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1 Desember 2010

Aan Alle Moerkwekers en Rolspelers in die Moerbedryf

Die Nasionale Moerekomitee het op 9 November 2010 en die Onafhanklike Sertifiseringsraad vir Aartappelmoere (OSRA) en Direksie van Aartappelsertifiseringsdiens (ASD) op 10 November 2010 vergader. Ek wil graag van die geleentheid gebruik maak om die volgende aspekte onder u aandag te bring.

Nasionale Moerekomitee

- Die **Moerkwekersforum** van 2010 was 'n reuse sukses. Daar word egter 'n beroep op alle moerkwekers gedoen om hierdie datum op die kalender oop te hou. Dit is dié geleentheid van die jaar wat spesiaal vir u gereël word en waar daar na u belange omgesien word.
- Bring asseblief aspekte wat u by die volgende Forum bespreek wil hê na u volgende Moerekomiteevergadering sodat ons 2011 se program kan begin saamstel. Ons wil regtig u behoeftes aanspreek, maar kan dit slegs doen as u met voorstelle vir bespreking kom.
- Nogmaals baie geluk aan **Ivanhoe Farming Co** – John Campbell en Paul Pringle – met julle toekenning as Moerkweker van die Jaar! Dit is voorwaar 'n uitstekende prestasie.
- Die daarstelling van **PKR-tegnologie** by die Coen Bezuidenhout-saadtoetssentrum (CBS) geniet steeds aandag. Daar word tans kwotasies ingewin ten opsigte van die apparaat en daar is met die Landbounavorsingsraad (LNR) onderhandel vir 'n huurkontrak sodat die validasie daar gedoen kan word.
- Die **verbetering van die Skema** geniet steeds aandag. Die Nasionale Moerekomitee sowel as personeel van ASD sal op 18 en 19 Januarie 2011 bymekaar kom om verdere voorstelle ter verbetering van die Skema te oorweeg en 'n konsepvoorstel te formuleer wat dan na die onderskeie streeksmoerekomitees vir kommentaar geneem kan word.

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1 December 2010

To All Seed Potato Growers and Role Players

The National Seed Potato Committee convened on 9 November 2010 and the Independent Certification Council for Seed Potatoes (ICCSP) and the Board of Directors of Potato Certification Service (PCS) on 10 November 2010. I wish to avail myself of this opportunity to bring the following aspects to your attention:

National Seed Potato Committee

- The **Seed Potato Growers' Forum** of 2010 was a tremendous success. However, all seed potato growers are requested to note this forum on their calendars. This is the one occasion in the year arranged especially for you and where your interests are looked after.
- Please broach those aspects which you wish to have discussed at the next Forum at your next Seed Potato Committee meeting so that we can begin to draft our 2011 program. We sincerely wish to address your needs, but can only do so if you come with proposals to be discussed.
- Congratulations once again to **Ivanhoe Farming Co**– John Campbell and Paul Pringle – with your designation as Seed Potato Grower of the Year! This certainly attests to an excellent performance.
- The establishment of **PCR technology** at the Coen Bezuidenhout Seed Testing Centre (CBS) is still receiving attention. Quotations are being obtained in respect of the apparatus and negotiations have taken place with the Agricultural Research Council (ARC) with regard to a rental agreement so that the validation can be undertaken there.
- Attention is still being paid to the **improvement of the Scheme**. The National Seed Potato Committee, as well as personnel of PCS, will get together on 18 and 19 January 2011 to consider further proposals with regard to an improvement of the Scheme and to formulate a draft proposal which will then be taken to the respective regional Seed Potato Committees for comment.

- Die **betaling van dubbel registrasiefooie** vir nuwe toetreders tot die moerbedryf is weer deeglik onder oënskou geneem. In die verlede is opkomende boere vrygestel van die betaling van die dubbel registrasiefooie. Die taakspan gemoeid met die verbetering van die Skema het met die voorstel gekom dat **alle** nuwe kwekers (beginnerboere) wat vir die eerste keer 'n kwekerkode ontvang en 10 hektaar of minder vir twee agtereenvolgende jare plant en sy oes laat sertifiseer, slegs die enkelfooi by registrasie betaal. Alle nuwe kwekers of beginnerboere wat meer as 10 hektaar registreer, betaal die dubbel registrasiefooi. Dit is dan ook so deur die Nasionale Moerekomitee aanvaar.
- Die voorstelle ter verbetering van die **Protokol** is deeglik deurgewerk en aanvaar. Ingesluit in die dokumentasie is 'n harde kopie van die gewysigde Skema en Protokol. Kontak gerus u plaaslike streekskantoor indien u 'n elektroniese kopie verlang.

OSRA

- Die **termyn ten opsigte van planttelersregte** vir aartappels is nog nie gewysig nie. Die tydperk is in die geval van aartappels tans steeds 20 jaar. Die konsepwet sal vroeg in 2011 vir publieke kommentaar beskikbaar wees.
- Die voorstel dat daar met die **50m isolasie van G0-aanplantings** vanaf ander aanplantings weggedoen word, sowel as die versoek om Tabel 2 van die Skema te wysig sodat die **toleransie ten opsigte van afwykende plante** tydens die tweede landinspeksie van G1- tot G3-plantmateriaal van 0% na 0.01% verander word, is goedgekeur en op 22 Oktober 2010 in die Staatskoerant gepubliseer. Hierdie veranderings kan dus nou toegepas word.

DIREKSIE

- Die Direksie het die **betaling van 'n dubbel registrasiefooi** deur nuwe toetreders bevestig. Versuim om die gelde te betaal, sal tot die staking van dienste lei.
- Daar word 'n beroep op alle kwekers gedoen om die **beraming van hektare** vir die nuwe boekjaar met groot erns te bejeën. Afwykings het 'n geweldige groot invloed op die begroting van die Maatskappy.

- The **payment of double registration fees** in the case of new entrants to the seed potato industry was once again discussed in depth. In the past upcoming farmers were exempt from the payment of the double registration fees. The task team concerned with the improvement of the Scheme came with the proposal that **all** new growers (beginner farmers) who receive a grower's code for the first time and plant 10 hectares or less for two consecutive years and have their crop certified, only pay the single fee when registering. All new growers or beginner farmers who register more than 10 hectares will pay the double registration fees. The National Seed Potato Committee accepted this as such.
- The proposals with regard to an improvement of the **Protocol** were worked through thoroughly and accepted. Included in the documentation is a printed copy of the amended Scheme and Protocol. Please contact your regional office if you would like to receive an electronic copy.

ICCSP

- The **term in respect of plant breeder's rights** for potatoes has still not been amended. In the case of potatoes the period is at present still 20 years. The draft act will be available for public comment early in 2011.
- The proposal that the **50 m isolation of G0 plantings** from other plantings be scrapped, as well as the request that Table 2 of the Scheme be amended so that the **tolerance in respect of deviating plants** during the second field inspection in respect of G1 to G3 planting material be changed from 0% to 0,1%, were approved and published in the Government Gazette on 22 October 2011. These changes can therefore be applied now.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- The Board of Directors confirmed **the payment of double registration fees** by new entrants. Failure to pay the moneys will lead to the termination of services.
- All growers are requested to treat the **estimate of hectares** to be registered in the new financial year very seriously. Deviations have a tremendous effect on the budget of the company.

- Dit is vir my lekker om te kan rapporteer dat die **opleiding van sertifiseringspersoneel** onder Frank Osler, Tegniese Bestuurder van ASD, se leiding die afgelope jaar geweldig baie aandag geniet het. Heelwat nuwe personeel is aangestel en deur die gekwalifiseerde personeel onder hande geneem om die nodige blootstelling en opleiding te ontvang. Frank is dan verantwoordelik vir die finale evaluering en magtiging. Daar word egter nie net na nuut aangestelde personeel omgesien nie. Gesoute sertifiseringsbeamptes moes ook in Oktober en November vanjaar 'n praktiese sowel as teoretiese tegniese evaluasie ondergaan. Almal het die evaluasie geslaag en erken dat hulle weer opnuut opgeskerp is wat sekere aspekte betref. Veral die waarneming van variëteitsvermenging het ook aandag geniet.
- ASD verkeer tans in 'n baie goeie finansiële posisie deurdat daar 'n groot aantal hektare meer geregistreer is as waarvoor begroot was en daar was ook 'n besparing van ASD se kant. Die Direksie het daarom goedgekeur dat 'n **korting** toegestaan word aan alle moerkwekers wat in die 2009/2010 boekjaar geregistreer het. Hektare wat onttrek is, is nie in ag geneem nie. Die korting kom op 'n bedrag van **R76.39 per hektaar** te staan**.**
- Desmond Hyman en Gavin Hill is onderskeidelik as die **Voorsitter en Onder-Voorsitter van ASD se Direksie** herverkies. Baie geluk met julle herverkiesing. Namens die Bestuur van ASD en al die moerkwekers wil ek julle graag bedank vir die geweldige groot bydrae en insette wat julle tot die Maatskappy maak. Dit word opreg waardeer.
- Neem asseblief kennis dat die sertifiseringskantore vanaf **28 tot 31 Desember 2010 gesluit** sal wees. Die kantore **heropen op 3 Januarie 2011**. U word hiermee vriendelik versoek om vooraf met die betrokke streekskantoor te reël indien u dienste gedurende hierdie tydperk benodig.

ALGEMEEN

Wat lief en leed betref, het ASD die afgelope paar maande deur baie moeilike tye gegaan. Ons het net weer opnuut besef wat 'n besonderse groep mense daar in die aartappelbedryf is. Baie dankie vir al julle ondersteuning en gebede die afgelope tyd. Dit is met groot dankbaarheid wat ons terugkyk op in baie opsigte 'n baie geseënde jaar, maar ook in baie opsigte vir baie mense 'n jaar met groot uitdagings wat te bowe gekom moes word. Met ons Hemelse Vader se hulp sien ons egter kans vir enigiets. Die swaar tye maak dat 'n mens die goeie tye soveel meer waardeer.

- It is a pleasure for me to be able to report that the **training of certification personnel** under the guidance of Frank Osler, Technical Manager of PCS, has received a great deal of attention the past year. A number of new staff members were appointed and taken by the hand by the qualified personnel to receive the necessary exposure and training. Frank is responsible for the final evaluation and authorisation. Attention is, however, not only paid to newly appointed personnel. The experienced certification officials also had to undergo a practical as well as a theoretical technical evaluation in October and November this year. Everyone passed the evaluation and admit that their knowledge was refreshed as far as certain aspects are concerned. Special attention was paid to the mixing of cultivars.
- PCS is at present in a very favourable financial position in that many more hectares have been registered than the number budgeted and PCS also effected a saving. The Board of Directors therefore approved that a **rebate** be granted to all the seed potato growers who registered in the 2009/2010 financial year. Hectares which were withdrawn have not been taken into consideration. The rebate amounts to an amount of **R76.39 per hectare**.
- Desmond Hyman and Gavin Hill were re-elected as the **Chairman** and **Vice-Chairman** of the Board of Directors of PCS. Congratulations with your re-election. On behalf of the Management of PCS and all the seed potato growers I wish to thank you for the tremendous contribution and inputs which you make to the Company. This is sincerely appreciated.
- Please note that the certification offices will be **closed from 28 to 31 December 2010**. The offices will **reopen on 3 January 2011**. You are hereby kindly requested to make arrangements in advance with the regional offices if you require services during this period.

GENERAL

PCS has gone through a very difficult period the past couple of months. We have realised once again what an exceptional group of people there are in the potato industry. Thank you very much for all your support and prayers. It is with deep gratitude that we look back at a very blessed year in many ways, as well as a year in which many people had to overcome great challenges. With the help of our Heavenly Father we are, however, prepared to face anything. The difficult times cause one to enjoy the good times all the more.

ASD en sy personeel wens u ‘n Geseënde Feesseisoen toe en mag 2011 vir almal goeie gesondheid en goeie oeste oplewer!

Vriendelike groete

PCS and its personnel wish you a Blessed Festive Season and may 2011 provide everyone with good health and good crops!

Kind regards

SANETTE THIART
BESTURENDE DIREKTEUR: ASD
MANAGING DIRECTOR: PCS
Save as: Tikwerk/Sanette/Amelia/ST0313