# GLOBAL CITRUS SCAN (15)

John Edmonds (25 May 2012)
Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

## Pakistan hopes to boost its fruit exports with new U.S. aid

Pakistan growers have joined forces with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to improve the quality of the country's fruit and vegetables, website Dailytimes.com.pk reported. …Ahmed said that kinnow mandarins had become one of the country's biggest exports with Russia and the Ukraine emerging as the largest destination markets. He said kinnows accounted for a high proportion of the 300,000 metric tons (MT) of annual citrus exports…PFVA representatives are concerned about non-compliance with international quality standards and are keen for dedicated research organizations to develop the varieties best needed for a global market. Ahmed stressed the need for a common facility centre to ensure agricultural research developments reached the farmer.
*[www.freshfruitportal.com; 23 May 2012]*

## *AU: Citrus growers want dollar to fall further*

Citrus growers in the NSW Riverina say the Australian dollar needs to drop another 20 per cent before fruit prices start to improve.The US is a major market for Australia's biggest citrus growing region.Louie Sartor, who's just starting picking his navel orange crop, says despite the high currency, the industry can't afford to pull back on exports."Look, most packers have a pre-season commitment to the US market," he said."If they don't commit to that market and they let that market go because of the high Australian dollar, the risk they run is they will lose the market altogether. "We've got to maintain it, otherwise the South Africans and the Chileans get into that market and we lose it altogether."We have no hope of gaining it back then."
*[www.abc.net.au; 23 May 2012]*

## Peru: Volume is expected to increase by 15%"

Sergio del Castillo, Procitrus General Manager told FreshPlaza that the citrus crop is doing well and production volumes are within expectations with a slight increase over last year. In addition, del Castillo states that export rates show promise because weather conditions have led to good fruit quality…*The main threat to this citrus season in Peru is the uncertainty and recession of the major citrus consumer markets. "Both in Europe and the United States there is a downward trend in the citrus demand, which I have a feeling will affect prices and returns for farmers, 2012 projects an increase in the supply of citrus exports of the Southern Hemisphere countries." The main varieties which are being exported are Satsuma Mandarins, Clementine, Tangelo Minneola and Nadorcott. The main destinations for citrus exports from Peru are the United Kingdom (28%), the Netherlands (25%), the United States (20%), Canada (12%), Russia (3%), and other countries totaling 25 in all (12%)…So far, international prices have been normal. However, the wide range of production projected in the southern hemisphere and the low demand that threatens the Northern Hemisphere, could encourage Peruvian producers to look to the domestic market, that to date is very dynamic and demanding of fruit and vegetables.*
*[Freshplaza.com ; 24 May 2012]*

## AU: Sunraysia citrus pickers forced to slow down

Citrus growers in Sunraysia are being urged to slow down picking, only four weeks into the new season. Growers say fruit is sweet and of good quality, but packers are already asking them to stop or slow picking because the market is oversupplied.Mary Cannard, from the Murray Valley Citrus Board, says it's the earliest she's seen packers ask growers to hold back on early season navels and mandarins."We had a dreadful season last season with prices, so growers were looking forward to a new season and maybe some better prices," she said."But the market has absolutely crashed for citrus and we are probably going to be in the same situation this year, unless we can moderate the supply of fruit into the market."
*[www.abc.net.au; 22 May 2012]*

**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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