

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS / DOMESTIC

Citrus industry breaks another record

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South Africa alternates with Argentina as the third and fourth ranked global lemon exporter.

Lemon exporters are predicting record volumes this season - just shy of one million more cartons than last year.

According to the Citrus Growers' Association, final volumes should fall just 3% below estimates with 100 000 of the estimated 19.9 million 15 kilogram cartons of lemons still to pack.

In its lemon seasonal review, the CGA identified some shifts in destination.

Exports to the Middle East decreased from 40% to 35%, or 7.5 million cartons in 2017 to 6.7 million this year while exports to South East Asia were also lower - from 3 million in 2017 to 2.3 million cartons this year.

Europe and the UK on the other hand saw increased volumes – from 3.8 million (20%) to 5.6 million (29%) and 1.4 million (7%) to 1.7 million cartons (9%) respectively.

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