

South African citrus will soon be on sale in the Philippines for the first time

For the first time ever, South African citrus growers will be able to export their fruit to the Philippines. The Bureau of Plant Industry in the Philippines recently signed the final administrative agreement that allows South African citrus to be imported. The agreement comes after more than a decade since the South African citrus industry began negotiating to gain entry into the Philippines market, a nation of 108 million people.

"Importers in the Philippines can now happily apply for permits to receive South African fruit into the Philippines," Justin Chadwick, CEO of the Citrus Growers' Association, told [businessinsider.co.za](https://www.businessinsider.co.za/south-african-citrus-will-soon-be-on-sale-in-the-philippines-for-the-first-time-ever-2021-4) (<https://www.businessinsider.co.za/south-african-citrus-will-soon-be-on-sale-in-the-philippines-for-the-first-time-ever-2021-4>).

Export volumes are projected to be high across different types of fruit, with an increase of 29% expected in soft citrus, an increase of 16% expected in grapefruit, and Valencia oranges exports expected to be up 5%. Lemons and navel oranges, on the other hand, are expected to see only marginal export increases.

Exports to Zimbabwe and Eswatini are expected to grow a combined 13%, to 4.4 million cartons.

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