

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (50/13)

Justin Chadwick (13 December 2013)

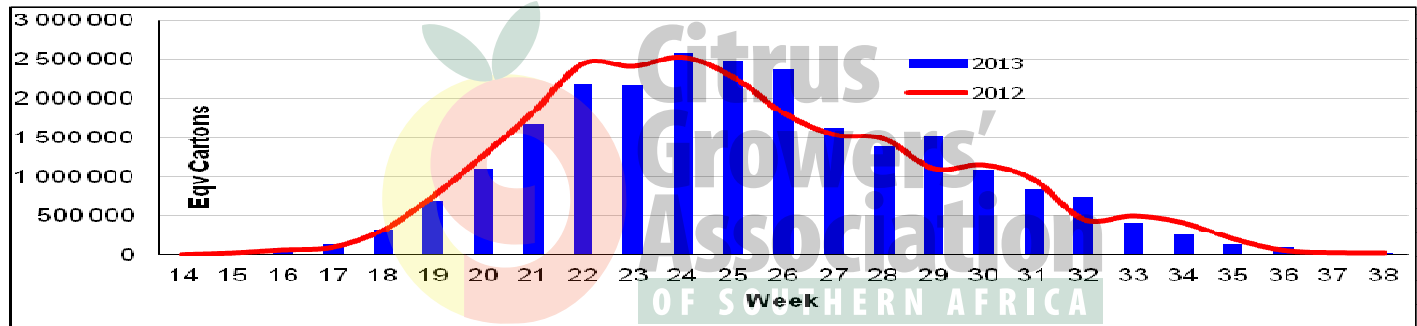
QUOTE OF THE WEEK "After climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb" Nelson Mandela

TRIBUTE TO NELSON MANDELA

South Africans were united in mourning as the father of the nation was put to rest. For years Nelson Mandela was the moral compass for South Africa – he was the inspiration that united a very diverse and at one time adversarial nation. Although his failing health had been widely exposed – one still feels distraught at his passing. If I had one wish it would be for all South Africans to take time off to consider the lessons that this great man has taught us – and to see how we can all practice what he stood for. He made South Africans believe in our own destiny; he showed the power of thinking big and being resolute in fighting for justice and not bowing to the unjust demands of others. If you have a cause that is worth fighting for; then fight on until there are no more hills to climb.

2013 REVIEW: NAVELS

Navels packed and passed for export surpassed the 25 million carton mark in 2013 – after 24.6 m were packed in 2012. This was a mere 6% over the initial estimate. There was a reshuffle in regional production with Senwes leapfrogging both Western Cape and Sundays River to top production spot at 7.1 million cartons – 28% of southern Africa's navels. This increase in exports caught the navel focus group by surprise as they underestimated Senwes by 10%. Sundays River was second at 25% of production (6.3 m cartons, 2% less than estimate) and Western Cape third at 24% (6.1 m cartons, 2% more than estimate). Patensie produced 10% of southern African navels (2.6 m cartons, 11% less than estimate). Weekly packing was less in the early part of the season, and more later compared to 2012.



Since 2008 the orange estimate has been split between Valencia and navel types. In those six years the Navel Focus Group has achieved the target of being within 10% of the final packed figure in five of the six years – in 2013 the actual packed is 6% more than the estimate. The final packed figure was 26.3 m cartons while estimate was 24.9 m and 2012 was 24.6 m.

Navel export distribution is very similar for the last two years.



EARLY 2014 EXPORTS

For each PUC and before citrus exports can commence in 2014 field orchards inspections must be conducted by DAFF. Until the Citrus Inspection Planning Tool is set up growers that foresee that they will export early in 2014 (basically in January 2014) they must notify DAFF of this by contacting DAFF on the details below. Please email DAFF for this purpose only if you will be exporting in January 2014.

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