



justchad_cga

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (32/15)

Justin Chadwick 21 August 2015

QUOTE OF THE WEEK "To encourage a greater sense of responsibility in others emphasise the anticipation of accomplishment, not the penalties for failure." Roger Crawford

INDEPENDENT EU REPORT IS A MAJOR BOOST FOR SOUTH AFRICAN CITRUS

A report (http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/audit_reports/details.cfm?rep_id=3483) released today by the EU's Food and Veterinary Office (FVO) on their audit carried out in South Africa earlier this year is a major boost for South African citrus, as it shows that the industry's Citrus Black Spot (CBS) risk management system has been rigorously and diligently applied.

The FVO is an independent EU Commission service tasked with food safety and plant health by carrying out audits and inspections to ensure that EU legislation is properly implemented and enforced.

"...The FVO team found that the NPPO has reviewed and strengthened significantly its export procedures and system of official checks to take account of the outcome of the 2014 export season and the investigations carried out following findings of non-compliance and notifications of interception from the EU..." (From the Executive Summary - The NPPO is the National Plant Protection Office)

The report greatly enhances the likelihood of stable and predictable trade conditions for South African citrus exporters to the EU, as it demonstrates that South Africa's risk management system is "...fully in line with the revised EU requirements for the import of such fruit from South Africa..." (From the Executive Summary). The South African citrus industry has gone to great lengths to ensure compliance with, and a commitment to meeting the European Union's requirements. This has been achieved at enormous cost to the SA government and citrus industry and should be seen against the backdrop of an ongoing scientific dispute since 1992 on the true risk of CBS being transmitted to citrus production areas in the southern parts of Europe.

The SA citrus industry employs an estimated 100 000 people and exports account for 80% of its R9.4bn annual revenue, 40% of which is generated from exports to the EU.

DATES TO BE DIARISED

This next week Citrus Research International (CRI) and Citrus Academy have their Board meetings on 26th (Tuesday) followed by the CGA Board on 27th (Wednesday). After completion of the CGA Board meeting (at 15h30) the Annual General Meetings of the Citrus Research Trust (CRT), CRI, River Bioscience (RB), Citrus Academy, CGA Cultivar Company (CGACC) and CGA will be held; all meetings and AGM's to be held at the Intercontinental Hotel at Joburg's O R Tambo International Airport.

Many growers and exporters will then pack their bags over the weekend as they head to AsiaFruit Logistica in Hong Kong (2-5 September). Fruit South Africa will once again have a stand and all are welcome to pay us a visit during the trade show.

PACKED AND SHIPPED

With over half of southern Africa's Valencia crop now in boxes the Valencia Focus Group convened this past week and adjusted their predicted export volume to just under 50 million cartons. The Navel Focus Group also adjusted their prediction upwards. The grapefruit prediction has been upped to reflect the volume already packed. The net effect is that the predicted volume is almost spot on the original estimate. Generally good marketing conditions could result in another upward revision.

To end Week 33 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	17.3 m	14.9 m	15.5 m	14.1 m	15.2 m	15.3 m	15.5 m	15.6 m
Soft Citrus	7.4 m	9.1 m	8.9 m	8.3 m	8.3 m	10 m	9.7 m	10 m
Lemons	10 m	12.8 m	13.9 m	12.4 m	13.2 m	13.6 m	14.3 m	13.2 m
Navels	24.6 m	24.3 m	23.5 m	23.1 m	22.5 m	25.1 m	24.1 m	26 m
Valencia	25.8 m	26.4 m	27.3 m	17.8 m	18.4 m	49.1 m	49.8 m	50.9 m
Total	85.1 m	87.5 m	89.1 m	75.7 m	77.6 m	113.1 m	113.4 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