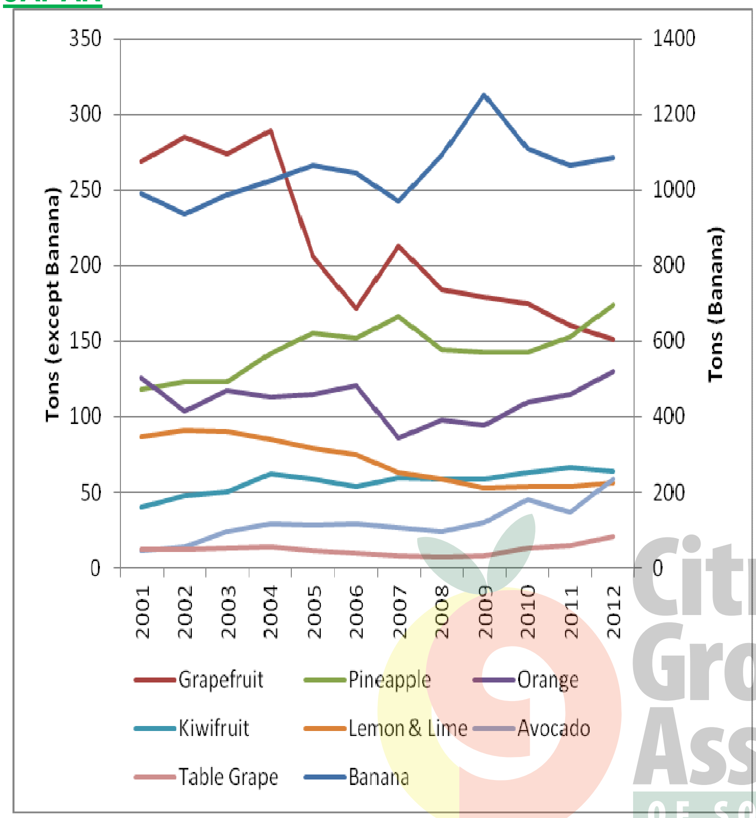
Citrus Growers' Association
OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
Grower levies working for you!

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (18/14)

Justin Chadwick (16 May 2014)

QUOTE OF THE WEEK "Everybody is born with talent; nobody is born with experience" anon

JAPAN



The Japanese market is really looking forward to fresh South African **grapefruit** as the northern hemisphere offer is really looking tired. A delegation from Fruit South Africa has just completed a visit to Japan.
Importers expressed the opinion that the early Japanese market for grapefruit was looking good – stocks are low, less grapefruit has been imported from Turkey and California as compared to 2013, and the winter freeze has meant less competing domestic fruit and vegetables.
Over the past ten years total imported fruit has decreased. Some products have bucked this trend – pineapples, avocados, table grape and kiwifruit have all shown an increase; while **grapefruit and lemon/lime imports** have decreased.
Japanese **lemon** imports are between 4 and 5 000 tons per month (totalling 50 000 tons per annum). Lemons are sourced mainly from USA and Chile. Lemon exports from South Africa are negligible – mainly due to the cold treatment protocol. The FSA delegation and DAFF met with Japanese MAFF to discuss possible changes to the cold treatment so as to increase the scope of exports to include more cold sensitive fruit. The South African citrus protocol was one of the first citrus protocols signed with Japan – subsequent protocols (dealing with the same pest and the same products) have higher temperature requirements. South Africa is looking for equivalence with these treatments.
Mandarin imports to Japan are negligible – although South Africa has access it is limited to Clementine types. With Japanese local mandarin production has dropped considerably (from 2 million tons to about 800 000 tons); and imports are growing (albeit from a low base). The South African delegation also discussed broadening the range of soft citrus from South Africa.

CRI PRODUCTION WORKSHOPS

The CRI Workshops have become the most popular vehicle for technology transfer within the southern African citrus industry. Nine hundred (900) delegates attended the five CRI Post Harvest Technical workshops earlier this year. Below are the dates and venues for the various workshops per region – *please note that the workshops in Limpopo, Mpumalanga and KZN have been cancelled.* The agenda has been circulated. Please contact Jean at CRI if you have any queries.

Date	Time	Region	Venue
Tuesday 10 June	09h00	Eastern Cape	Mentors Country Estate, Jeffreys Bay
Thursday 12 June	09h00	Western Cape	Bydidam, Citrusdal

PACKED AND SHIPPED

The **Grapefruit Focus Group** met this past week and **dropped their prediction by 1,3 million 15Kg cartons.**

To Week 20 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
SOURCE: PPECB	2012	2013	2014	2013	2014	2014	2014	2013
Grapefruit	4.2 m	5.7 m	4.5 m	3 m	2.9 m	16.5 m	15.2 m	17.9 m
Soft Citrus	2.2 m	2.3 m	2.4 m	1.9 m	2.3 m	9.2 m	9.2 m	8.4 m
Lemons	2.3 m	3.6 m	3.4 m	2.7 m	2.8 m	12.1 m	12.1 m	10.6 m
Navels	1.2 m	1.3 m	0.9 m	0.3 m	0.2 m	25.8 m	25.8 m	25.4 m
Valencia	-	0.1 m	-	-	-	49.5 m	49.5 m	51.4 m
Total	9.9 m	13 m	11.2 m	7.9 m	8.2 m	113.1 m	111.8 m	113.7 m

GROWERS' ENSURE A COMPETITIVE AND SUSTAINABLE SOUTHERN AFRICAN CITRUS INDUSTRY BY FUNDING AND GUIDINGTHE CGA GROUP (CRI; CITRUS ACADEMY; CGACC; RB AND XSIT)