

"Our words have power, but our actions shape lives." – Rachel Hollis

2021 Grapefruit Seasonal Review (Portia Magwaza)

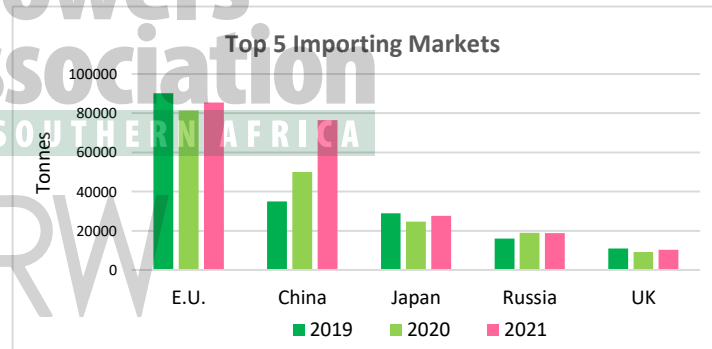
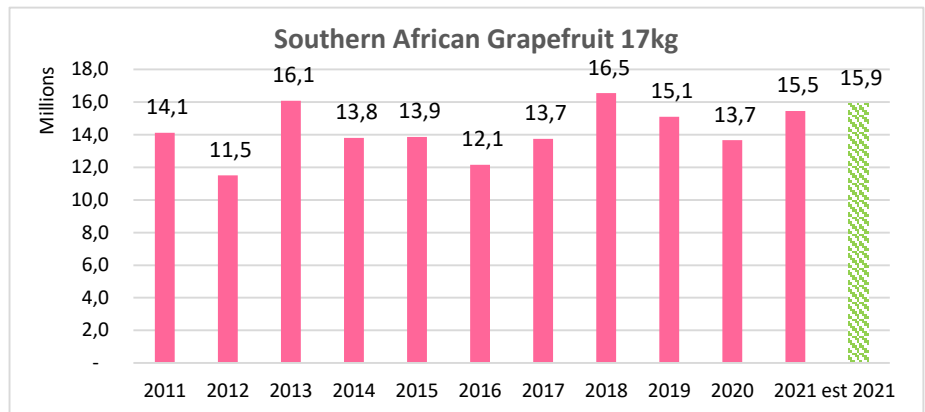
Grapefruit volumes packed for export was estimated at 15.9 million cartons (17 kilogram equivalents), almost 16% up on last year's 13.7 million cartons. This was due to the recovery from the dry condition experienced in the northern areas last year. The estimate (prepared in mid-March) also anticipated the crop will be similar to 2018/2019 season. The estimate volumes for 2021 include volumes available for processing (PP grade or Class 3).

The final volume packed came to 15.5 million cartons, the Grapefruit Focus Group did a great job in estimating the final volume packed- with the packed actual being just 3% below the initial estimate.

The biggest region (Letsitele) at 4.4 million cartons was 12% under the estimate; Hoedspruit at 3.9 m cartons was 1% under the estimate; while Onderberg at 2.5 m was 2% over the estimate. Limpopo River with 1.3 m cartons was 8% below the estimate whereas Oranje Rivier (1.3 m) was the closest to the estimate with just 4 000 cartons under.

Red grapefruit peaked at size 40, 45 and 35 and white grapefruit peaked at size 45, 40 and 50. This season the peak weeks for packing was from week 15-week 20, at a packing rate of 1 million cartons per week. 1.7 million cartons were packed at week 19 which is a record high for grapefruit.

EU remains the largest market for Southern African grapefruit – importing some 85 000 tonnes. Southern African exported greater volumes in the early weeks than previous seasons. China imports have increased from 50 000 tonnes in 2020, to 76 000 in 2021. This increase is mostly attributed to the higher percentage of PP grade fruit exported to China. Japan imports also increased from 25 000 tonnes to 28 000 tonnes, just ahead of Russia (19 000 tonnes in 2021). And lastly, UK (10 000 tonnes) rounds up the top five importing markets.



COVID 19 Vaccinations

Administered in last 24 hours = 152 049; total administered = 22 965 123; Individual vaccinated = 15 471 276 (= 38.87% of adult population). Source: <https://sacoronavirus.co.za/latest-vaccine-statistics/>

Packed and Shipped *Using a combination of PPECB and Agrihub data to account for shipping timing

End of Week 43	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
Million 15kg Cartons								
SOURCE: PPECB/AGRIHUB	2019	2020	2021	2020	2021	2021	2021	2020
Grapefruit (17kg)			15.5 m		15.2 m			
Grapefruit	16.8 m	15.0 m	17.5 m	14.1 m	17.2 m	18.0 m	17.6 m	15.5 m
Soft Citrus	18.2 m	23.7 m	30.9 m	23.6 m	29.4 m	30.5 m	30.8 m	23.6 m
Lemons	22.1m	28.4 m	31.0 m	27.1 m	29.4 m	30.2 m	30.9 m	29.6 m
Navels	24.3 m	26.0 m	27.2 m	25.2 m	27.2 m*	26.3 m	27.2 m	26.2 m
Valencia	44.0 m	49.1 m	54.9 m	46.5 m	54.5m*	58.0 m	55.1 m	55.1 m
Total	125.4m	142.2m	161.5m	136.5 m	157.7m*	163.0 m	161.6 m	150 m