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9 Desember 2011

AAN ALLE AARTAPPELMOERKWEKERS EN ANDER ROLSPELERS IN DIE BEDRYF

Die Nasionale Moerekomitee het op 22 November 2011 vergader en die Onafhanklike Sertifiseringsraad vir Aartappelmoere (OSRA) en die Direksie van Aartappelsertifiseringsdiens (ASD) het op 23 November 2011 onderskeidelik byeengekom. Ek bring hiermee die volgende aspekte onder u aandag:

Nasionale Moerekomitee

- Gerhard Posthumus is as die **Voorsitter van die Moerkwekersforum** en ook die **Nasionale Moerekomitee** by die Forum in Kaapstad herverkies. Hy het sedertdien bedank as voorsitter en Desmond Hyman is as die nuwe voorsitter verkies. Desmond dien dus ook op die Direksie van Aartappels Suid-Afrika met die verantwoordelikheid om na die belange van die moerprodusente om te sien. Ons wens hom geluk met sy verkiesing en wens hom net die beste toe in sy nuwe amp.
- Die **Moerkwekersforum** sal op Dinsdag, 11 September 2012 gehou word. Die Forum is geskeduleer om in KwaZulu-Natal plaas te vind, maar toestemming is verleen om dit in Gauteng aan te bied as 'n geskikte plek wat groot genoeg is om al die deelnemers te akkommodeer, nie in KZN gevind word nie. Alle moerprodusente word versoek om interessante onderwerpe met betrekking tot moerproduksie voor te stel ter bepreking by die Forum. Ek wil graag hê dat 2012 dié jaar moet wees waar ons die grootste aantal moerprodusente ooit het wat die Forum bywoon.
- Goeie nuus is dat die **oprigting van die PKR-toetslaboratorium** in proses is om by Plantovita gevestig te word. Die maatskappy, Cropcell, sal vroeg in 2012 met die validasieproses begin sodra die fasiliteit en toerusting in plek is.
- Die aanvanklike glashuisproewe wat op die **nuwe sist-aalwurmspesie** wat in die Sandveld gevind is, gedoen is, dui daarop dat aartappels nie 'n gasheer is nie. Veldproewe sal in Februarie 2012 geplant word om te bevestig of aartappels wel 'n gasheer van hierdie spesie is al dan nie.

9 December 2011

TO ALL SEED POTATO GROWERS AND OTHER ROLE PLAYERS IN THE INDUSTRY

The National Seed Potato Committee convened on 22 November 2011 and the Independent Certification Council for Seed Potatoes (ICCSP) and the Board of Directors of Potato Certification Service (PCS) on 23 November 2011. I herewith bring the following aspects to your attention:

National Seed Potato Committee

- Gerhard Posthumus was re-elected as the **Chairman of the Seed Potato Growers' Forum as well as the National Seed Potato Committee** at the Forum in Cape Town. He has since **resigned** as chairman and **Desmond Hyman** has been elected as the new Chairman. Desmond will therefore also serve on the board of Directors of Potatoes South Africa responsible for looking after the interests of the seed growers. We congratulate him on his election and wish him only the best in his new capacity.
- The **Seed Potato Growers' Forum** will be held on Tuesday, 11 September 2012. The Forum is scheduled to take place in KwaZulu-Natal, but permission has been granted to host it in Gauteng if a suitable venue which is big enough to accommodate all attendees is not found in KZN. I herewith request all seed growers to actively participate in proposing interesting topics relevant to seed production to be discussed at the Forum. I would like 2012 to be the year where we had the biggest number of seed growers attending ever.
- Good news is that the **PCR technology test laboratory** is in the process of being established at Plantovita. The company Cropcell will embark on the validation process early in 2012 once the facility and equipment are in place.
- The initial glasshouse trials on the **new cyst nematode** found in the Sandveld indicate that the potato is not a host. Field trials to confirm whether potato is a host of this specie or not will be planted in February 2012.

- Die voorstel vir die **verbetering van die Skema** wat by die Forum en ASA se Kongres ter tafel gelê is, het baie reaksie uitgelok. Die veranderinge aan die Skema word nie ligtelik opgeneem nie en sal so wyd as moontlik in die volgende paar maande gekommunikeer word.
  Die konsepvoorstel sal na die onderskeie Streeksmoerekomitees sowel as na die plaaslike gebiedsbestuurbyeenkomste van Aartappels Suid-Afrika teruggeneem word om die insette te kry van die moer- sowel as tafelprodusente. Daar word voorgestel dat 'n finale voorstel deur 'n span wat uit gelyke aantal moer- en tafelprodusente bestaan geformuleer word vir voorlegging by die volgende Moerkwekersforum.
- Die nuwe **heffings op moere** sluit bydraes van moerprodusente vir die bemarking van aartappels in. Tiekie de Kock is aangestel as die moerprodusente se verteenwoordiger op ASA se Bemarkingskomitee. Voorstelle oor hoe die geld bestee moet word, moet via die streeksmoerekomitees gekommunikeer word

OSRA

- Die **Konsepwet op Planttelersregte** is op 7 Oktober 2011 in die Staatskoerant gepubliseer. Rolspelers is gevra om kommentaar te lewer op die voorgestelde Wetsontwerp. Briewe ter kommentaar oor die wetsontwerp is aan die Registrateur gestuur.

DIREKSIE

- Die bewoording op die **sertifiseringsetiket** is verander om te verseker dat dit aan die vereistes van die Wet op Verbruikersbeskerming voldoen. Die bewoording sal ook in die toekoms op die knolinspeksieverslag aangebring word. Departement van Landbou, Bosbou en Visserye (DLBV) het toestemming verleen om die staatsembleem op die sertifiseringsetiket aan te bring. Die nuwe sertifiseringsetikette met die staatsembleem en nuwe bewoording sal infaseer word soos nuwe etikette gedruk word.
- In die lig van die Wet op Verbruikersbeskerming, word dit weer eens aanbeveel dat alle moerprodusente moet seker maak dat hulle 'n waterdigte **koopooreenkoms** in plek het. Moere word op grond van landmonsteruitslae gesertifiseer en so verkoop.
- Daar is besluit dat die huidige **leningsrekenings** in die toekoms rente sal toeval en dat geen verdere kortings toegestaan aan moerkwekers terugbetaal sal word nie. Die geld sal eerder in die toekoms in ‘n leningsrekening geskep vir elke moerkweker, oorgedra word. Hierdie leningsrekening sal ook rentedraend wees.

- The proposal for the **improvement of the Scheme** tabled at the Forum and PSA Congress created a great deal of reaction. The changes to the Scheme will not be taken lightly and will have to be communicated as widely as possible in the next few months. The draft proposal will be taken back to the Regional Seed Committees as well as to the Regional Meetings of Potatoes South Africa in order to obtain the inputs from the table growers as well. It is proposed that a formal proposal be drafted by a team involving equal numbers of seed and table growers for tabling at the next Seed Potato Growers’ Forum.
- The new levies on seed potatoes include contributions from seed growers for marketing. Tiekie de Kock has been appointed as the **seed growers’ representative on PSA’s Marketing Committee**. Proposals on how this money must be spent must be communicated via the Regional Seed Potato Committees.

ICCSP

- The **draft Plant Breeders’ Rights Bill** was published on 7 October 2011. Role players have been asked to comment on the proposed Bill. Letters commenting on the draft Bill have been sent to the Registrar.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- The **wording on the certification label** has been changed to ensure that it complies with the requirements of the Consumer Protection Act. The wording will also appear on the tuber inspection report in future. Permission has been granted by Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) to include the state emblem on the certification label. Labels with the state emblem and new wording will be phased in as new labels are printed.
- In view of the **Consumer Protection Act**, it is once again recommended that all seed growers have a watertight purchase agreement in place. Seed is certified on field sample results.
- It has been resolved that current **loan accounts** will in future accrue interest and that no rebates will be paid to growers in future. Instead of paying the money back to the growers, the money will be transferred to each grower’s loan account also subject to the accrual of interest.

Produsente sal slegs in staat wees om hul geld te onttrek wanneer hulle ophou om moere te kweek. Die beginsel en prosesse sal op 'n later stadium aan die moerkwekers gekommunikeer word.

- Baie geluk aan die volgende sertifiseringsbeamptes wat as **Streeksbestuurders** aangestel is: Ferdus Erasmus is vanaf 1 November 2011 in die Streekskantoor in Pietermaritzburg aangestel, Gideon Truter is in die Douglas-Streekskantoor aangestel vanaf 1 Januarie 2012 en Wessel Stapelberg is vanaf 1 Junie 2012 in die Piketberg-Streekskantoor aangestel. Ons vertrou dat u hierdie nuwe Streeksbestuurders sal ondersteun en u samewerking sal gee en dat u uitstekende diens van hulle sal geniet.

ALGEMEEN

Baie dankie aan al die moerprodusente, borge, werknemers van DLBV, lede van die komitees, Raadslede, direkteure asook ASA-personeel, laboratoriumpersoneel en ASD-personeel vir die ondersteuning van ons visie en missie in ons strewe na die volgehoue voorsiening van hoë gehalte plantmateriaal aan die aartappelbedryf in Suid-Afrika. Ons wens u 'n Geseënde Feestyd en ‘n uitstekende aartappeljaar toe in 2012!

Vriendelike groete

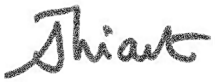
Growers will only be able to withdraw their money when they stop producing seed potatoes. The principle and processes will be communicated to the seed growers at a later stage.

- Congratulations to the following certification officials who have been appointed as **Regional Managers**: Ferdus Erasmus was appointed in the Pietermaritzburg Regional Office as from 1 November 2011, Gideon Truter has been appointed in the Douglas Regional Office with effect from 1 January 2012 and Wessel Stapelberg has been appointed in the Piketberg Regional Office with effect from 1 June 2012**.** We trust that you will give these new managers your support and cooperation and that you will enjoy excellent service from them.

GENERAL

Thank you to all the seed growers, sponsors, employees from DAFF, members of committees, Council members, directors and PSA staff, laboratory staff and PCS personnel for supporting our vision and mission in our pursuit of a sustained supply of high quality planting material to the potato industry in South Africa. We wish you a Blessed Festive Season and an excellent potato year in 2012!

Kind regards



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BESTURENDE DIREKTEUR: ASD
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