



GLOBAL CITRUS SCAN (20/2010)

John Edmonds (25 June 2010)

Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

Exchange Rate at 10:40 R/\$ 7.64 R/€ 9.40 R/£ 11.37

Aus Citrus industry struggles to meet export demand

The citrus industry is concerned that low yields this season could hurt exports. Growers have managed to get good fruit size, but volumes are down by about 40 to 50 per cent for some varieties. Manager at citrus exporter Riversun in South Australia's Riverland, Dennis Hodgeson, says but he would be surprised if they can fill their shipments.

"Well it is quite a concern to be quite honest that it perhaps opens the door to some of our other southern hemisphere competitors," he says. "They've got significant volumes and of course the retailers in America have got to have fruit. Their preference is for Australian of course but if they can't get ours, well they've got to go somewhere else."

[<http://www.abc.net.au>; 25 June 2010]

Japan opens market to Australian grapefruit

Japan has announced complete market access for Australian grapefruit as a result of advancements in fruit fly management. Japan is fearful of the accidental importation of fruit flies carried in Australian grapefruits, traditionally restricting Australia's grapefruit exports to include only those sourced from fruit fly pest free areas. However, recent fruit fly research has allowed Australian researchers to give Japan the necessary assurance that the risk of fruit flies will be adequately managed through cold disinfestation treatment and appropriate biosecurity measures... "Export orders are already being placed for the new season commencing March 2011. The first year of trade under the new conditions will see an estimated 1,500 tons of grapefruit exported to Japan valued at approximately \$1.5 million," Damiani says. "The longer-term outlook looks even more promising. The demand in Japan over the next five years is anticipated to be around 4,000 tons and valued at \$4.8 million annually."

[www.dynamicexport.com.au; 25 June 2010]

South African grapefruit set to take United States by storm

Consumers of grape fruit are in for a real treat when the first South African grapefruit arrives next week. The first South African grapefruit ever to be exported to the United States will arrive in the port of Philadelphia on the American East Coast today. The arrival of the first grapefruit also marks the beginning of a new export market for citrus growers in the Orange River region of the Northern Cape. The Star Ruby grapefruit is part of the first shipment of South African citrus fruit to the United States this year. The shipment of more than 2500 pallets, which is expected to arrive in Philadelphia on board the Seatrade vessel, Tama Hope, next Tuesday, also includes Clementines and Navels... The opening of the United States market for citrus fruit from the Orange River is a result of a decision by the USDA earlier this year to increase the number of areas in South Africa recognized as pest-free areas for citrus black spot disease. The new deal means that Valencia types from this region will now also be available much earlier to the US market than in the past... Whilst South Africa has an excellent citrus crop and the early navels and Clementines are proving to be of exceptional quality, it is the introduction of the grapefruit that is expected to make the most impact

[www.freshplaza.com; 25 June 2010]

Lemon Juice Prison break foiled by sharp officers

Isle of Wight: The efforts of Island prison staff in foiling a helicopter jail break have been recognised by officials. Officers cracked a code hidden in a sudoku puzzle and found a note written using lemon juice as invisible ink as part of a plot to organise a helicopter escape. It emerged last week that Brian Lawrence, serving a life sentence for killing the friend of a former lover and hiring a hitman to kill two others, had conspired to break out of Parkhurst, part of HMP Isle of Wight. Officers were suspicious of sudoku puzzles found in Lawrence's cell and puzzle fan Mr Thurbin, who had experience of code breaking, was called in to examine them and discovered a series of secret messages. When a note was found in another prisoner's cell, advising more heat, less light, Mrs Dobbie recalled that Lawrence had previously used a lemon juice technique, which uses heat to reveal the writing. When they tested paper found during the operation, they uncovered a detailed map of part of the prison.

[iwcp.co.uk; 25 June 2010]

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/2010/citrus_week21-10.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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