GLOBAL CITRUS SCAN (2016_27)

John Edmonds (15 July 2016)
Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

Peru: Camposol sends its first mandarin shipment to the U.S.

The team at Peru's largest agri-export company Camposol are celebrating a new milestone this month, with the company's first exports of fresh mandarins to the United States…According to Peru's Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MINAGRI), the country's mandarin exports are expected to rise 39% by 2020; this presents both a challenge and an opportunity for Camposol, which has planted 101 hectares of easy peelers…Camposol expects to reach 600 hectares of easy peeler production by 2018, which would imply exports of more than 1,000 containers between April and October. In 2015 Peru exported around 100,800MT of mandarins.."

[Freshfruitportal.com; 13 July 2016]

Final Florida citrus estimate released

The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) has revealed that the final 2015/16 Florida orange crop estimate stands at 81.5m boxes, which marks a 16 per cent decrease from the previous year's result. During the 2014/15 season, Florida produced 96.8m boxes of oranges. Valencia oranges totalled 45.4m boxes while Florida produced 36.1m boxes of Early and Mid-Season varieties. "The USDA report puts a bow on the 2015/16 season and it is pretty much what we expected after hearing from the field," said Michael Sparks, executive vice-pesident and CEO of Florida Citrus Mutual…

[www.fruitnet.com/Americafruit; 13 July 2016]

Iranian lemon output up 8%

According to an official, Iran's lemon production increased by 8 percent compared to the previous Iranian calendar year, which ended March 20. Abolghasem Hassanpour, the General Director of Tropical and Subtropical Fruits Department of Agriculture Ministry, estimated that a total of 480,000 to 500,000 tons of lemon will be produced in the current year… "The product is supplied from July to September while it reaches its peak harvest in months of August and September," he continued…He went on to underscore that "given the seven or eight percent growth in lemon production in the current year, no shortage is felt in this respect which alleviated the need to import the product."

[Freshplaza.com; 7 July 2016]

S.A: "Not the most ideal year for lemon exports to Europe"

Sunday's River Valley in the main region producing lemons at the moment and Hannes De Waal MD at Sunday's River Citrus Company, one of the biggest citrus producers in the valley said, "Lemons are still being loaded for Europe, certainly from the Eastern Cape, although it is not the most ideal year for exports to Europe due to the small sizes and CBS restrictions but there are containers getting loaded…It is our focus to try and stay in Europe but it is very difficult due to the back spot as we have to go through a lot of processes to ship there. According to Hannes there are a lot of lemons going to the Russian market which is really also very good just now. "The South East Asian market is very flat though we are not sure why, but it could be down to consumers having less to spend on imported fruit due to the economy."
The Middle East is very stable and consumption has been good and SRCC are also sending some fruit to Japan, but according to Hannes that will never be a lot as it is a steri-protocol market and lemons don't do well in steady protocols. The company have a small retail program for Canada. "Overall South African lemon exporters should have a good year. We do expect the season to end a lot quicker because we have had no breaks in harvesting due to rain, normally we would have had around 15 down days by now, but we have only had one…We are packing out very quickly, Navels are flying out which is skewing the export figures making look like we have higher volumes. As for lemons we have just reduced the export figures this week by just under 1 million cartons, and it may come down more as we move to other areas of the valley, some growers are reporting less fruit and of course the sizes are smaller so the volumes may end up being similar to last year," said Hannes…

[Freshplaza.com; 11 July 2016]

China: Citrus prices rising

The weather in Shanghai is sunny and the temperatures are rising. This brings about larger imported volumes and higher prices for citrus fruit. Compared to last week, the price for South African grapefruit has gone up by 10 RMB to 140-150 RMB per case. Also the trading speed has shifted up a gear.
The quality of Australian oranges has visibly improved. Navel oranges have gone from 270-280 RLB per case to 310 RMB per case. They have a strong peel and are clean. The prices for all big brands (Sunkist, Sun Garde, Kangrara) are going up. The citrus season is already nearing its end in places like the US and Spain. The production volume is very small, but the prices are stable. Spanish oranges for example are still at 200 RMb. Once US and Spanish oranges are finished, Australian and South African oranges will take over the market. This will create space for price adjustment.

[Freshplaza.com; 11 July 2016]