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New protocol lifts restriction on citrus exports to China

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In a major step forward for the export of citrus to China, a new protocol has been signed that sanctions the shipment of fruit in specialised reefer vessels (bulk reefers).

The original protocol, signed in 2004, restricted shipments to containers only.

“This change in protocol makes it possible for exporters to consider co-loading China shipments with cargo destined for Japan and/or South Korea,” said Citrus Growers’ Association CEO Justin Chadwick, “although co-loaded shipments will need to be kept in separate holds.”

The new dispensation is thanks to the concerted efforts of the Department of Agriculture Forestry and Fisheries (Daff), the Perishable Products Export Control Board (PPECB) and Citrus Research International (CRI).

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