

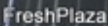
Justin Chadwick - Citrus Growers' Association of Southern Africa

"We might find that we have to analyse throughout the season which markets to send our citrus to"

The crisis in the Red Sea will have a big effect on the movement of citrus this season with some Northern Hemisphere countries finding it very challenging to get fruit to Asia.

"We are not certain what effect it will have on the South African citrus exports yet," said Justin Chadwick, CEO of Citrus Growers Association South Africa. "The Northern Hemisphere growers will find it more difficult to move fruit through the Middle East and it will be easier for them to send more into Europe. We think then that there will be a lot more fruit in Europe than normal from Egypt and Morocco and less in Asia. We might find that we have to analyse throughout the season which markets to send our citrus to."

"Of course, each market has its own requirements and there are somethings which you can't switch around, but there are some things which you can. We will have to see what can be sent to Asia instead of Europe at the beginning of the season. It is difficult to tell what the impact will be."



harvest started at the beginning of the year but the main start ramping up towards the beginning of May and will be in June and July and taper off into September.

"It's been a good growing season with rain at the right times, flood irrigation and there is a good crop on the trees. We did have a bit of frost in Cape last week and some of the farmers down there in the south west regions are expecting a good crop."

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done in-transit, it adds
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be changed soon as we see India as a priority market for South African citrus. The in-transit cold treatment regulation has already been changed for apples and pears, which have since seen export volumes double."

For more information:

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