

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (36/19)

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

Justin Chadwick 13 September 2019



"I loathe people who keep dogs. They are cowards who haven't got the guts to bite people themselves" August Stringberg

BREXIT

In the first decade of the 1900's the first oranges were shipped from South Africa to the United Kingdom (UK). Since then the UK has remained the country which imports the biggest volume of South African citrus – roughly 10% of the annual exports. The announcement by the UK government of a continuity agreement post Brexit is appreciated given present uncertainties. The CGA would like to thank the UK, South African, and eSwatini and governments for concluding this agreement. An extract from the UK Governments media release:

The UK has this week (Tuesday 10th September) initialled an Economic Partnership Agreement with the Southern African Customs Union and Mozambique (SACU+M) that will allow business to keep trading freely after Brexit.

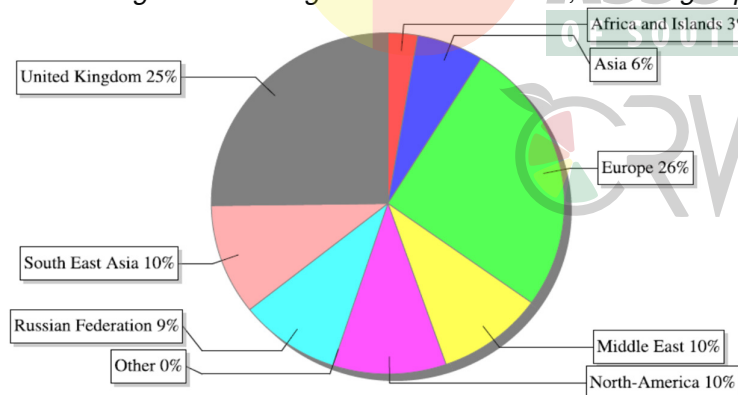
This marks the end of formal trade discussions and the UK-SACU+M Economic Partnership Agreement will be subject to final checks before it is formally signed.

The agreement allows businesses to continue to trade on preferential terms with South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Eswatini and Mozambique. It also supports the economic development of these Commonwealth partners laying the foundations for new trade and investment in the future.

This will help to strengthen further the trading relationship between the UK and SACU+M nations, which was worth £9.7 billion last year.

The SACU+M nations are an important market for UK exports of machinery and mechanical appliances worth £409 million in 2018, motor vehicles worth £335 m, and beverages including whisky worth £136 m. Consumers and businesses in the UK will continue to benefit from more choice and lower prices on goods imported from SACU+M countries. Major imports to the UK from these countries last year included edible fruit and nuts (£547 million) and motor vehicles (£409 million).

Trade continuity agreements signed cover countries accounting for £89billion of the UK's trade. When the SACU+M agreement is signed and takes effect, this will go up to £99bn.



The importance of the UK market to the soft citrus sector is evident when considering 2019 export volumes – a quarter of South Africa's soft citrus volumes are exported to the UK. In 2018 this figure was 28%

PACKED AND SHIPPED

Million 15 Kg Cartons to end Week 36	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
SOURCE: PPECB/AgriHub	2017	2018	2019	2018	2019	2019	2019	2018
Grapefruit	15.5 m	18.4 m	15.9 m	16.8 m	14.2 m	17.1 m	16 m	18.8 m
Soft Citrus	13.2 m	15.7 m	17.7 m	14.7 m	16.3 m	18.3 m	19 m	16.2 m
Lemons	18.7 m	19 m	21.2 m	18.1 m	18.4 m	22 m	22.4 m	19.9 m
Navels	21 m	26.4 m	23.4 m	25.7 m	20.8 m	26.9 m	23.9 m	26.7 m
Valencia	43.8 m	41.8 m	38.2 m	32.7 m	29.4 m	52.9 m	46.2 m	54.4 m
Total	112.2 m	121.3 m	116.4 m	108 m	99.1 m	137.2 m	127.5 m	136 m