

GLOBAL CITRUS SCAN (2016_25)

John Edmonds (1 July 2016)



Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

Freshfel explains Brexit impacts on produce trade

...In a release, Freshfel voiced its 'concern' about the consequences of last week's U.K. referendum, which revealed a tight majority in favour of leaving the EU. "This vote is opening a period of uncertainty for business, and an outcome which is likely to impact overtime existing fresh produce business," the organization said...Freshfel said that until that two-year period is over, it would remain "business as usual", under the current terms and conditions provided by the single market and the free trade agreement (FTA) with third countries. Other benefits of the Common Agriculture Policy, food safety legislation, and Research and Innovation projects will also remain fully applicable...Freshfel said that last year the U.K. received more than 5.6 million metric tons (MT) of fresh fruit and vegetables from all origins around the world, with the important business valued at €6.8 billion (US\$7.5 billion)...The main suppliers to the market are Spain (1.4 million MT), the Netherlands (700,000MT), South Africa (350,000MT), Costa Rica (300,000MT) and Colombia (300,000MT). Bananas represent 1.1 million MT of the total import volumes, with apples (450,000MT), soft citrus (300,000MT), oranges (280,000MT) and table grapes (280,000MT) also key categories.

[Freshfruitportal.com; 28 June 2016]

South Africa: Citrus exporter opens new state of the art packhouse

Last Saturday, during a meeting in Groblersdal, South Africa, the GOGO group from the Marble Hall area in the Limpopo region, officially opened their new packhouse...The capacity of the packing station is approximately 150,000 to 200,000 cartons of citrus per week. Two years ago, a highly efficient coldstore was brought into operation, enabling the group to move the citrus from where it is packed directly to the port without interrupting the coldchain. This improves the quality as the cold chain remains unbroken for delivery in the Netherlands. The GOGO group consists of growers El Sundew, Tian Kruger Boerdery, JFK Botha, Neels Kok and J.J. Gouws who this year together will export about 3 million cartons. Not only to Europe but also to the Middle East, the Far East and Canada.

[Freshplaza.com; 29 June 2016]

China: Orange export to Indonesia

"Mid June, our laboratory obtained the approval of the Indonesia agricultural department, so the oranges from Quzhou now have access to Indonesia." This statement was released yesterday by the section chief of the food safety customs inspection, Hu Zhiming...With 50% to 80% of the total export quantity, Indonesia is the most important export market of Quzhou's oranges...

[Quzhou daily via Freshplaza.com; 30 June 2016]

Exports of Punjabi kinnow to Russia soar

The deterioration of relations between Russia and Turkey have benefited Punjabi kinnow growers and exporters, who exported 5,000 tons of the fruit last year, and are expecting a manifold increase in trade this year. The shooting down of a Russian fighter jet by Turkey has meant that Russia stopped buying oranges from the country, hence the increased popularity of kinnow...According to the general manager of the Punjab Agro Export Corporation (PAEC) Pardeep Sharma, "There is an at least threefold increase in the export of kinnows to Russia and Ukraine — we have had advance bookings for 15,000 tonnes of kinnow"...The kinnow is harvested between January and March annually in Punjab and is the only fruit grown on a large-scale, commercial level in the state. Encouraged by the government's response, exporters and growers are coming together to increase the acreage under cultivation.

[Asianage.com via Freshplaza.com; 27 June 2016]

China: Dongfang purchases new farms for US\$60M

China's second-largest citrus harvester Dongfang Modern Agriculture (ASX: DFM) has announced the purchase of two farms covering 1200 hectares for RMB400 million (US\$60 million)...CEO Charles So said the company continued to aggregate orchards within China's fragmented agricultural sector, with plantations now covering more than 9,800 hectares. "We remain a key domestic supplier of tangerines, navel oranges, pomelos and camellia fruit products, meeting the growing demand for fruit by consumers in China's tier-one cities," he said...

[Freshfruitportal.com; 30 June 2016]

Mexico: Climate change reduces citrus production by half

Climate change has affected the citrus sector in Tamaulipas. Production has been low in the last four crop cycles and it has fallen by more than 50 percent. According to Javier Ibarra Echarte, president of the Emiliano Zapata Regional Union of Citrus Producers...5 years ago they managed to produce more than 600,000 tons of oranges per year and currently they only achieve harvesting less than 400,000 tons per year. He said that the effects of climate change could be seen in the citrus activity as the young trees, which previously would yield a lot of products, now had a low production...

[gaceta.mx via Freshplaza.com; 27 June 2016]