



to the grower, after deduction of royalties, should inform a grower whether it is worthwhile planting a cultivar. Planting a new cultivar of which little is known is a risk. Therefore, the decision should involve investigation of the cultivar for at least two seasons and visiting trial sites to determine the cultivar's potential success.

A very important and relevant topic to the fruit industry, chemical residue analysis, was explained by Wessel Kriek from Hortec. Residue sampling should be done as per the guidelines from DAFF and collected throughout a packhouse where applicable. Once a sample has been homogenised, it can be subjected to testing using mass spectrometry. This involves selecting for the molecular mass of a particular chemical, applying a voltage or current, and then detecting known byproducts.

Laboratories differ with respect to the limit of quantification of a chemical, and there is even variability when testing the same sample. Wessel finally noted that quaternary ammonium compounds, such as Sporekill, and propiconazole have a high affinity to rubber and plastic surfaces, hence their persistence during tests.

Christo Human, a mango breeder from the ARC, presented on new promising cultivars that were evaluated in the last few seasons in different climatic areas of South Africa. Tasting sessions were done at Bavaria Estate in February 2018 and Tamarak Mango Estate (Clanwilliam) in March 2018. He appealed to

growers to respond to emails requesting field areas to evaluate cultivars.

INDIAN CULTIVARS

Dr. Bhaskar Savani from Savani Farms in India gave a talk on Indian mango exports and the success of exports into the USA, using irradiation as a mitigation treatment. He elaborated on the different cultivars produced in India and noted that the Indian market would rather purchase Indian cultivars than the traditional Tommy Atkins, Kent and Keitt cultivars. He suggested that Indian cultivars be grown in South Africa for export to India in its off-season, and to other countries.

Dr. Savani noted that irradiation is very popular in the USA and was used instead of hot water treatment to preserve the flavour of mangoes imported from India into the USA. He further advocated that irradiation would likely overtake hot water treatment and become the standard to overcome phytosanitary barriers.

The final presentation of the mango day was a presentation on a 21-year old high density mango orchard by Dr. Steve Oosthuyze. Although the orchard requires high maintenance and pruning, a high production volume is realised within three years, as opposed to conventional farming that realises an equivalent volume in five to ten years depending on planting density.

The day was concluded by the SAMGA Annual General Meeting followed by a braai.

SAMGA appreciates and acknowledge the event sponsors, namely Metson World, Wenkem SA, Westfalia Fruit, Villa, Adama, Houers Koöperatief Beperk, Agri Technovation, NTK and Obaro. ♦



Streeksverslag SAMGA-studiegroepe

André Botha
SUBTROP

GEDURENDE DIE MIDDEL van die jaar is die nuwe blombespuitingsprogram deur Estelle Louw in samewerking met Laeveld Agrochem by SAMGA se studiegroepe in Mpumalanga, Letaba en Hoedspruit aangebied.

Daar heers steeds kommer oor die Europese kommissie se beplande verbanning van sommige chemiese middels omdat dit vir bye skadelik kan wees. Middels wat in dié katogorie val is thiamatoxan, imidacloprid en chlothianidin (Neonicotonies). Die verlies van hierdie middels sal negatiewe gevolge hê in die mango-uitvoerbedryf. Die bedryf steun sterk op



SAMGA se studiegroepbyeenkoms.

insekmiddels om skoon en aantreklike vrugte van goeie kwaliteit te kan lewer.

By Mpumalanga se studiegroep is aandag gegee aan grondgesondheid en die belangrikheid van mikrobies in die grond vir suksesvolle en beter oeste. Produsente is verder bekommerd oor die voorkoms van die fisiologiese siekte "varkhart" wat in die laaste seisoen op Tommy Atkins-mango's voorgekom het. Dit kan dalk toegeskryf word aan die buitengewone wisseling in temperature laat in die seisoen en net voor oestyd. ♦