

GLOBAL CITRUS SCAN (32)

John Edmonds (17 September 2015)

Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

South Africa stops citrus exports to EU early

Tomorrow DAFF (Dept of Agriculture, Forest and Fisheries) will inspect the last South African citrus headed for the European market. The decision does not apply to citrus from the Citrus Black Spot (CBS) -free regions of West and North Cape. Traditionally South Africa stops exports to the EU from October 15 as from that date they are subject to the import duties. With this decision, the export comes a month earlier.

[Freshplaza.com; 16 September 2015]

Citrus market 'on fire'

The citrus market has been good for weeks. A good example is the grapefruit coming from South Africa and Mexico to Europe and barely touching the ground. Prices are at a level of 17/18 Euro and higher and is being pulled out from under the hands of the overseas importers. They are talking about 'golden prices that they haven't seen for years. Lemons are also still getting good prices, although the level isn't as high as earlier in the season. Countries of origin overseas are Uruguay, South Africa and Argentina. Argentina has sent 20% more lemons to Europe and some Argentinians even speculated that they might get 40 Euro. It didn't get that crazy, as South Africa also exported more volume and Uruguay has volumes too. The current price level is between 23 and 27 Euro. Still good money, but the first Turkish lemons are expected a week on Monday and the trade is focussed on getting the largest volumes away, because as soon as Turkey is on the market, the prices are expected to drop. Large supermarkets will switch straight to the first Turkish lemons, which, according to traders, are yellow but have a limited juice content. But this is good for turnover...

The market for oranges is unrelentingly good, with prices between 11 and 13.50 Euro. South Africa represents around 90% of the volume, but Argentina and Uruguay also send oranges this way. The hand orange market with Navel and Navel Late is starting to dry up a little. This is why large sizes of Valencias are being sold as hand oranges, under the guise of 'necessity knows no laws'. The mandarin sales -Nadorcotts from Brazil, Argentina, South Africa and Peru - is going well. Peruvian minneolas also receive around 11 to 13 Euro, a price that makes an importer some money. The market for limes is reasonably stable around 6 Euro.

[Freshplaza.com; 14 September 2015]

First Spanish Iwasaki mandarins arrive at higher prices than in 2014

The Spanish citrus season is starting with the harvest of early Iwasaki mandarins, with prices at origin of between 0.23 and 0.32 Euro per kilo, according to data released by the Lonja de Valencia, higher than the average of 0.18 Euro per kilo registered at the start of the 2014/2015 campaign...The decline in the production of early mandarins and clementines is estimated at around 40% for the earliest varieties. This is mostly due to the impact of high spring and summer temperatures and hailstorms. Moreover, he points out that "prices have also been boosted as a result of the smaller stocks of mandarins and clementines from the southern hemisphere this year. Argentina has shipped less to Europe and South Africa is also switching to other markets, such as the U.S., where they get better prices." "Prospects at the start of the current campaign are really good," he continues. "Fruit quality is good and calibres are larger than last year. Furthermore, the current low temperatures in central and northern Europe, should boost demand."

[Freshplaza.com; 10 September 2015]

U.S: California Navels set for bigger crop and fruit sizes

California's Navel orange growers have reported expectations for larger fruit sizes this upcoming season as they gear up for harvests in early October. The California Agricultural Statistics Service (CASS) has forecast a crop of 86 million 40-pound cartons in 2015-16... "Growers, packinghouse fieldmen, and shippers that CCM spoke with prior to today's release generally believed that the crop was at least the same as last year and probably bigger than last year," CCM said in a release late last week. "Fruit size was reported to be larger and fruit set, especially on late varieties, is better in most groves..." "The industry response to the today's report is that the estimate is a reasonable starting point," the group said. "The big variable will be the acreage number. Thousands of acres have been removed during the current drought..."

[freshfruitportal.com; 14 September 2015]

All of Peru authorized to export citrus to the US

On September 14, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) announced its decision to allow citrus fruit from the entire country of Peru to be imported into the continental United States...All citrus fruit from Peru, except for limes, must undergo a cold treatment as soon as it enters the US...Additional volumes of citrus expected to be shipped to the United States are 5,000 metric tons (MT) in the first year that the rule is in effect, 6,500 MT in the second year, and 8,000 MT in the third year...

[Freshplaza.com; 15 September 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

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