasuiwer olyfoliekompetisie. Daarbenewens het twee spanne van ons proepaneel ook deelgeneem aan die internasionale proe-kampioenskap in Spanje. Hierdie betrokkenheid by internasionale proe-geleenthede is 'n verdere bewys van SA as 'n top olyfolieproduserende land. Die volhoubare groei van die bedryf en die produksie van kwaliteit olies, bly die fokuspunte van SA Olive.

The statutory levy continues to form the lifeline of the industry with a second 4-year cycle drawing to its end. The number of registrations has increased steadily through the past 4-year period, thanks also to stricter enforcement from SA Olive's side.

South Africa Berry Producers' Association

Elzette Schutte
Manager

South Africa will export 12,000 tons of blueberries during the 2018/19 season, a 50% increase from the previous year's figures. The last three years have seen particularly impressive growth in berry production, with blueberry production jumping from 4 100 tons to 11 300 tons. In 2019 it is expected that production will reach 17,000 tons.

While the country is not fully exploiting the potential of blueberry exports as a commodity given the limited market access, the industry has however taken full advantage of the markets to which it does have access.

This is reflected in the significant increases in production every year. On average about 70% of the country's blueberries are exported. The United Kingdom is still our biggest export destination. However the last few years the industry has successfully diversified its markets. Whereas 90% of our exports were destined for the UK in 2013, this figure was only 54% in 2018. Our exports to the Netherlands, Germany, Ireland, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates are growing steadily.

Die toekoms van hierdie sektor is uiters positief met goeie verwagte groei in die lig van groeiende wêreldwye aanvraag na bloubessies. Die waarde van bloubessie uitvoere het gegroei van R133 miljoen in 2013 na R1,058 miljard in 2018.

According to a recent economic impact study of the industry compiled by Western Cape Department of Agriculture, the South African blueberry industry is one of the fastest-growing horticultural industries in the country, both in terms of hectares planted and gross value of production.

They are not only very profitable from an investment point of view but also contribute to the economy through their linkages with upstream and downstream industries and job creation. In 2018 inputs used by the industry were valued at R570 million while direct investment in newly established orchards in the past year added another R421 million to this figure.

Met 'n vermeerdering in die wêreld se aanvraag na "super" vrugte wat hoog is in antioksidante, het die Suid-Afrikaanse bessiebedryf groot potensiaal om nuwe werkseleenthed te skep en groei in die verwerkingsektore te stimuleer.



Cape Flora SA

Elzette Schutte
Manager

As was the case in previous years, the period 2018-2019 was not without its challenges. The fact that the drought has been broken was a great relief but issues such as a challenging and ever-changing global economic environment, our South African political system, and of course the land reform debate remain worrisome. Veld harvested products remained under pressure and will require a season or two of good rain to recover fully. Cultivated production maintained good volumes and quality with satisfactory market returns. Nevertheless, it has been an exciting time for Cape Flora SA (CFSA) which concluded its fifth year of full operations in its current form as an inclusive industry body representative of the value chain.

Die statutêre heffing wat op alle fynbosprodukte (behalwe varings en Geralton wax) wat in die koue ketting uitgevoer word van toepassing is, bied 'n stabiele befondsingsbasis vir CFSA. Benewens die hooffokus van die heffing wat vir tegniese (produksie en na-oes) navorsing en inligting benut word, het CFSA vanjaar meer fokus op ekonomiese ontwikkeling en opleiding geplaas. Verskeie projekte is aangepak saam met entoesiastiese opkomende boere. In Julie 2019 is 'n tweedag gesondheid- en veiligheidsopleidingsessie gehou, waaraan ses kleinboere deelgeneem het. In Augustus 2019 is 'n kleinboer in Saron gehelp om 'n kettingsaag en alles wat daarmee gepaard gaan te bekom om uitheemse spesies op hulle plaas te verwyder.

CFSA het ook daarin geslaag om die beperkte heffing inkomste met toekennings uit die Wes-Kaapse Departement van Landbou se alternatiewe gewasse fonds, die Departement van Wetenskap en Kuns se 'Post Harvest Innovation Fund', en die Departement van Handel en Nywerheid vir 'n reeks projekte te motiveer. Op die wyse word die bedryfsheffing met 'n faktor van twee gehefboom wat beteken dat dit min of meer verdubbel.

These projects focus on different strategies to replant the challenges of soil born diseases. The very successful controlled atmosphere and temperature treatment system (CATTS) project which concluded in 2018, was taken further by developing the handling protocol in more detail and to cover more varieties. With regards to the chemical registrations for minor use, 17 actives were submitted for registration for use on fynbos. We anticipate further progress in 2020.

The harvesting and handling of Silver Brunia, a very high-value product, was revisited. Unfortunately, a high incidence of poaching of the plants has been experienced in the Western Cape. Something had to be done and CFSA now has the pledge and commitment of a wide range of industry stakeholders (pickers, producers and packers) to work together in order to protect this species in the wild and to sustainably benefit from its economic spoils.

South African Fig Producers' Association

Brett Sander
Chairperson

South African figs are a delicate yet versatile fruit with a bursting aroma and spectacular taste. The fig can be described as a warm-temperate climate fruit. Although figs thrive by nature in a relatively warm environment, the buds do have a moderate winter chilling requirement. Western Cape climate, therefore, lends itself as an appropriate environment for the fruit to flourish. The fig leaves and white 'milky' sap are proposed to have many medical benefits including lowering blood sugar levels, blood pressure, assisting with stabilising hormones levels and may have anti-cancer properties.

The SAFPA wants to align its activities so that local producers are able to produce and export these superb fruits to the corners of the earth. A key focus area is therefore to open new markets for which a Phytosanitary Information Package (PIP) is needed. With funding from the Alternative Crops fund through the Western Cape Department of Agriculture a PIP for figs was drafted in the past year. This package will now be plugged into the national Department of Agriculture's market access programme which in time will open up new markets which will further enhance the potential of the industry.

- South Africa exported an estimated 354 tons of figs in the 2018/2019 season.
- 213 ha commercial fig plantings.
- The UK and the Far East are the main export destinations.

Pomegranate Association of South Africa

Carnel Geddes

Chairperson

Die 2019 granaatseisoen was verseker nie maklik nie maar uitvoere het steeds met 44% toegeneem. Gegewe die vereniging se samewerking met ander bedrywe via die Phytclean program was daar ook geen onderskeppings in die Europese Unie vir valskodlingmot (FCM) nie.

The carry-over effect of the 2018 drought could still be seen in fruit size and yield. These elements together with the ever-tightening of market standards affected pack-outs negatively. The competition and consistent supply from other Southern Hemisphere countries throughout the season also had a big influence on SA supply.

Klimaatverandering bly vir alle produsente 'n uitdaging en POMASA kon met die finansiële hulp van die Wes-Kaapse Departement van Landbou navorsing voortsit om besproeiingsriglyne vir granaatbome te bepaal.

Phytosanitary pests such as FCM pose a big risk for the pomegranate industry and we are very happy to report that the Pomegranate FCM management system which we had devised and implemented two years ago, is proving to be successful. We cannot rest on our laurels though and so alternative methods to enhance the management of pests are currently being investigated.

Statutêre fondse het bygedra tot die registrasie van chemiese produkte en die proses sal in die komende seisoen voortgesit word in samewerking met chemiese maatskappye.

The three main varieties of pomegranates planted in South Africa are Wonderful (70%), Herskowitz (13%) and Acco (10%). Wonderful accounted for the bulk of new plantings in 2019. Post-harvest research was done on all three cultivars to find ways to increase post-harvest quality. This remains a key research area for us.

As indicated at the start of this report, export volume is approximately 44% higher than in the 2018 season with a total of 1 676 160 cartons (3.8kg equivalent) exported. The Middle East is still a growing market for South African pomegranates with the biggest part of the 2019 crop (40%) exported there, followed by the EU (33%). Finding new markets is also a priority and to this end, POMASA funded the compilation of a Phytosanitary Information Package (PIP) for pomegranates which will serve as the first step to the process of opening new markets.

Every successful export commodity benefits from a strong local market. Unfortunately, there is still a very small local market for pomegranates (roughly 7% of sales), but with the statutory levies now having been extended to include local sales, we hope that there will be funds available to assist in growing this important market for the future.

POMASA sien daarna uit om die granaatbedryf verder uit te bou en die talle uitdagings wat voorlê suksesvol die hoof te bied.

South African Pecan Nut Producers' Association NPC

André Coetzee
Manager

The pecan industry in South Africa has a very bright future but the question "what happened to the 2019 crop" can rightly be asked given that the initial indication of a bumper crop did not materialise.

At the beginning of the season, there were indications of a crop with forecasts of 21 000 to 22 000 tons. Figures as high as 25 000 tons were even mentioned. When harvesting commenced the estimates were drastically reduced and the crop will end around 16 500 tons. The main contributing factors were that Vaalharts had exceptionally cold weather for three consecutive weeks during the flowering stage and very hot weather was experienced during the nut fill stage, which affected the quantity and quality of the nuts. This combined with a number of other factors such as hail and drought resulted in a lower crop.

Enigeen wat vir 'n tydperk in die pekanbedryf betrokke is, weet dat oesskattings nie maklik is nie. Dit is ook nie die eerste keer dat 'n oes laer as die voorafgaande jaar was nie. Die meegaande grafiek toon dat daar oor die afgelope 14 jaar drie geleenthede was waar dit gebeur het. Gelukkig het die verlede getoon dat dat die oes wat volg op so 'n afname, aansienlik groter was. Ons verwag in elk geval goeie groei gegewe verhoogde aanplantings, beter kultivarseleksie en verbeterde boerdery praktyke oor die volgende klompie jare.

The bulk of the SAPPa budget is spent on research and the following projects are ongoing: Pecan diseases in South Africa done by the University of the Free State; Insects associated with pecan cultivation in South Africa done by the Agricultural Research Council; Water usage of pecan nut trees, funded jointly by SAPPa and the Water Research Commission, done by the University of Pretoria; and Addressing the threats to pecan nut farming by the Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer, done by the Forestry and Agricultural Biotechnology Institute at the University of Pretoria.

Die samewerking met die ander boomneutbedrywe om oesbeskermingsmiddels te registreer gaan voort en daar is ook nou volledige MRL-lystebesikikbaar op die SAPPa webtuiste.

Die DNA-identifisering van pekanneutkultivars kan nou vir die eerste keer in Suid-Afrika gedoen word. Hierdie diens sal veral vir kwekers van waarde kan wees om te bevestig dat hulle kultivar-egte bome verskaf. Die besonderhede van die diens is op die webtuiste beskikbaar.

As part of our commitment to training and development, a very successful course for new entrants was presented in April that was again well attended. With a large number of new producers, courses on pruning and training young trees will remain a focal point. We plan a course that will focus on irrigation and water management for May 2020.

Die 2019 seisoen is die laaste van die huidige vierjaar statutêre heffingsiklus en met die oorweldigende steun van die rolspelers in die bedryf is 'n nuwe aansoek vir die volgende siklus ingedien.

Met die verwagte groei in produksie en gegewe dat die grootste deel van die oes tans na net een mark (China) uitgevoer word, is dit baie belangrik dat SAPPa betrokke raak by die ontwikkeling van nuwe markte. Daar is derhalwe 'n bedryfstaaegroep saamgestel om die aanvoerwerk te doen sodat die bedryf gereed kan wees om ander markte te ontgin wanneer daar neute beskikbaar raak.

SAPPa received some complaints from buyers that the pecan nut trees that they received from nurseries did not meet their expectations. In an effort to address these complaints "Guidelines for the trading in pecan nut nursery trees" were drawn up and the "Guidelines, classification and standards for pecan nut nursery trees" were updated. At a meeting with the nurseries, these documents were finalised and agreed to. It is, however, our objective to work towards the availability of certified trees which will entail further work in this sphere in the near future.



Pictures Contact List



Pictures



1. Klein Karoo drought.
2. Stone Fruit Field Day at Oudewagendrift, Hex Valley.
3. Hortgro gifted a Witte Wijnappel tree to Babylonstorento plant in its heritage garden. From left Hugh Campbell, Liesl van der Walt, Elise-Marie Steenkamp, Carmé Naudé, Wiehann Steyn, Jacques du Preez and Nicholas Dicey.
4. Hortgro Technical Symposium Field Day at De Keur, Ceres.







5. Hortgro Bursary function: Nicholas Dicey, Beverley Schäfer (guest speaker) and André Smit.
6. Anton Rabe and Nonkululeko Sambo (Agri's Got Talent winner 2019).
7. Stone Fruit Field Day at Oudewagendrift, Hex Valley.
8. Ceres grower Raymond Koopstad and Maggie Jantjies from La Vouere, one of the Jobs Fund beneficiaries.



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9. Northern province producers visit to De Fynne Nursery, Paarl.
10. Ivan Ka-Mbonane (Legal advisor to minister Didiza), Nicholas Dicey and Minister of Agriculture Thoko Didiza.
11. Deciduous Fruit Gala Evening winners: Industry Leader Award - Pieter Graaff, Novice Award - Raymond Koopstad, Specialist Agricultural Worker - Kerneels Oncker, Advanced Agricultural Worker - Elize Boer, Innovation Award - Sheila Storey, General Agricultural Worker - Mzumkhulu Colin Sijinga, Izethelo Media Award - Landbouweekblad.
12. Hugh Campbell accompanying the group from California Department Food and Agriculture at Sandrivier Landgoed.





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