

GLOBAL CITRUS SCAN (2016_8)

John Edmonds (4 March 2016)



Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

Arrival of US chickens in South African supermarkets have lifted the spirits of the Cape's citrus sector

...The long-standing fight by South African chicken producers to keep the US out of its market seems to have come to an end with the news that the first shipments of US-produced chickens has arrived in the country, and will be sold by one of the major supermarket groups...the US authorities set mid-March as the deadline for the first chickens to be displayed on South African supermarket shelves - with the threat that all South African agricultural products would be excluded from AGOA...last year South Africa exported around 45,000 tons of citrus to the country...Observers say that the present economic climate in South Africa...have put great pressure on the South African government to find a solution for the stand-off between chicken producers on both sides of the Atlantic in order not to endanger the future business for other sectors of agriculture In the country...

[Fruitnet.com Thursday 3rd March 2016]

Shorter Turkish lemon season higher prices

...Emre Tanriover, of TANEKS, a major exporter in the Mersin area, confirms that the reason for the high lemon prices is the difficulty in finding good quality fruit, because of the frost. "The season for us would normally end in late April, but I think this time it will be over in March, in about 15 days." He also assures that lemon exports to Russia continue and demand is really high.

[Freshplaza.com; 2 March 2016]

Peruvian mandarins will enter Mexico without tariffs

...the Mexican government established that imports of this fruit from Peru would be free of tariff between March and September. Last year Peru exported...294 tons to the Mexican market...After that they will pay a 20% tariff.

[Freshplaza.com; 3 March 2016]

Freeze decimates Spanish fruit production

Last week's cold snap has caused millions of euros of losses to fruit production across eastern Spain, fulfilling the worst fears of growers that early blossoming brought on by the mild winter left trees more exposed to the risk of frosts. The worst losses were suffered in Murcia – the most southern of the affected regions and therefore the one where blossoming was most advanced...823ha of citrus said to be affected...

[Fruitnet.com Thursday 3rd March 2016]

Citrus could reduce stroke risk

Citrus fruit intake has been associated with reducing the risk of having a stroke...According to Dr Michael Greger, writing for the UK newspaper The Daily Mail, the key may lie with a citrus phytonutrient called hesperidin, which appears to increase blood flow throughout the body, including the brain...In one study, scientists recruited women...with chronically cold hands, feet and toes — and placed them in a highly air-conditioned room...The women in the experimental group drank a solution containing actual citrus phytonutrients, while another (control) group drank a placebo...The fingertips of the women who drank real citrus...cooled less than half as fast, because their blood flow remained steadier. The researchers also had both groups of women plunge their hands into icy water and saw the citrus drinkers recover about 50 per cent faster than the control group.

[dailymail.co.uk; 1 March 2016]

Indonesian trade caps hurt Chinese citrus export

The Indonesian government has set off on a track of increased self-sufficiency. Strong-rupiah policy, anti-foreign sentiments and increased Chinese competition have moved the Indonesian president Joko Widodo towards protectionism...The thought is that there is no need to import (exotic) fruits that are grown in Indonesia. This development is hitting the Chinese export market hard. Indonesia is one of the largest importers of Chinese citrus, particularly mandarins. In the past, an estimated 70% of total mandarin export was destined for Indonesia...Critics claim that the import restrictions do more harm than good. Indonesia is not self-sufficient in terms of fruit and citrus production and the policy might lead to shortages on the local market.

[Freshplaza.com; 2 March 2016]

Lemon can kick spring cleaning into another gear

To welcome the arrival of spring, a season of fresh beginnings, Limoneira Company, one of the largest providers of lemons in the United States, has partnered with some of the nation's green cleaning experts to share do-it-yourself recipes and tips for all-natural and green spring cleaning at home.

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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