

South Africa's citrus and pome fruit exports show promising outlook for 2024

The Citrus Growers Association South Africa (CGASA) is hopeful for 2024 as signs point to an increased crop yield. However, concerns linger about the successful delivery of fruit to global markets, according to CGASA CEO, Justin Chadwick. The citrus season in South Africa begins with lemons in February and concludes in September.

Additionally, the pome fruit sector is optimistic about 2024 due to decreased exports from other major pome-producing regions after hail damage in 2023. Chadwick stated in a newsletter, "Our growers have ensured large amounts of citrus will be available when harvesting intensifies in April, providing consumers worldwide with our coveted fruit."

Industry body Hortgro anticipates promising apple export volumes and a slightly below-average pear export crop for 2024. It predicts a 7% increase in apple exports and a 1% rise in pear shipments. However, Chadwick highlighted that the logistics situation in South Africa needs improvement, particularly in addressing port congestion before packing begins.

Chadwick welcomed the selection of International Container Terminal Services (ICTS) for the upgrade of the Durban Container Terminal Pier 2 and expressed hope that the public-private partnership's positive impacts would be felt in the upcoming season.

Source: [www.iol.co.za](https://www.iol.co.za/business-report/economy/citrus-pome-fruit-export-harvests-looking-good-so-far-0f5e2b0f-eaf7-45c3-b9fe-28f6cf73e92d) (<https://www.iol.co.za/business-report/economy/citrus-pome-fruit-export-harvests-looking-good-so-far-0f5e2b0f-eaf7-45c3-b9fe-28f6cf73e92d>).

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