



FRUIT FLASH

June
2014

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FRESH FROM SAPO TRUST BOARD

Dear reader,

2013 delivered a bountiful yield of productive results. The numbers are in, and we are very happy with what we have achieved. SAPO Trust distributed 1.5 million stone fruit, 1.2 million apples, 520 000 pears and 7 million table grape scions during 2013.

More good news is that Elsa Muller (Saayman) returned to SAPO on 16 January 2014 from Namibia. Her new focus at SAPO is on the improvement of the stability of plant material for Gala apples through a selection management programme.

In other news, Walter Williams was elected as a new SAPO Trustee, while Jannie Wiegmann resigned as SAAPPA representative on the SAPO Trust Board. Jannie was replaced by Calla du Toit from Ceres.

Enjoy reading more about what's fresh and exciting at SAPO currently. Should you have any questions, or feedback, please send an email to info@saplant.co.za.

Until next time,

Dr Phillip Fourie
General Manager



COMING SOON

Variety: Delwilmor

Rating: ★★★★★

Attributes: This promising new pear variety offers good yields. It ripens around mid to end March, and boasts excellent storage-ability.



Variety: Red Fallstaf

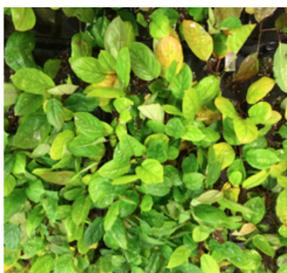
Rating: ★★★★★

Attributes: A sweet tasting, crunchy eating apple with an attractive red blush.

It ripens around beginning to mid March.



INDUSTRY NEWS



APPLE ROOTSTOCK ARRIVALS

Tissue culture plants from promising Geneva® apple rootstocks were imported during October and November last year. This import is part of the SAAPPA apple rootstock project at SAPO Trust to deliver new rootstocks to the pome fruit industry. Plants were sent to WestCape Biotech and ARC Infruitec-Nietvoorbij near Stellenbosch for multiplication and hardening off. These plants were recently released and will now be planted in SAPO Trust layering blocks at Riviersonderend.



VISITS FROM ABROAD

Nicolas Stevens, CEO of Better3Fruit, visited the SAPO Trust Foundation premises in Ceres during April. New apple varieties from their breeding programme were examined and tasted. Willy Dillen of ABCz visited us during May. This group was created by Carolus C, Pépinières Gard and Fresh Fruit Services Europe. The partner-nurseries are innovative and produce trees of the highest quality, which are sold all over Europe. Apart from their involvement in tree nurseries, the partners are also fruit producers, marketers and actively involved in a number of breeding programmes. Examples are the 'Züchtungsinitiative Niederelbe (ZIN)', 'Novadi', and Pépinières Gard's own breeding programme. In addition, ABCz has strong connections to many other programmes worldwide.



PICK OF THE MONTH



(Marle Koekemoer)
– FEBRUARY 2014

Marle is SAPO Trust's receptionist. She assists with various administrative tasks, such as vehicle coordination, security systems and organising SAPO's archive. She received the Employee of the Month Award in March for coordinating the seamless transfer of SAPO's telephone system to their new premises.

Marle's biggest inspiration is music. She is also an avid poet and gym goer. Working for SAPO, one can't help but surmise that she has to be a fruit lover as well. Which is indeed the case. Her favourite fruits are mangos, pineapples and grapes. She stays in Strand, and enjoys spending quality time with family and friends in her leisure time.



(Ernest Ockhuys)
– MARCH 2014

Ernest's many years of experience is highly valued at SAPO. He is responsible for the inspection and plant disease management of plant material and trees at SAPO's nursery in Riviersonderend. He received the Employee of the Month Award in April for the due delivery of SAPO's vehicle inspection reports.

One of the people Ernest looks up to most is his father. Ernest enjoys family time and watching sports on TV. What inspires him most is people with an optimistic viewpoint in life.



SAPO & SOCIAL MEDIA



What do you think of social media? Is it an information train heading for a wall and you wouldn't want to be caught on it? Or do you think it has changed the way people work and connect? Moreover, if SAPO jumped on the social media train, would you interact with us and take part in the competitions, activities and events? Please email your comments to info@saplant.co.za

“ Is Facebook worth it? ”

