

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (21/19)

(Follow me on Twitter [justchad_cga](#))

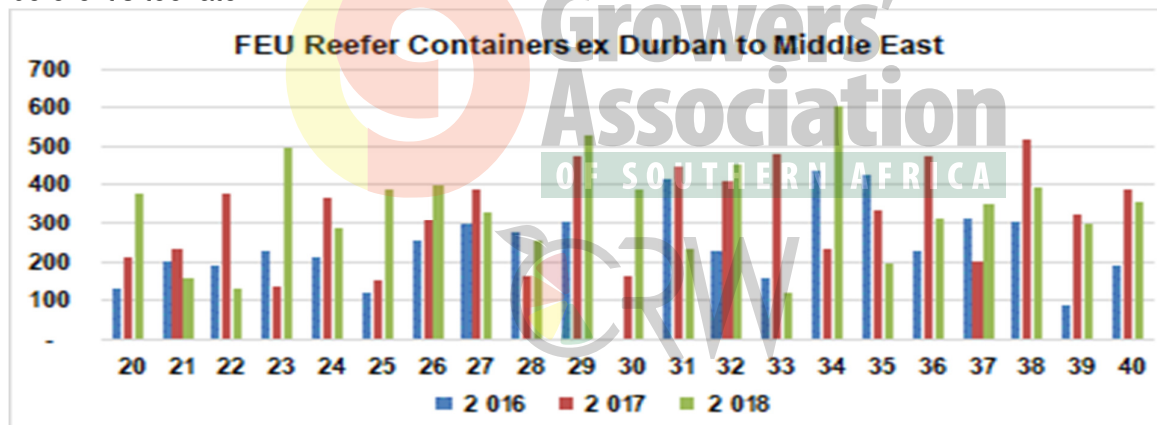


Justin Chadwick 24 May 2019

“The first rule of any technology used in a business is that automation applied to an efficient operation will magnify the efficiency. The second is that automation applied to an inefficient operation will magnify the inefficiency” Bill Gates

CITRUS EXPORTS TO MIDDLE EAST FROM MAPUTO IN 2019: MITCHELL BROOKE CALLS FOR A RETHINK

In 2017 we described the port operations in Durban as extremely poor, in 2018 it got worse. The early season experience for 2019 of performance at Durban port has been extremely disappointing. The stats show that DCT productivity is at an all-time low – the average ship Gross Crane Hours (GCH) is below 20 GCH (normally around 25 GCH) and the average truck turnaround time (TTT) is around 400min, with some days exceeding a TTT of 600min. Things got so out of hand that the truckers organised a protest on Wednesday 15/05 for 12 hours causing the biggest backlog of trucks ever seen. The outlook for Durban operations, which is predominantly containerized, is not looking good at this early stage of the 2019 season. In some cases, the problems in Durban spill over to PE and Cape Town ports – when vessels have to skip these ports due to Durban delays. CMA CGM, who have been at the forefront of wanting to provide a service to the Middle East from Maputo, are set to withdraw on Monday 27/05 (due to lack of support). Perhaps there should be a quick rethink before it's too late...



PACKED AND SHIPPED

This past week the Grapefruit Focus Group met and once again reduced their prediction for the 2019 crop – now at 15.4 million 15g cartons (13.1 million 17 Kg cartons). The message from the group is that an early end is forecast for the grapefruit season.

The satsuma season is also fast coming to end, with 1.3 million of the predicted fruit already in the box (after the original estimate was reduced from 2 million cartons).

Million 15 Kg Cartons to end Week 20	Packed 2017	Packed 2018	Packed 2019	Shipped 2018	Shipped 2019	Original Estimate 2019	Latest Prediction 2019	Final Packed 2018
SOURCE: PPECB/AgriHub								
Grapefruit	7.1 m	6.2 m	6.7 m	3.4 m	3.5 m	17.1 m	15.4 m	18.8 m
Soft Citrus	3.4 m	4 m	3.5 m	3.2 m	2.1 m	18.3 m	17.8 m	16.2 m
Lemons	7 m	7.9 m	6.3 m	6.2 m	3.9 m	22 m	21.4 m	19.9 m
Navels	2.7 m	2.5 m	1.6 m	1.2 m	0.3 m	26.9 m	26.9 m	26.7 m
Valencia	0.2 m	0.1 m	-	-	-	52.9 m	52.9 m	54.4 m
Total	20.4 m	20.7 m	18.1 m	14 m	9.8 m	137.2 m	134.4 m	136 m

CGA GROUP OF COMPANIES (CRI, RIVER BIOSCIENCE, XSIT, CGA CULTIVAR COMPANY, CGA GROWER DEVELOPMENT COMPANY & CITRUS ACADEMY) ARE FUNDED BY THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN CITRUS GROWERS