

GLOBAL CITRUS SCAN (42)

John Edmonds (30 November 2015)



Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

"Unpredictable" whether Russia will ban Turkish produce imports, says Koziy

Russia says it is preparing wide-ranging sanctions against Turkey after the downing of military aircraft on the Syrian border this week, but exactly what those measures will involve is yet to be seen. Moscow-based RK Marketing/FruitNews director Irina Koziy told www.freshfruitportal.com it was 'highly unpredictable' whether a ban on Turkish produce imports will be implemented... "At the moment emotions are high and there are lots of politics and different opinions around the situation with Turkey," she said... She said one government representative who had raised the topic was Agriculture Minister Alexander Tkachyov, who had claimed the country could easily supplement Turkish food supplies in the event of an import ban. "From my point of view this is very questionable claim," Koziy said, adding prices would likely rise for Russian consumers, while produce variety and quality may fall. She estimated Turkey typically shipped approximately US\$1.5 billion worth of fruit and vegetables to the market each year, including a range of major produce items... Turkey supplies around one third of Russia's imported citrus, according to Koziy, with oranges making up the majority of volumes. She said Russia may look to Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia and Israel to fill the citrus gap, but believed it would not be easy for them to supply approximately 500,000 metric tons (MT) of citrus which Turkey exports to Russia annually...

[freshfruitportal.com; 27 November 2015]

Pakistani kinnow export down by 70%

...Previously it was expected that export quality damage was 40% but new surveys shows that export volumes would be suffered by 70%. "There was a natural decline of crops this season as the previous seasons harvest was bumper, in addition to that the South region was damaged by heavy hail storm. Other regions are also damaged by natural weather changes. There is less of the export quality left, which will hamper overall export volumes." Pakistan exports worldwide 12,000 containers every year. It is expected that this season only 4000 containers would be expected in total. Further export to Russia would also significantly drop from 3600 containers to 1200 containers for the coming season.

[Freshplaza. 23 November 2015]

Main gate from China to Russia

According to the Neimenggu Manzhouli...by the 10th of November, 30900 tons of citrus with a value of 20 million USD have passed from China to Russia through the port of Manzhouli in the North of China. The exported volume is 70% more than last year and counts for 65% of all citrus exported to Russia from China.

[Freshplaza. 26 November 2015]

Florida citrus body lowers orange maturity regulations

The Florida Citrus Commission unanimously agreed to industry requests to lower fruit quality standards for the 2015-16 season in a Thursday afternoon telephone meeting. The commission governs the Florida Department of Citrus, which regulates fruit quality standards. Citrus fruit must meet certain maturity standards before it can be harvested for commercial use. The commission agreed to lower the standard for sugar solids in oranges to 8 percent from 8.7 percent. Annually, 95 percent of Florida oranges go to juice. It also agreed to suspend for the 2015-16 season the regulation that navel oranges, mostly sold as fresh, must have at least 0.36 percent citric acid. Oranges were having difficulty reaching those levels because of the damaging effects of the fatal bacterial disease citrus greening, which is endemic in Florida groves.

[theledger.com 23; November 2015]

India: Bumper orange crop leaves bitter aftertaste

Recent weather changes have brought a bumper orange crop this year, which has had a major effect on prices...oranges this year are bringing less than half of the previous season's average price. Farmers and traders are concerned, considering this has not happened in the last 15-20 years...Also, there is an equal slump in demand, due to reasons ranging from unrest in Nepal to floods in the southern states, which have dampened the Nagpur Santra...In any given year, traders book the orchards in advance at the time of flowering. Traders who pluck the fruit at their own expense during this time are not interested in collecting the produce

[Indiatimes vis Freshplaza. 27 November 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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