



GLOBAL CITRUS SCAN (38/2009)

John Edmonds (16 October 2009)

Exchange Rate at 10:00 R/\$ 7.33 R/€ 10.93 R/£ 11.95

Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

Morocco's 2009-2010 citrus output to increase by 10%

Morocco's 2009-2010 citrus output will reach about 1.4 million tonnes that is a 10% increase compared to the previous agricultural season, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries said on Tuesday. The ministry, which has released its forecast for citrus output, is also banking on an average yield of 20.4 tonnes/ha. These estimates concern different types of citrus, including small fruits (581,024 T), oranges (775,110 T) and other varieties (56,128 T), according to the same source.

[map.ma ; 15 October 2009]

Fall forecast for Florida citrus crop

Florida has lost more than a fifth of its orange trees and its citrus acreage in the last five years due to disease, hurricanes and urbanization.

[Reefer Trends; 12 October 2009]

Chilean fruit exports trend lower

Adverse climatic conditions during blossom coupled with weak markets and poor returns in 2008/09 mean that the volume of Chile's fruit exports will be lower in 2009/10.

[Reefer Trends; 13 October 2009]

Valencia , citrus forecasts fall by 18 %

The main Spanish citrus fruit producing region expects for the 2009/2010 campaign a crop around 3,254,590 tons (-18% over 2008/2009), according to the local Ministry of Agriculture. The orange crop will decrease the most, with a drop by 25% for 1,478,642 total tons. For mandarins the estimated decrease will be "only" around 9%, for a crop around 1,611,984 tons.

Lemons too will register a significant reduction by 23% in produced volumes, for around 158,932 total tonnes in the region of Valencia. Grapefruits will amount around 5,032 tonnes, up 9% compared to last season.

[Green Med; 6 October 2009]

Argentina – Less Lemon Exports of Fresh Produce

Due to the over offer and the international fall in prices, local citrus producers in Argentina decided to sell in fresh only premium fruit, sending the rest to the industry. According to Senasa, between January and August exports reached only 235.618 tons, 40% less than during the same period last year.

[Freshfel; 6 October 2009]

Rainfall takes its toll in Spain

Heavy rainfall that brought flooding to parts of Spain last week is proving a mixed blessing to different crops. Some of the early citrus varieties such as Okitsu took on too much water and have fallen from trees. Julien Taratay of exporter Agriveg said: "All in all, citrus was hardest hit in terms of losses and the rainfall was very heavy in the big production areas of Valencia and Alicante." Grower organisations said in a statement that September rainfall had gone from being welcome to bulk up some easy-peelers, to causing the loss of as much as 50,000 tonnes of persimmon and citrus.

[FPJ; 12 October 2009]

AU: Winds hit Queensland fruit

Parts of Queensland are dealing with fire, dust and thunderstorms this week. But if that's not enough, some regions are also being battered by strong winds. Michael McMahon grows citrus near Bundaberg, and he says the fruit is at a very early stage in its growth cycle and is very susceptible to wind rub. "Blowing around in the wind, it rubs on leaves and branches, and you get little marks on the fruit that turns into big marks as the fruit grows," he says. "So it's not the best thing for it at the moment."

[abc.net.au ; Publication date: 10/14/2009]

Citrus prices on FreshPlaza.com and AGF.nl

Please click on the link below to display these prices which are average Free on Truck prices in Euros recorded in the Dutch fresh produce market and can be taken as an indication for the European situation.

http://www.freshplaza.com/price-watch/archief/2009/citrus_week40-09.pdf

If you need more information on any of these issues, or if there is anything else that CGA can assist with, please contact us at 031 7652514, or johne@cga.co.za

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