



Limette

Newsletter Citrus Friends Europe

Issue 9

Members of the CFE

Background

In the year 1997 the community Citrus Friends Europe were founded. A small group of Citrus enthusiasts, Citrus collectors and Citrus growers established a non-professional group to share interest and knowledge. The group was established to spread knowledge, information about citrus and to provide help in care requests. Professional help for non-professional growers was the idea. It was planned to lead the group from a community into a society, but the european commission had since today no directives or laws for a european society established. This is the reason why the Citrus Friends Europe (CFE) are still today a community without any membership charges. The members are only pleased to support the community with their own effort and are pleased to pay for informations and transport costs, if material must get duplicated or send over some distances.

So the community was based onto the cooperation and cooperative help of the members among one another.

The next step is the establishment of local country groups, with a head coordinator for the country. This head coordinator must not be a person of high knowledge, more with the time and the will to take the effort to do this business. A business in gathering informations and providing to the local country members. This coordinator must route requests and question along to other members and other head coordinators, if the request or question belongs to another county. Also he is the one to coordinate local country actions and is the one if a new members wants to join the group, because he is the holder of the group membership address-database.

Till today, only the Netherlands and Germany has such a coordinator, all other countries lacking such a CFE country coordinator.

How to become a member?

This is the most asked question to members or coordinators of the CFE. The answer is quite easy: Just send your address and your own varieties list to the country coordinator, thats all.

This newsletter can be download today, but if there is need to get it as member or coordinator via common postal service, just provide the publisher with a small donation, and he will send you the Limette as soon after a new issue has been published. The cost for the Limette is 0,40 german marks for the copy cost and 1,10 german marks for the postal transportation. Many members had send such a donation, and even if they can download the publication, they will get a copy send via postal mail, till the donation is used up.

There is no membership fee or any other charge. The members pay their membership fee with their effort for the community. Members are pleased to stay in contact among each other, and within the head coordinator each member may find someone for his interest. The german group has since today three major streams: The historical citrus collectors, the cold-hardy hybrid growers and the common citrus owners. So any citrus owner can find a interest group within the community. But the members must stay in contact among each other.

Today

Well, the community has grown, but there is no group as large and enthusiastic as the netherlands chapter. Their head coordinator Martin Kelleners can depend onto members with high knowledge and experience in citrus culture, like Ben Buynsters and many others. Here the members work together, sharing interest and costs.

But a word of caution must be published here: Some members had made it possible to

obtain high quality budwood from the budwood varieties collection at the island of Corsica. This budwood is indexed for viral and bacterial diseases and is true to type, so you will get the desired variety with the guarantee of being free from diseases. This index scheme is not for free, and the members were able to obtain the budwood in quantities other budwood suppliers in Europe wanted not to send out. But the members must pay for the budwood. So members who did not join the collective order, because they would not pay for this high quality propagation material should not expect to get once budsticks or cutting for their own propagation for free. Such members should not forget, that the material which led to this plant was once obtained by the plant owner. So if another member wants also to have such a plant once made from obtained budwood, should order himself the budwood, or should give the plant owner a small donation for getting budsticks. This is a sign of friendship, because if only a small group of CFE members pays for propagation material from the budwood collection, and the others want to get the material for free, these members live on the costs of the other members, what is unfair. But even unfair is following: Propagation material handed out for free should not be sold to other members, because if this material was not obtained, or is of uncertificated origin, it could not compete with certificated propagation material. So it is unfair to take money for something for what someone has paid nothing for. So members should act fair among one another, because we all do the same effort for the community.

High quality propagation material is not for free, and members should know the price and the value. All other propagation material is exchangeable among the members, as plants itself.

So the club and the contact among the members, as certain plant exchange maybe free, but many things belonging to citrus have their price, a price a member should be willing to pay. And as a good thing: there is no membership fee, so these small costs maybe able to pay for everyone if we act as group and share the cost in friendship. Good thing is allways worth to pay for.

Many members have 'left' the community, because they expected too much, without giving any effort to support the group. Others may have expected the 'animation' of a society, in form of meetings, exchange boards, informations and large

publications. Such expectation we cannot fullyfill, this time. So the club must work together, if a solid society should once be founded. So any new member should be sure, that only with his own effort he can expect something from the group. New members can now consider, if the CFE is the club to join, because without any kind of effort, the club is unable to just provide something for the members, except this issue. But members, who are willing to support the community with their effort are allways welcome and can get as much support as possible, because they stay in touch and in contact continuously.

Club News

This chapter will be discarded, because the whole newsletter is 'club news'. Just a biliance after three/four years as author of the club, and a word to all members and new members. A word, not to get impatient and as please to stay in cooperation, stay in contact and support the club activities further. Then the community will stay alive, and together we will bring the Citrus Friends Europe community into successful future. Three/four years of Limette, three/four years of this community, three/four years of cooperation give hope for the next times.

This is the reason, why this issue is published in the web before a printed copy is distributed to the members. This issue is published at the website <http://members.tripod.de/Reichel/Citrus/lime.html> one year before a printed copy will be handed out. This step was done, because I felt it necessary to remember all about the roots of the CFE, and to hand out an information for new members of high value and information about the Citrus Friends Europe.

So if printcopy receivers want to have a copy before it will be released in 2002, and has donation left, he can get a printed copy before publishing date from the author.

Members who did not receive this copy after publishing date, should think about keeping up contact again.