FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (19/15)

justchad_cga

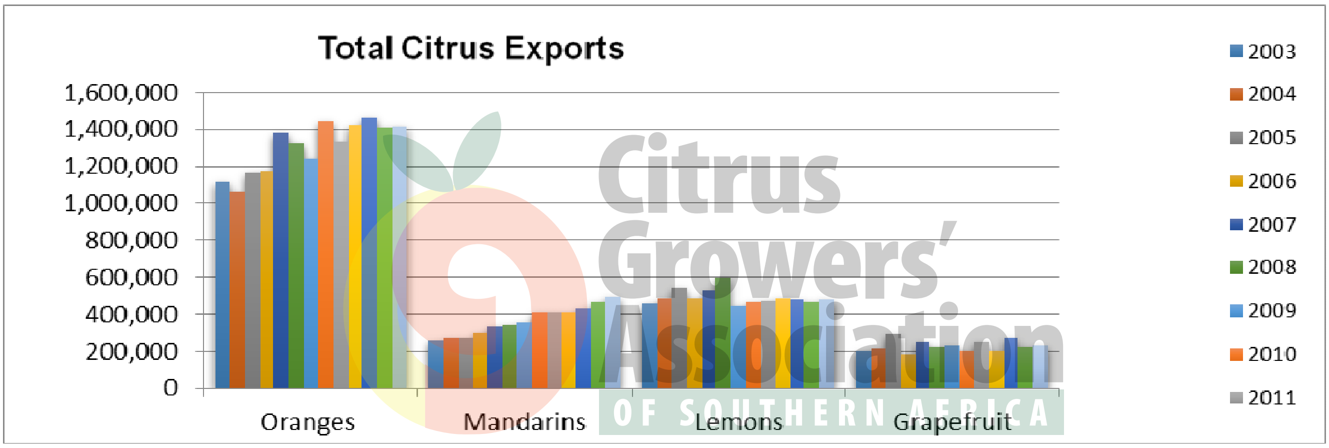
Justin Chadwick (22 May 2015)

QUOTE OF THE WEEK ***"I'd rather check my Facebook than face my checkbook."*- Craig Coelho**

DAFF TAKE A TECHNOLOGY LEAP FORWARD (Paul Hardman)

Department of Science and Technology (DST) funding and CGA resources have come together to put tablet devices into the hands of DAFF inspectors. This will significantly improve the accuracy and speed at which details are updated on the online central database that is being implemented to manage the data around the CBS RMS. Twenty devices have been made available spread across the major citrus production regions. Using the devices inspectors can also instantly check the status of PUCs and orchards for Phytosanitary certification purposes. While this is a major step forward, it really only represents the beginning of more changes to come where greater use of technology will make the SA citrus export supply chain more efficient and effective.

SHAFFE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE CITRUS EXPORT VOLUME ESTIMATES FOR 2015



The consolidated southern hemisphere citrus export estimate for 2015 includes input from Peru, Uruguay, Argentina, South Africa, Australia and Chile. What is immediately evident is the continuous growth in the soft citrus (mandarin) offer – volumes have doubled over the past nine years and the pace has not slowed down at all. Conversely, lemons show the effects of inclement weather in Argentina, with volumes never able to match the levels of 2008 and flat lining at about 480 000 tons. Over the entire period grapefruit exports have flaunted with the 200 000 ton level; while oranges seem to have plateaued out at about 1.4 million tons. Most countries show a growth in exports in 2015. For Peru the dominant commodity is mandarins and they forecast a 10% volume increase; Uruguay predict a 6% increase in both orange and mandarin exports; Chile also expect orange export volumes to increase by 8% and mandarin by 19%, while Australia expect a 24% increase in mandarin export volumes. Argentina shows mixed results with a predicted increase in lemon exports (5%) but a decrease for oranges of 20% and mandarins of 11%. South African export volumes are predicted to be similar to 2014 levels. Full figures available from SHAFFE or justchad@iafrica.com.

CITRUS EXPORTS TO INDONESIA

We have just learned through our Embassy in Jakarta that the Indonesian government will ban the importation of all citrus fruits from July until the end of October. This was done on the recommendation of the Indonesian Department of Agriculture and confirmed two days ago. We will ascertain more about the reason behind this decision, and see what actions can be taken.

PACKED AND SHIPPED

The latest prediction from the Soft Citrus Focus Group is 9.7 m cartons – the Satsuma prediction was decreased from 1.8 m to 1.785 m (of which 96% has been packed); the clementine prediction decreased from 3 m to 2.7 m (of which 40% has been packed).

To end Week 20 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
SOURCE: PPECB	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2014**	**2015**	**2015**	**2015**	**2014**
Grapefruit	8.3 m	7.4 m	6.8 m	4.8 m	4 m	15.3 m	14.4 m	15.6 m
Soft Citrus	2.8 m	3 m	3.2 m	2.3 m	2.4 m	10 m	9.7 m	10 m
Lemons	4.3 m	4.5 m	5.1 m	3.3 m	3.5 m	13.6 m	13.6 m	13.2 m
Navels	2.4 m	1.9 m	2.2 m	0.6 m	0.7 m	25.1 m	25.1 m	26 m
Valencia	0.1 m	0.1 m	-	-	-	49.1 m	49.1 m	50.9 m
Total	17.9 m	16.9 m	17.3 m	11 m	10.6 m	113.1 m	111.9 m	115.7 m

SOUTHERN AFRICAN CITRUS GROWERS HAVE INVESTED IN THEIR FUTURE THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT AND CONTINUED FUNDING OF CGA, XSIT, CRI, RIVER BIOSCIENCE, CGACC AND CITRUS ACADEMY