

GLOBAL CITRUS SCAN (32/2010)

John Edmonds (23 September 2010)

Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

Current Exchange Rate	R/\$ 7.01	R/€ 9.37	R/£ 10.98
Last Week:	R/\$ 7.08	R/€ 9.20	R/£ 11.01
Last Year:	R/\$ 7.42	R/€ 10.94	R/£ 12.09

[<http://www.oanda.com/currency/converter/>]

NL: Citrus sales southern hemisphere doing well

The Spanish citrus season will begin soon. Nevertheless sufficient citrus from the Southern Hemisphere is still available. Jan van der Voort of Anaco Greeve, NL says that it has been a good season up till now with good prices. "Sales are doing well and there have not been any large stocks. The last arrival is planned for week 41." Most Salustianas have been sold and now the Valencias from South Africa, Argentina and Uruguay are also doing well... It is expected that prices will remain stable as noticeably less has been exported during the last few weeks, especially from South Africa, compared to last few years.

[www.freshplaza.com; 22 September 2010]

Croatia: PM opens tangerine season

Croatia expects to export around 40,000 tonnes of tangerines this year, Prime Minister Jadranka Kosor said at the ceremonial opening of the picking season on Saturday. The PM visited Neretva river valley where she spoke about the importance of agriculture for the country's economic recovery. This year's yield is expected at 60,000 tonnes out of which 20,000 tonnes is earmarked for the Croatian market

[croatiantimes.com; 22 September 2010]

Lemon prices break records in Ukraine

According to analysts of Fruit-Inform, prices for lemons are breaking all records in Ukraine. Currently, wholesale prices for lemons reach UAH 20-24/kg (EUR 1.93-2.32/kg) that is an absolute record for Ukraine. This is practically 1.5 times higher than average prices for lemons in the similar period of the previous year when the price situation with lemons was warmed up by the concern over the flu epidemic. This year, flu has not occurred yet, but retail prices for lemons reached UAH 30/kg (EUR 2.90/kg) and higher, that makes this product up market and hard-to-get for a consumer... According to Andrey Yarmak, Head of the project Fruit-Inform, growth of prices for lemons does not currently have great impact on consumers, as consumption of lemons during such period of time is comparatively low. But already in October, imports of lemons usually increase 2-3 times.

[lol.org.ua ;21 September 2010]

Lemon production in Spain to reach 807,000 tonnes

According to the data obtained from a sample of inter-professional orchards, a lemon production increase of around 20% (in tonnes) is expected for the forthcoming 2010/2011 crop due to the considerable increase in the number of fruit per tree. Consequently, there is a possibility of reaching a total production of 807,000 tonnes depending on the size at which the lemons are harvested. The increase has come about in the two varieties (Fino and Verna), with the Verna lemon producing the sharpest rise. This production increase with respect to last year is expected to be absorbed by a rise in the export offer in fresh lemon, where it will have to compete with the Turkish offer at the beginning of the season, and with the Argentinean and South African as of May. Moreover, an increase in the amount used for transformation into juice is foreseen. The lemon season in Spain will begin in early October and will be limited by both the amount of lemon available in the first few weeks (owing to the fact the quality of the lemons at that time will be lower than last season's), as well as by the degreening capacity. Consequently, activity regularity and bigger and more important volumes will not come about until November. As far as quality is concerned, the weather conditions and the growing practices employed, such as pruning, treatments, fertilising and irrigation, have made it possible to ensure the offering of an excellent quality, Spanish lemon this season, with good skin, high juice content and commercial qualities.

[www.ailimpo.com;21 September 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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