



Expansion of irrigated citrus production. Hexriver Citrus, Citrusdal

Project Summary:

The current old citrus orchards (± 80 years old) on the farm Hexrivier are approaching the end of their productive cycle. One third of these orchards will have to be replaced within the next 15 years due to falling production volumes, changes in market preference and soil borne pathogen build-up in the orchards over time. The size of the business on Hexrivier is such that it must remain in continual production to remain economically viable. Under optimal conditions a newly planted orchard will begin producing in four years and reach full production in 10 years. The fallow period would therefore extend the lower production period by an additional five years and it is this that the business cannot carry without significant economic and employment opportunity risks.

FOOTPRINT Environmental Services were appointed to undertake a Basic Assessment in terms of the NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010 for the proposed development.

Client:

Hexrivier Citrus (Pty) Ltd.