

South Africa: Soft citrus volumes up, early finish for Navels

The estimates made at the beginning of the citrus season in South Africa have changed again with the latest prediction for soft citrus increasing by 0.2 million cartons, while the navel estimate has fallen by 2.6 million, these figures are from the Citrus Grower's Association.

"The increase in the soft citrus estimate is on the back of vibrant markets which saw the satsuma volumes beat the estimate by 100 000 cartons and a bigger increase over estimate expected for clementines (the packed figure of 3 million cartons already exceeds the estimated 2.722 million cartons)."

The group expect a marginal decrease from their original mandarin prediction.

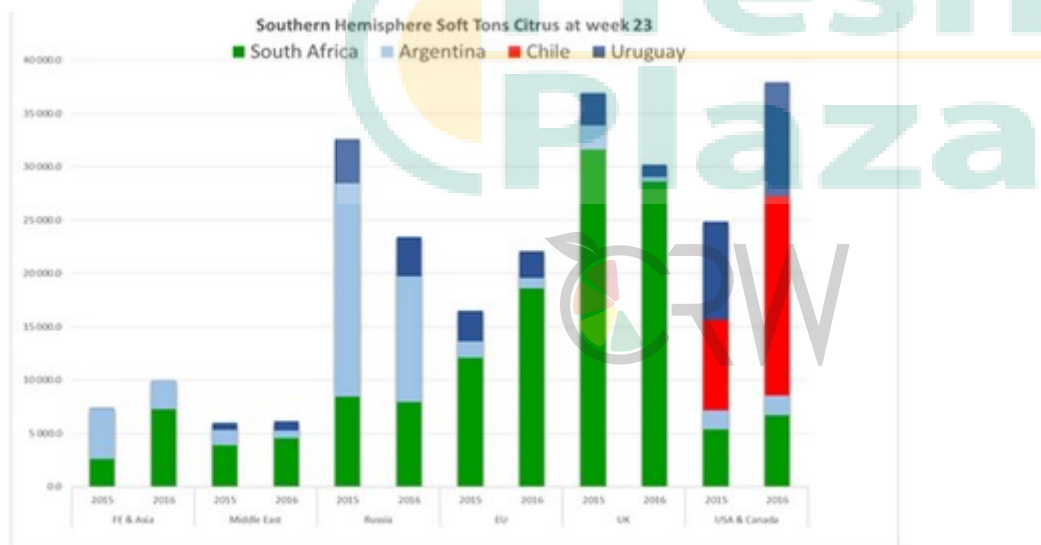
PACKED AND SHIPPED

To end Week 17/6/16 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
NAME: MALIBUSKORUS	2014	2015	2016	2015	2016	2016	2016	2016
Grapefruit	12.9 m	12.7 m	10 m	9.2 m	6.9 m	12.4 m	12.1 m	16.1 m
Soft Citrus	6.3 m	6.8 m	7 m	4.5 m	5.8 m	11.2 m	11.4 m	10 m
Lemons	8.3 m	9.1 m	9.2 m	7.5 m	8.3 m	16.1 m	16.1 m	15.1 m
Navels	12 m	12.2 m	13.5 m	6.6 m	9.9 m	26.1 m	22.5 m	24.5 m
Valencia	2.8 m	2.1 m	1.8 m	0.3 m	0.9 m	46.4 m	46.4 m	52.7 m
Total	42.3 m	41.9 m	41.3 m	28.1 m	31.8 m	111.2 m	108.5 m	118.3 m

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Southern hemisphere soft citrus shipments to date have increased to Far East, EU (excluding UK) and North America, decreased to Russia and UK and remained steady to Middle East. The growth to Far East and EU is driven by increases from South Africa; while UK increased volume is due to increased shipments from Chile.

"Argentinian volumes to Russia have dropped significantly, while the decrease to UK is largely due to reduced South African shipments. This picture could change as we enter the late mandarin season," according to John Edmonds, CGA Information Manager.



Increased early volumes of Navels deceiving

The latest feedback and regional projections point to an early finish to the Navel season after early, high-tempo packing. The final export volume is expected to be 22.5 million cartons; 2.6 million cartons or 10.5% lower than originally estimated. This is also 8% less than the final packed volumes of 2015.

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