



# KEEPING IT FRESH



**News from the FPEF – 29 March 2023**

## **Dear FPEF Members,**

The term "resilience" is often used to describe our industry but recent interaction with some members indicated that they are suffering from "resilience fatigue". This is due to all the challenges they are faced with: some new and others that have been with us for quite some time. The latter includes issues such as the APAC Rules for Export Agents, the situation in the ports, limited access to new markets, high import duties in some markets, the Road Traffic Act which prohibits the transport of high-cubed containers on South African roads - to name a few.

Relatively new challenges are increased protectionist behaviour by governments in certain countries/regions (e.g. the EU's CBS measures), increased load shedding, etc.

At the FPEF we fully understand your situation and wish to assure you that we do all we can to try and find solutions which will contribute to the sustainability of our industry. This includes legal action where necessary such as litigation to get the current APAC Rules for Export Agents amended and/or scrapped.

In this fortnightly newsletter we bring you a summary of the most pertinent matters and actions during the past two weeks.

### **MEMBERSHIP MATTERS**



We would like to extend a hearty welcome to **TWO** new members:

- **Hendrik Schoeman Boerdery – Exporter Member**
- **Laeveld Agrochem – Associate Member**

We look forward to a long and rewarding association with you.



**Market Access**

**Provide Information**

**Government Engagement**

**Transformation**

**Export process assistance**

**Research, Development and Innovation**

## MARKETING AND PROMOTIONS

### Asia Fruit Logistica 2023

*the dtic* extends an invitation to exporters of fresh fruit products to apply to participate in the **Fruit Logistica Asia 2023** exhibition, scheduled to take place from **06 – 08 September 2023** in Hong Kong.

The deadline for the submission of complete National Pavilion application forms is **06 April 2023 @ 16:00**.

All applicants must submit a valid B-BBEE certificate with a maximum Level 8 or a sworn affidavit (an affidavit is for entities with less than R10 Million in turnover). This is in compliance with the B-BBEE Amendment Act.

Applicants need to complete the EMIA application form and submit it VIA E-MAIL ONLY together with the required documents to:

Ms Batseba Morudi / E-mail: [BMorudi@thedtic.gov.za](mailto:BMorudi@thedtic.gov.za)



### Export Directory 2023

All members should have received their copies by courier. Please contact [Marletta@fpf.co.za](mailto:Marletta@fpf.co.za) if you have not received your copy.

## LOGISTICS & OPERATIONS

### Registrations

**Reminder: Registration for exports to the European Union - Exporter, Loading Facilities (Dry Storage Facility, Cold Stores), Freight Forwarders (Sea Port Terminal & Airport Terminal) Registration**  
**Compulsory registration required for all exporters wishing to export to the EU.**

Please follow the link for guidelines on the registration process:

[eCert Newsletter - 09 Feb 2023 - PhytClean Deployments](#)

Should you require any assistance, please contact the e-cert team below:

Contact Person: FSA support team Telephone Number: (031) 940 6795 or Email: [support@ecert.co.za](mailto:support@ecert.co.za) or create a ticket using ticket platform: <https://support.ecert.co.za>

Note: The FMS and CBS RMS documents for 2023 was shared with all members.

**Phytosanitary registration for Export of Chillies and Brinjals (PUCs/PHCs) for 2023 (winter crops) from South Africa to the European Union (EU) is now open.**

Please send all applications including proof of payment on or **before 14 April 2023 through door to door (courier address on the application form).**

If your information remains the same (summer crops 2022) please contact the DALRRD offices; there will be no need to re-register the same orchards again.

**No late applications will be considered as the final list must be sent to the EU before export can commence.**

Should you have any questions, please contact [PatrickMag@Dalrrd.gov.za](mailto:PatrickMag@Dalrrd.gov.za) / 012 319 6235.

**Logistics**

The FPEF and other industry associations have been in various engagements with Transnet - Western Region Managing Executive & team in March, to discuss the recovery plan for the port of Cape Town. Weekly meetings were held on Sunday's @ 19h00 and with the last feedback session held, Thursday @ 19h00 on 23 March. The TPT team is working continuously to reduce the vessels at berth and improve throughput in the Cape Town Container Terminal. The aim is to reduce the remaining six vessels currently at anchor, with berthing on arrival effective in April. As of Monday morning, reefer occupancy levels were at 38% with all seven cranes deployed using a 3-berth system. The FPEF will continue to share daily information updates via our WhatsApp platform. Members wishing to form part of this platform, please get in contact with [jerusha@fpf.co.za](mailto:jerusha@fpf.co.za).

**Market Access**

Japan market access developments for Avocados:

The DALRRD is currently awaiting a response from the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries (MAFF) on amendments to the revised workplan, prompted by personnel changes at the MAFF. After the workplan is finalized, the MAFF will first need to conduct internal consultations and approvals, and the procedure will therefore still require some time.

China market access developments for Avocados:

The Chinese NPPO, GACC (General Administration of Customs for China) is planning a verification visit to South Africa evaluating South African avocado production processes. The visit is provisionally scheduled for mid-April, and will include the provinces of KZN, Mpumalanga and Limpopo. The NPPOZA and GACC would like to conclude or nearly conclude the application before the next SPS (sanitary and phytosanitary) Ministerial Meeting scheduled for end-June 2023.



Philippines market access developments for table grapes:

The Philippines' Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) visited South Africa in February/March. The visit to South African table grape production processes was successfully concluded. Upon BPI's return, a list of additional questions was submitted to DALRRD for feedback. Industry is still in the process of responding to the additional questions from BPI. When DALRRD provides an official answer to the BPI, the procedure may reach its final stages of conclusion.

Best regards

**Anton Kruger**



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