

GLOBAL CITRUS SCAN (11)

John Edmonds (4 April 2014)



Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

Japan to invest in the sector of lemon juice in Turkey

Toyota Tsusho Europe Sa installs a fruit juice factory in Turkey. A delegation of the company, which belongs to the Toyota group has come to visit the Turkish Citrus Promotion Group to study the possibility of setting up a production unit of fresh lemon juice and concentrate on a capacity of about 18,000 m3 in the South-East of Turkey, in Adana-Mersin region. Consumption of lemon juice is very high in Japan and currently, Argentina, Italy and Israel meet about 85 percent of Japanese needs while Turkey produces 70 per cent of Mediterranean citrus.

[fructidor.com; 1 April 2014]

Less South African lemons for the EU

The South African citrus season is under way with early lemons achieving high prices. Roughly half the early lemons have gone into the Middle East and one third to Russia...More significant volumes of lemons will be available from the Eastern Cape in May. Having said this, volumes available for shipment to the EU will be tempered by the very strict Citrus Black Spot protocols that have been put in place by the South African authorities and are being strictly policed.

[Freshplaza.com; 1 April 2014]

New citrus varieties planted in Turkey

The promoting group of citrus of Turkey in collaboration with two important citrus research institutes, Alata and Batem as well as the Faculty of Agriculture of University of Adana in south-eastern Turkey, supported the development of new citrus varieties to be exported easily. Rootstocks were brought from California and the first planting attempts begin therefore at this month. This project should be completed in late June 2016 with new varieties of mandarins and oranges of mid season and late season and early varieties of lemons, more resistant in Mal Secco. In 2020, Mersin will host the World Congress of Citrus, an event that has the greatest importance for the development of academic research, which has gained new momentum since 2011.

[fructidor.com; 25 March 2014]

Planning for South African summer citrus to the U.S. underway

Representatives committed to the success of South Africa's Summer Citrus export program to the United States gathered in the heart of one of South Africa's citrus growing regions in late March. The annual planning session includes growers, exporters, U.S. based importers, shipping partners, receivers/service providers, and government representatives from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (U.S.D.A.) and South Africa's Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries (DAFF) as well as South Africa Minister of Agriculture to the U.S., Ms. Vangile Titi-Msumza and the U.S. Consul General to Cape Town, Ms. Erica Barks- Ruggles. "Each entity represented is vital to the success of the program," said Suhanra Conradie, CEO of the Western Cape Citrus Producers Forum. "We get together here to listen to one another and address questions and concern and avoid potential problems before the season gets started." The export of citrus to the U.S. enters its 15th year with the 2014 season. The market opened to South Africa in 1999 and was enhanced with the signing of the Africa Growth and Opportunity treaty in 2000. A.G.O.A. is in consideration for renewal in 2015...Consul General Erica Barks-Ruggles lauded the W.C.C.P.F. for the growth in the program since it began. "South Africa's agricultural citrus exports are one of the country's largest success stories for increased access to the United States under the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act...Exports of oranges from South Africa to the United States hit a new record in 2013, with nearly \$57 million in sales or over 39,000 metric tons in exports... It is estimated that the development of the U.S. market for summer citrus has generated 20,000 permanent jobs in those areas approved for shipment to the United States and up to 80,000 temporary positions supporting as many as 120,000 South Africans families.

[Freshplaza.com; 3 April 2014]

US (CA): Sumo citrus or giant tangerine?

Everything about the Sumo Citrus is big, from its size to its flavour and popularity. The Japanese love the juiciness and size of navel oranges -- and the flavour and ease of the mandarin orange. Mandarins peel so easily. So, they crossbred the two to get the best of both worlds. It took nearly 40 years to develop that perfect citrus. At 75 percent mandarin and 25 percent navel orange, the fruit is so big, they named it after their biggest athletes, the sumo wrestlers. The fruit even has a quirky top knot, which makes peeling it even easier. The first Sumo Citrus arrived stateside a few years ago and was very expensive, but with each year that passes, more San Joaquin Valley acreage is put into Sumo production and prices are dropping. Expect to pay \$2.49 to \$2.99 per pound this season. In Japan, where the fruit is known as Dekopon, the citrus runs \$8 to \$10 each.

[mercurynews.com; 3 April 2014]

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

YOUR LEVY WORKING FOR YOU – GROWER LEVIES ARE USED TO FUND THE ACTIVITIES OF CGA