

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SEEDLING GROWERS ASSOCIATION OF SA HELD ON  
GLENBURN LODGE, MULDRSDRIFT  
2<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2016 AT 14H00**

**1 CONFIRMATION OF QUORUM AND APOLOGIES**

A quorum was confirmed.

**PRESENT:**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>COMPANY</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>COMPANY</u>
Liandra van Belondce			
De Vries	Intens Agri Hydro	Paddy De Vries	Intens Agri Hydro
Johan van der Vyver	ICA International	Charlie Fripp	Farmyard Organics
Marius Langenhoven	Radical Seedlings	Nomonde Qongqo	Siyatyala Nursery
Sipho Ndaba	York Timbers (Ptd) Ltd	Isaac Sibya	Ezigro Seedlings
Mike Cunningham	P & A Seedlings	Damien Naidu	Sappi
Lindani Nzimande	Dube Transport Agrilab	Mpumelelo Dlamini	Sappi
GP Botha	Conatech	Gerrit Botha	Conatech
Kobus van Huysteen	SANSOR	Harry Pouwels	Dela Plast
Jan V D Merwe	Sakata Seeds	Bruce Colepeper	McDonalds Seeds
Johan Bestbier	Sakata Seeds	Andre De Villiers	Sakata Seeds
Johan Stonkhurst	Sakata Seeds	Jan Louis Bezuidenhout	Sakata Seeds
D. Seewald	Heuers	A. Swanepoel	Heuers
R. Aucamp	Sakata Seeds	S. Schulze	Sakata Seeds
S. Allen	Sakata Seeds	J. McCulary	Hazera Seeds
A van der Merwe	Hazera Seeds	Wayne Jefferies	Lone Oak Seedlings
Sherrie-Ann New	Univeristy of JHB	Liesl Ross	Parma Nursery
N King	Pratley	Johan van Veenendal	Cedara
			Klein Karoo Seed
James Dick	SGASA Auditor	Koot Jacobs	Marketing
Charl Rorich	Ezigro	John Ferguson	Ezigro
Chris Young	Ezigro	Nolan Roche	Ezigro
Pierre Adriaanse	UNISA	Tracy Newmarch	Mondi
Frikkie Bam	Starke Ayres	Johan du Plessis	Starke Ayres
Frikkie Marais	Starke Ayres	Talha Loonat	Starke Ayres
Gareth Chittenden	Zululand Nurseries	Henk Du Plessis	Rosaly Boerdery
Len du Toit	Multiplant	Drummond Crowshaw	Ball Straathof
	Klein Karoo Seed		
GC De Beer	Marketing	Arno Moore	Moorland
G Magaseng	University of SA	A Dlamini	Leokariba
Bryn Pollard	Sunshine Seedlings	S. Biggs	Sutherland Seedlings
P. Ashton	Sutherland Seedlings	Frik Joubert	SGASA Auditor
C Human	Floralite	S De Hass	Mondi
N Olivier	Safed	J Dames	Rhodes University
Lelanie Trollip	Bark 'n Fibre	Takhona Dlamini	NAMBoard
Zulu Nlamiso	NAMBoard	Braam Colyn	Roodehoogte Nursery
Ian Gordon	ICFR	Sascha Pay	ICFR
Schalk van Heerden	Sakata Seeds	Ashton Verccueil	Nutrigo Pty Ltd

Tamaryn Verccueil	Nutrigro Pty Ltd	Kholisa Langa	TWK Agri Pty Ltd
Bob Timber	TWK Agri Pty Ltd	Felix Hacker	Du Roi
Anne Meger	Du Roi	Heinz Reinstoff	BCC SA
	Klein Karoo Seed		
Flores Kotze	Marketing	Rob Perry	Sappi
Jean Allen	SGASA		

**APOLOGIES:**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>COMPANY</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>COMPANY</u>
Ken Leisegang	Sunshine Seedlings		

**2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the 20145 AGM held at the Jefferies Bay 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015 were taken as read and accepted as a true reflection of the meeting.

Proposer: Shaun Biggs

Seconded: Charl Rorich

**3. MATTERS ARISING**

All matters arising were accepted as dealt with by the 2015/2016 committee.

**4. DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS REPORT – Jean Allen**

It's wonderful to have such great support at this year's symposium. There has been an excellent attendance this year with over 110 delegates including exhibitors and speakers that have attended various aspects of this symposium. A very big thank you must be extended to the nurseries that we visited yesterday and on the Pre Symposium tour for those of you who were able to join us on Tuesday.

As always a huge thank you goes out to our sponsors.

- Klein Karoo Seed marketing and Starke Ayres for sponsoring a portion of Paul Fishers trip
- SAKATA for the gala dinner and table gifts
- Sappi and Mondi for the stationery

I would also like to thank Monica Britts who has been so involved in arranging entertainment and décor for the gala dinner and just being there for me with contacts

This year past year has seen a focus on introducing technology to the admin processes and hopefully this has and will continue to lead to improved communication with you. Please visit our website and also our Facebook page to stay in touch.

Welcome to New Members and welcome back to some returning members: Dela Plast, Brian Law Seedlings, Cedara College, Siyatyala farming. Our newest grower is Dave Jenkins new born son. Congratulations the Jenkins family and welcome to Caleb.

Congratulations to the following members who have been audited and awarded certified status this year: TWK Agri, Sappi Richmond, Marlow Nursery, Top Crop, Zululand Nursery, Sutherland Seedlings, Ezigro,

Sunshine Seedlings, CPS Greytown and Multiplant

This year we have held committee meetings at Starke Ayres, the November meeting was held at Mondi House in Hilton, and in April we met at the SAPPI offices in Tweedie. A big personal thank you from me to the committee for all they do and for the support they give me. The committee continue to work tirelessly giving up enormous amounts of their own time to attend meetings.

## **5. FINANCE REPORT & BUDGET – Presented by Damien Naidu on behalf of Ken Leisegang**

All delegates viewed a copy of the audited finances on screen

Report on Financial position of SGASA for the 2016 AGM

The financial position of the SGASA is in a very healthy state once more under the capable hands of our Director of Operations Jean Allen. As at February 2016 we had a large accumulated profit of R100803 for the year. In addition, our share portfolio investment has shown good growth and justified our move to invest in equities. An amount of R479673 was invested on 13th January and by end of February had already grown by R19249 which is a 4% increase. As at the 25th May the investment had increased to R526683 that is a gain of R47010 which is a 9,8% increase on our initial investment over 4,5 months. This is far better than the 4% interest per annum we were receiving.

Our budget for the year shows that we are budgeted to make a small profit for this financial year ending February 2017

Our financial position is thus very sound and I would suggest that SGASA committee investigates further funding for:

1. More research projects
2. Advertising SGASA to vegetable growers and timber farmers.
3. Spending money on getting our SGASA certification scheme Global Gap compliant.

The F2016 audited finances and the F2017 budget were accepted

Proposer: Shaun Biggs

Seconded: Anthony Baird

## **6. RESEARCH REPORT – Tracy Newmarch**

TM gave no formal report as both the current researchers had given formal presentation of their current research during the main body of the symposium. These included:

- Ms Sherri-Ann New from the Department of Biochemistry, University of Johannesburg reported on her *Cabbage Project Research*. SGASA is a funding partner in this research.
- Ms Veronique Fitzgerald under guidance of Dr Dames from Rhodes University

## **7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Rian Moore**

Thanks for the opportunity to share with you my chairman's report.

It felt like yesterday that we had our 2015 symposium down in the Eastern Cape. But what a year we've had!

What comes to mind immediately is the severe drought we've had. This had a big influence on both the vegetable seedling and forestry seedling industry. We also experienced very low demand for vegetable produce for most of 2015 and then all of a sudden we had record prices for the same produce in the last six months.

The devaluation of the Rand against the US Dollar and the way it happened, was a great disappointment. However, the Seedling Industry did find a way to survive through this bad period until now. On a more positive note, the main committee decided on our first meeting in August 2015 to take on a more pro-active role.

Our finance committee went on and established an investment portfolio. At this stage we are proud of the growth achieved on the investment.

Seedling Growers became a registered member of Agri SA in the third quarter of 2015. With this membership we can also contribute on a higher level of agriculture.

Seedling Growers also took part in two exhibitions during 2015. The first exhibition took place at the PMA Career Fair in Durban during August. The second exhibition was in December at the GFIA Conference in Durban. I think it is very important to get the exposure and establish ourselves as an important organisation in the industry.

I want to congratulate Tracy Newmarch and her committee on the great work they've done with their research program.

On the certification side, I would like to welcome James Dick who replaces Derick Askew as one of our auditors.

At the end of last year Mike Kruger took the decision to resign from the main committee. Mike Kruger was one of the founder members of the Seedling Growers Association. He was founder of the website and leaflet which he edited until his resignation in 2015. Mike was also very much involved in various research programs for many years. His knowledge about growing media, plant nutrition, water quality, disease management and nursery related issues is to be admired. It is a big challenge for us, to build positive, on the solid base set by Mike. On behalf of the main committee, I would like to thank you for everything you have done, not only for the organisation but for us, as friends in the industry. We wish you and your family a prosperous future and definitely more great fishing trips!

The leaflet is currently being laid out by Little Blackbird Design Studio. In future only a Summer edition in October and Winter edition in April will be issued. The content will now be provided by different members of the committee and we welcome contributions from you, our members.

Although there is always room for improvement, we are happy with the progress we've made in upgrading our website. Feel free to visit our website regularly.

I would like to thank the main committee and sub-committee members for all the hard work they have put in over the past year. A special word of thanks to Jean Allen, our director of operations, for keeping the office running. I hope you have reason to remember the 2016 Symposium and enjoy the Gala Dinner.

I thank you.

## **8. ELECTION OF 2016/2017 MAIN COMMITTEE**

MOORE, RIAN – CHAIRPERSON  
NEWMARCH, TRACY  
BAIRD, ANTHONY  
BEZUIDENHOUT, JAN-LOUIS  
BIGGS, SHAUN  
CHITTENDEN, GARETH  
JACOBS, KOOT  
JENKINS, DAVVYD  
LEISEGANG, KEN  
NAIDU, DAMIEN  
PERRY, ROBERT

Portfolios will be assigned at the first committee meeting of the new committee.

## **9. GENERAL**

There were no issues raised.

During the awards evening the following awards were awarded:

- The Max Bothma award to the most dedicated committee member was given to Shaun Biggs
- The SAKATA award for the most improved nursery was awarded to the Multiplant. This was decided by the SGASA auditors.
- The SAPPI Chris Young award for innovation in a nursery was awarded to Multiplant
- Honorary Life Membership to Mike Kruger

## **10. CLOSURE**

There being no further matters to discuss the meeting closed at 14:35.