

GLOBAL CITRUS SCAN (2016_33)

John Edmonds (26 August 2016)



Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

Peru: Camposol makes first shipment of mandarins to Brazil

...In its first shipment of mandarins to Brazil, Camposol sent 22,800 kilograms of the W. Murcott variety, a mandarin that is known because its main characteristics are that it is an easy peeler and a seedless fruit. The commercial launch of the product took place in May at the Fair of the Association of Supermarkets from Sao Paulo (APAS), where the Peruvian exporters of citrus began negotiations with Brazilian businesses to export their fruits there. The Peruvian mandarins are sold in Sao Paulo's Central Market, Latin America's largest wholesale market and the main distribution centre of fruits and fresh vegetables in the city of Sao Paulo. Brazil, which has more than 200 million people, represents an important new market for Peruvian citrus, as annual exports could surpass 5 million dollars...

[Freshplaza.com; 28 August 2016]

U.S. Early start to Chile's mandarin season

...In the end, Chile will have shipped over 42,000 metric tons of clementines to the USA this season...This represents an increase of almost 53% over the clementine volume shipped in 2015. But the W. Murcotts are on the way... this is more than five times the volume shipped over the same period last year. The increased volume reflects the fact that Chile has both an early crop and a large crop...when the first Chilean late mandarins arrive in the market next week Peru will still be a market factor and will continue as such for some weeks. Rounding out the easy peeler offering on the US East Coast market are late soft citrus varieties from South Africa and Uruguay. But the soft citrus market has been steadily gaining strength over the last three weeks and sits today at a remarkably stable US\$ 34 – 36 (mostly US\$ 34) for product sold in a 10 x 3 lbs. bag format. The heavy arrivals of Chilean W. Murcotts that are expected in Week 34 and onward will likely limit any significant price increases...With autumn on the way and children back in school in the next two weeks, we can expect soft citrus consumption to continue to increase...

[Freshplaza.com; 24 August 2016]

China: Citrus market drops as grapefruit go up

On the import market this week, orange prices have taken a dive. Sales have slowed down, but tangerines and grapefruit are still fetching high prices...The price for South African oranges has already dropped back to the same level as that of the start of the season. The Australian orange brand with the biggest influence, Sunkist, has also dropped to 300 RMB and is now hovering around 270 RMB to 280 RMB per case...Currently the general market position of grapefruit has already risen to 190 RMB per case. The price hasn't been higher this season. When it comes to tangerines, Australian varieties aren't the only ones that sell very well. Tangerines from Peru are in high demand. Although the season is already halfway, the price for Australian tangerines hasn't gone down accordingly...Also the sales of tangerines from Peru are doing better than last year. 10 kg of tangerines are sold easily for 170 RMB to 180 RMB.

[Freshplaza.com; 22 August 2016]

Florida's citrus industry down but not out

At the 2016 Citrus Expo that opened Wednesday 17 August at the Lee Civic Center in North Fort Myers, Florida's citrus industry got together to discuss survival tactics...citrus consultant Elizabeth Steiger last week predicted Florida orange growers will produce 60.5 million boxes of oranges in the new season...a 26 percent decline year-over-year, and the smallest state orange crop in 53 years. Combine that with an expected decline in the rival Brazilian crop, and growers could enjoy record-high farm prices. However, that might not make up for increased expenses fighting the diseases or having fewer oranges to sell.

[Freshplaza.com; 19 August 2016]

U.S. Increased demand for W. Murcotts from Peru

The first container of W. Murcotts left Peru at the end of June and entered the port of Long Beach, California in the second week of July...The Peruvian growing season was a little better than last year, with El Niño having a positive impact. "Increased rainfall resulted in larger sizing and better quality," mentioned Cutsinger...Honey Murcotts are sweeter and contain a high juice level. W. Murcotts on the other hand contain less seeds. All citrus entering the US from Peru has to undergo a cold treatment and the high brix level definitely helps out in view of the cold treatment. "For phytosanitary reasons, the product is kept at 33°F for 15 days, which has quite an effect on the fruit. It affects the skin and reduces shelf-life."

[Freshplaza.com; 24 August 2016]

Hydrogen balloons deliver insecticides

Growers in Anhui province, Eastern China, have found an efficient and innovative way to apply insecticides through the use of balloons filled with hydrogen that float over the fields. This helps in bringing back the costs of insecticide and fertilizer delivery. "

[Freshplaza.com; 18 August 2016]