

BLUE SKIES PELICAN NEWS

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BLUE SKIES WELCOMES THE PRESIDENT OF GHANA

PRESIDENT OF GHANA

BLUE SKIES

The Blue Skies factory at Dobro was honoured to welcome the esteemed President of Ghana, Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, on a visit that highlighted the company's commitment to sustainability, innovation, and economic development. During his tour of the state-of-the-art facility, President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo engaged with employees and management, gaining insights into Blue Skies' unique approach to sourcing, processing, and packaging fresh fruit products. Impressed by the factory's adherence to sustainable practices and ethical standards, President commended Blue Skies for its contribution to Ghana's agribusiness sector. Read more on the next page.



Janet Lutterodt, General Manager of Blue Skies Ghana highlighted the challenges that were affecting the company's expansion and operations, with recent illegal activities of sand winning and land guards, and the continuous sale of farmlands to estate developers that is adversely affecting the expansion of out-grower farms. The president was delighted to see the dedication and innovation displayed by Blue Skies, and pledged his government's support to ensure that Blue Skies operations are not affected by land challenges which is impeding the expansion of out-grower farmers in the community.



Blue Skies expressed gratitude for the President's visit and reiterated its mission to produce premium fresh fruit products while upholding the highest standards of sustainability and corporate responsibility.



In the words from Hugh Pile, CEO of Blue Skies 'It was a real honour seeing the Ghana team stand up and exceed all expectations. A huge thank you to all of the Ghana team who put on the most astonishing celebration of Blue Skies, and still continued to maintain production in the background.'

TEAM VISIT TO GHANA



Tejinder Riyat pictured at the school

GHANA

COMMERCIAL TEAM VISIT

Recently, members from the UK Commercial and procurement team had the chance to visit the team in Ghana. They spent time touring the factories and meeting their colleagues. The visit coincided with the beginning of the peak season, offering a great opportunity to experience Blue Skies' culture. Additionally, some team members visited the school in Dobro to learn about some of the Foundation projects, and the compost site to learn more about our sustainability efforts. A big thank you to all of the Ghana team for their hospitality!

To the right you can view a video put together by Chloe Orwin which summaries their trip.





MAGICAL MELON IN EGYPT

AGRONOMY

MELON SEASON

Melon is often referred to as a desert fruit so it's no surprise that Egypt grows it very well. I visited in early May meeting up with Mr Bahgat, our factory general manager and his agronomy team. In late April there was a heat wave which had nicely boosted fruit development. I wondered if the flush of fruit would impact availability across May. It soon became very evident that our agronomists and the farmers were well in control of the situation. All of our programmes of Canteloup, Galia and watermelon were looking good and tasting absolutely fantastic. The Egyptian melon crop in May has to be some of the best in the world at a time when S hemisphere crop is winding down and Spanish is invariably stuttering to start up. Our customers have been sampled and are impressed by the quality and continuity that Egypt has to offer in this crucial window. Talking of continuity, the agronomy team had carefully planned multiple plots in different geographic and micro climate locations and this helps us harvest crop throughout the ups and downs of weather events. Egypt has been the hero of the month but we play to our Group strengths. Blue Skies has significant ability in fresh cut melon with normal peak season coverage but also continual contingency supply. Through our own farms and with our global strategic partners we stretch across Egyptian, Spanish, Brazilian, S African, Honduran, Turkish and even Ghanaian melon, which gives some comfort in an otherwise volatile world. Written by Guy Murfitt





A TRIBUTE TO MBALI

REMEMBRANCE

BLUE SKIES

Mbali Brigette Mngomezulu was born in 1996-07-22, started her primary schooling at Bonukukhanya Primary school, furthered her studies at I M Manchu secondary school. In 2015 she joined Blue Skies Fresh Produce and made permanent on the 2nd of October 2021 working as a Quality assurance.

She just came back from her 4 months maternity leave, and she passed on after a short illness. She is survived by her 2 daughters 7 year and 5 months old Thandolwethu and Anathi, her mother, brother, and her life partner Nkosinathi Majola they were planning to get married in July 2024.

Our hearts are with the grieving family, Words can't express how heartfelt we are our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. She will be forever remembered by her family, friends, colleagues, and her life partner.

Proverbs 16:9: We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps.

Rest in power Mngomezulu Mfiso ongafi



FLU VACCINE DRIVE IN SOUTH AFRICA

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Recently the team in RSA conducted a Flu vaccination drive with the assistance from the Department of Health. At Blue Skies we would love to extend our gratitude for all their support and health advice they are given to us through the years.

The reason and importance of taking the Flu Vaccination.

- It is the best way to reduce chances of getting Flu.
- Flu vaccination prevents illness, medical visits and reduce absenteeism due to employees being away from work due to illnesses, reduce hospitalisation and deaths.
- Vaccinating pregnant women helps to protect them from flu illness and hospitalisation and according to studies it also shows to help protect the baby from flu infection.



BIODIVERSITY, HEALTH & FITNESS

LET THE GAMES BEGIN!

GREAT GREEN GAMES

BIODIVERSITY AWARENESS

On the 22nd May our Great Green Games officially kicked off! The Great Green Games aims to encourage us all to keep fit and have fun together, whilst raising awareness of the importance of protecting biodiversity.

Our aim is to encourage everyone across our sites to record any species you see while participating in the games as part of our 'Biodiversity Challenge'.

Members across our sites in Ghana, Egypt, South Africa, Benin, Senegal, Ivory Coast, Brazil, France, the Netherlands and the UK set off to embark on a challenge to collectively walk, run, cycle or swim 30,000 km in 8 weeks - the entire distance between all Blue Skies sites! Good luck everyone!



EPIC PAINTBALL ACTION IN CORBY

In early May, a few members of Corby's team had a blast during an exhilarating paintball excursion. The day was filled with thrilling activities like capture the flag and intense team death matches. The pleasant weather added to the memorable and enjoyable experience for everyone.

Even with a busy summer season approaching, it's evident that the team makes a point to set aside essential time for relaxation and fun, nurturing a more robust culture of teamwork and resilience!

