



GLOBAL CITRUS SCAN (11/2010)

John Edmonds (16 April 2010)

Exchange Rate at 12:30 R/\$ 7.37 R/€ 9.97 R/£ 11.38

Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

Riverina anger at AQIS fruit-fly declaration

Anger still surrounds the declaration of an outbreak of Queensland Fruit Fly in the Riverina. Growers are furious and still dispute whether the single contaminated peach discovered at Beelbangara near Griffith, should have thrown their export plans into disarray. The area's peak body Riverina Citrus challenged the validity of the outbreak after finding the affected peach had been through several hands before being handed to authorities...Growers were further frustrated by news that no other evidence of fruit fly was found on the tree where the peach was found. They now must cold-sterilise their fruit for the coming export season, at a cost of \$2-\$3 a box

[weeklytimesnow.com.au; 12 April 2010]

Israeli citrus detained

Russian phytosanitary service Rosselkhoznadzor has confirmed a fruit fly infestation in a consignment of Israeli soft citrus in the port of Novorossiysk.

[ReeferTrends; 16 April 2010]

Argentina readies for US lemon entry 14 April 2010

In 2011 the US is likely to lift the decade-long ban on the import of Argentinean lemons if an absence of Citrus Variegated Chlorosis can be substantiated.

[ReeferTrends; 14 April 2010]

Citrus Australia welcomes Government as mandarin promotion partner

Citrus Australia Ltd, the national peak body for citrus growers, has welcomed the announcement by the Rudd Government to support a national campaign for promoting Australian mandarins. Citrus Australia's CEO Judith Damiani said mandarins represented a growing category for citrus, both domestically and globally, due to their sweet, easy-peel, low-seeded characteristics. "This grant will assist in expanding the voluntary promotion program; develop in-house management; build value chain engagement and undertake program evaluation and consumer research. We are pleased to be able to work in partnership with our value chain and the Federal Government." Ms Damiani said mandarin growers and marketers in Queensland, South Australia and Victoria were voluntarily contributing to a nationally coordinated marketing program to build consumer demand for fresh, healthy, natural and convenient Australian fruit.

[www.citrusaustralia.com.au ; 14 April 2010]

EU imports less citrus in 2009

European Union markets imported almost 300K MT less citrus from southern hemisphere sources in 2009, 22% down from 2008.

[ReeferTrends; 12 April 2010]

Argentina: Panorama of the citrus sector

In the world market for citrus (particularly lime), Spain is still present despite the inclement weather that affected its production. The stock of lemon is similar to previous seasons. In contrast, the sector of processed lemon had to reduce production volumes during the current campaign. The local market (Argentina) does not have an optimistic outlook, even when international prices rise. This is mainly due to a reduction in production caused by weather problems, uncompetitive costs, coupled with the international crisis last year, which still has its effects on the exporting sector.

[Freshplaza.com; 14 April 2010]

Spain: Citrus exports falls down 18%

In the current campaign Castellon (Spain) has sent 163,357 tonnes to third countries compared to more than 200,000 last season. Lower production and the difficulty of entering countries such as Russia have pushed back sales...

On the other hand, the decline in exports has not been accompanied by a drop in profits. "As this year's fruit has sold well have had even more profit than last year", indicates Asociex.

[Freshplaza.com; 9 April 2010]

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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