

GLOBAL CITRUS SCAN (19)

John Edmonds (19 June 2015)



Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

South Africa: R 9 million for emerging citrus farmer exports

Emerging citrus farmers of Peddie in the Eastern Cape have received a cash injection of R9 million to help them with exports to the European market. The Department of Rural Development says it wants to boost the economy of the province through developing commercial black farmers. The citrus farmers started out with nothing in the 1990s.

But this season, nearly 200 hectares of fruit are being harvested...

[*thenewage.co.za*; 12 June 2015]

Spain: Expanding Nadorcott acreage, despite falling prices

LA UNIÓN de Llaoradors (Growers' Association) has criticised the expansion of the Nadorcott mandarin acreage, with a number of trees planted that has grown in recent years to 2.7 million within the European Union alone, compared to 2 million trees in 2009, and this without taking into account the licenses granted to countries like Morocco, Egypt and Turkey. In the meantime, average prices at origin this campaign have been 25% lower than last year. Companies exploiting the variety are causing its devaluation by allowing the acreage to be expanded and granting more licenses. Recently, 400 hectares, about 200,000 licenses, have been granted in Spain and another 500 hectares, approximately 250,000 licenses, in Italy...

[*Freshplaza.com*; 18 June 2015]

Spanish Verna lemons dominate Europe

Just one month before the end of the Verna lemon campaign, the sector has reported good results so far, with smooth demand at very reasonable prices, high quality and less competition from third countries. The average price at origin in week 24 stands at 55 cents per kilo, as reported by AILIMPO on social media, which is a fair price for producers...Spain still dominates the market, gaining ground on the production from the Southern Hemisphere...Regarding exports, it has so far been a record campaign for Spanish lemons, with more shipments to traditional markets in the European Union and growth in third countries, particularly South East Asia and Africa. According to AILIMPO, the total lemon harvest, taking into account both the Fino and Verna varieties, is expected to amount to about 1,100,000 tonnes, with 640,000 tonnes intended for export and 300,000 tonnes for processing. The rest will remain in the domestic market.

[*Freshplaza.com*; 17 June 2015]

US grabs larger share of Uruguayan citrus

Uruguayan citrus continues to make steady inroads into the US market, with exports forecast to reach 15,000 tonnes in 2015. The South American country has gained a firm foothold in the market since gaining access to in 2013 and while Europe still accounts for the bulk of exports, companies are diverting a growing proportion of their crop to the US ...Figures from the agriculture ministry suggest total citrus production is set to rise by 6.4 per cent in 2015. The bulk of the increase will come from mandarins, which are up 25 per cent at 131,000 tonnes, while orange production is down 6.5 per cent to 140,800 tonnes. Lemon and grapefruit production are projected to reach 32,000 tonnes and 1,400 tonnes respectively.

[*Fruitnet.com*; 10 June 2015]

Argentina: New markets for citrus

New markets are opened so that citrus companies can locate their products in countries such as India, Brazil and United States. In recent weeks, the chambers of the sector have been negotiating in private and diplomatic fields the opening of markets with a significant level of citrus consumption, both in the region and in other parts of the world. In the case of United States, this would mean the return of products such as Tucuman lemons to this market. One of the destinations presented to the regional agro-industry was India. After the Ambassador of that country in Argentina, Amarendra Khatua, who visited the province a fortnight ago, stated his country was interested in Argentine citrus, the cameras of the sector and State agencies began to negotiate the entry of Argentine citrus to that country, in particular, for the Tucuman lemon...At the meeting, the businessmen also raised the need for opening the Brazilian market for lemon. "The South of that country has begun to consume significant amounts of Sicilian lemon, which is what we produce, to the detriment of the acid Lima, which has a high demand in the rest of that territory. Brazil is extremely important for our summer fruit," said the head of Federcitrus. He also spoke about the visit of a group of Turkish companies, the third largest world producer of lemon, to Argentina. At the same time, according to Senasa, a delegation of the inspection service of Animal and Plant Health of the Department of Agriculture of United States (USDA-Aphis) visited companies in Tucuman and Salta, within the framework of the negotiations for the re-opening of that market for Argentine lemons...

[*La Gaceta*; *freshplaza*; 16 June 2015]

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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