

Empowering QX users

Prophet's hands-on QX tutorials once again satisfied users in the Western Cape on 29 June at the NH Lord Charles Hotel in Somerset West. A full house of delegates walked away with much to sustain their QX experience.



Seen there were: Ideafruit's Refilwe Munyani, Emily Churchman and Elizabeth Biggs, with Prophet's Frikkie Burger.



Karen de Beer from Fruitways, Grace Smith from Kallos, Lizelle Marais from Kallos, Prophet's Ilene de Villiers, Ilze du Plessis and Edwina le Roux – both from Fruitways – in a happy mood.



Prophet's Charl van Loggerenberg meets up with Surietha Steyn and Jaydene Wilson from EMEX International.

Get the advantage!

Aligning a business with the latest offerings and functionalities is absolutely imperative for Prophet QX clients. "We continually upgrade functionalities and enhance performance," director JD van Wyk explained. "Therefore, it's particularly important for clients who've been on QX for more than five years to evaluate and align their business practices with the latest advances. Alignment every few years actually makes good business sense because then clients get the most out of their license fee."



Good connection



Dewald Naude from Everseason and Prophet's Frikkie Burger.

Now in its seventh year, the annual PMA Fresh Connections: Southern Africa Conference and Trade Show on 16 and 17 August included an expanded trade show, top conference speakers, workshops and networking with 600 decision makers in the international and South African agri-business supply chain. Prophet again was one of the sponsors.

With the PMA's major focus on global connections, chairperson John Oxford said that Mexico and South Africa were two countries of particular interest to the PMA. "The opportunity to grow markets overseas is massive but we need an aggregate effort. You can't do it on your own, you need an ecosystem."



Prophet's JD van Wyk is flanked by Jaco Burger and Natasha van der Meer from Market Demand Fruits.

A new approach

By revamping its training approach and tools, Prophet is aiming to make QX instruction more interactive, but also more defined.

The training material, linked to interactive videos, is packaged for trainers to present the course consisting of three types of training categories: Users, Department Champions and System Champions.

Prophet director JD van Wyk said QX training then would be available to anyone – not only current QX clients. "Having completed the training, it'll definitely be a significant item on the curriculum vitae of those wishing to pursue a career in the fresh produce industry."



Prophet will be sending an official announcement to clients in due course.

Great conference line-up



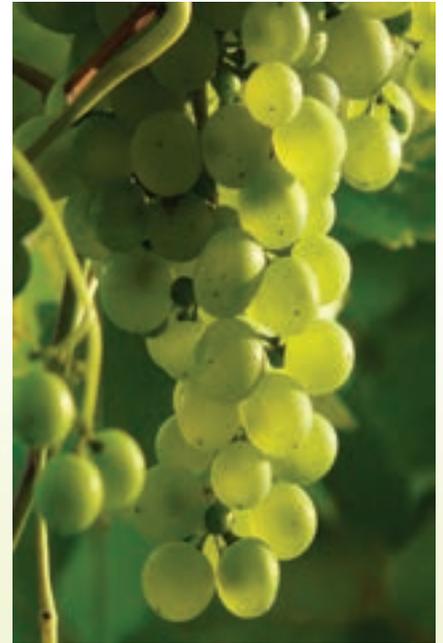
A reminder that Prophet's Annual Conference has been scheduled for 10 November at Spier Wine Estate, Stellenbosch. Commanding guest speakers Professor Brian Kantor and Braam Malherbe will ensure that delegates leave the conference motivated and with strategic information to drive their businesses.

Brian Kantor had a distinguished academic career at UCT as professor of Economics since 1981, serving as dean of the Faculty of Commerce from 1997 to 2001. Braam Malherbe is an international motivational speaker, conservationist, extreme adventurer, TV presenter, youth developer and author of *The Great Run*.



Enjoy summer's bounty

It's that time of the year again for summer fruit producers: ensuring that QX is in tip-top shape. Clients who should make a diary entry to contact the applicable Prophet account managers timeously for a fine-tune prior to the season starting, include New Vision Fruit, Freshworld, SAPEX, Dippenaar Choice Fruit, Pitto, Triple D Farms and FVC.



Speedier turnaround

To enable QX clients to get faster request processing, Prophet has taken the strategic step of increasing its customer-facing component to seven members. Ilene de Villiers, Dewet Blaauw and Pieter Mouton have transferred to the team dealing directly with clients.



Ilene de Villiers



Dewet Blaauw



Pieter Mouton

Functionality fundi

As Pr3 implementation specialist, Drikus van der Wath loves testing new functionality and giving feedback to clients. In addition, his job entails client support through support logs.

Born and bred in the Free State, he joined a computer shop as junior technician in Bethlehem after matriculating. Soon he developed an interest in the agri-industry and started working at Farmsecure's grain division in 2009. Two years later he jumped at the opportunity to relocate to Cape Town in a systems support position and was subsequently promoted to assistant systems analyst. In this position he was part of a team that developed Farmsecure's on-farm management platform.

Drikus has a few courses in SQL management and the Windows environment under his belt. In 2014 he was appointed head of systems and support at Farm Agricultural Enterprise Management (now Agrisig) where he had to identify systems and software in the remote sensing space of Agriculture and GIS Solutions.



Married with an 18-month-old daughter, he loves the outdoors and family time. Other than that, Drikus enjoys the occasional computer game or multiplayer online game.



FAST FACTS

I believe don't do to others what you wouldn't like done to you

My sport is cricket, action cricket and occasionally golf

As spectator, I enjoy all sports

My favourite actors are Adam Sandler and Sandra Bullock

I love eating pizza

My signature drink is red wine

On TV I enjoy watching *Big Bang Theory* and *NCIS*