

NOTICE 526 OF 2012

**National Agricultural
Marketing Council**

Promoting market access for South African agriculture

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CITRUS FRUIT INDUSTRY -

- **REQUEST FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A NEW TERM OF STATUTORY MEASURES**
 - **DIRECTLY AFFECTED GROUPS ARE INVITED TO FORWARD ANY COMMENTS REGARDING THE PROPOSED STATUTORY MEASURES**
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The Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries received a request from the Citrus Growers Association of Southern Africa (CGA) for the implementation of a new term of statutory measures (registration, records & returns and levies), on citrus fruit exported, in terms of the Marketing of Agricultural Products Act (MAP Act), Act No. 47 of 1996. It is proposed that the statutory measures be implemented for a new four year period (CGA requested that the implementation date be 1 January 2013).

Currently, the following statutory measures (which will lapse on 31 December 2012) are applicable on citrus fruit intended for export, namely the -

- Keeping of records and returns;
- Registration of directly affected groups; and
- Payment of statutory levies.

CGA argued that the statutory measures requested herewith, are necessary to compel exporters of citrus fruit to render returns on an individual basis so that market and production information for the whole of the country can be processed and disseminated. Obligatory registration will ensure that the statutory measures relating to records and returns, as well as levies, can be administered efficiently.

It is proposed that the statutory levy on citrus fruit intended for the export market be as follows:

Year	Levy amount
2013	3.133 c/kg (47 c/carton ¹);
2014	3.333 c/kg (50 c/carton);
2015	3.533 c/kg (53 c/carton); and
2016	3.733 c/kg (56 c/carton).

For the 2013 financial year, the CGA budgeted to collect an amount of approximately R44 million.

The payment of the levy will finance the following activities in the citrus fruit industry:

- Production research and development;
- Plant improvement;
- Information and statistics;
- Market access and functions to maintain current and develop new export markets; and
- Transformation in the citrus sector.

It is also argued that these statutory measures will not be detrimental to food security, the number of employment opportunities within the economy or to fair labour practice. In fact, CGA is of the opinion that they are aimed at growing the competitiveness and capacity of the industry.

Directly affected groups (e.g. producers, traders, agents, exporters and export inspection bodies) in citrus industry are kindly requested to submit any comments, in writing, regarding the proposed statutory measures, to the NAMC on or before 20 July 2012, to enable the Council to finalise its recommendation to the Minister in this regard.

ENQUIRIES:

National Agricultural Marketing Council

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