

Botswana's inaugural citrus harvest set for export

Botswana is gearing up for its inaugural citrus harvest from the Selebi Phikwe Citrus Project, positioned approximately 402 km east of Gaborone. The initiative aims to export 70% of its yield. At a press conference in Gaborone, Agriculture Minister Fidelis Molao highlighted the stringent efforts required to align with international market standards, including adherence to various procedures, regulations, and guidelines.

The Selebi Phikwe citrus farm spans over 1,500 hectares and is set to export 2,400 kg of fresh lemons to the Middle East in March, with 3,600 kg allocated for the domestic market. April will see an increase to 9,000 kg for both export and local consumption. The project targets several international markets, including China, the United States, Canada, Britain, the Middle East, and Japan. Molao credited the Department of Plant Health for its pivotal role in ensuring the citrus produce meets the stringent requirements of protocol markets.

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