

	<b>SUBJECT</b>	COVID-19 STATEMENT			<b>DOC SYS REF</b>	OTHER
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## CERES FRUIT GROWERS (PTY) LTD COVID-19 STATEMENT

The global spread of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) continues to impact on businesses and their employees worldwide and South Africa is also under threat of the disease. Ceres Fruit Growers (Pty) Ltd (CFG) hereby confirms our commitment to all our stakeholders. We are actively monitoring the situation and implementing mitigating strategies at our fruit packing facility in Ceres, to minimise the risk attached to the virus, to ensure the safety of all our employees and visitors the product being provided to our domestic and international clients.

The company subscribes to the highest international food safety standards (BRC accredited) which ensure compliance to industry best practices.

As from 16 March 2020, we have implemented the following action steps within our company, namely:

- Subscribing to and implementing the directives issued by the South African Government and doing everything in our ability to protect all our employees
- Implementing an Employee Awareness Program (information sessions, induction, communications, visual demonstrations). Information sessions on the cause and effects of COVID-19 are being held with employees by our Clinical Nurse and where necessary, by a Medical Practitioner.
- Enhancing all Hygiene practices and implement new practices in line with Government's National Health recommendations. Personal hygiene practices are demonstrated: the cleaning of hands by sanitizers being provided, the avoidance of close contact, the disinfection of work surfaces and the covering of coughs and sneezes.
- Regular screening of all employees and visitors.
- Access controls have been enhanced for all visitors entering CFG. COVID-19 screening and health clearance must be done before access will be granted.
- Food safety standards at our plant limit the possibility of body fluids contaminating our products.
- CFG's Food Safety Management System and certification is in place, and our local suppliers of raw material have food safety measurements and certification in place. The supply chain has been evaluated and precautionary measures have been taken to ensure we have the necessary material to continue supplying clients globally.
- Active involvement in the Ceres community and engagement with other employers to ensure all stakeholders are regularly informed.
- The employer applies the provisions contained in the **Consolidated Direction on Occupational Health and Safety Measures in Certain Workplaces**, published in the Government Gazette dated 11 June 2021.
- The employer conducted a risk assessment from an operational point of view and taken into account the current COVID-19 practices in place, decided that **vaccination will not be mandatory for employees**.
- However, the employer encourages all employees to consider receiving the vaccination. The employer will provide assistance to employees, wishing to register and receiving vaccination.

The above measures are taken to ensure the health and safety of Ceres Fruit Growers employees and visitors to continue providing international and local clients with a guaranteed safe product.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Kind Regards

**JF Malan**  
**Managing Director**

**July 2021**