GLOBAL CITRUS SCAN (2016_39)

John Edmonds (7 October 2016)

Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

Spain confirms bigger lemon crop

The latest review by Spain's lemon and grapefruit interprofessional of the new production season predicts a strong rise in lemon volumes and narrow contraction in grapefruit supply for 2016/17. Ailimpo's most recent crop estimate confirms the figures released in July, which peg the lemon crop at 980,000 tonnes (+22 per cent) and grapefruit at 67,000 tonnes (-6 per cent). The lemon campaign is already underway but volumes are still low due to the heavy stocks of Southern Hemisphere fruit. "Full activity is expected to come gradually during October, as Spanish Primofiori is a fresh and high quality lemon, much better than Southern Hemisphere lemons with severe quality and condition problems," Ailimpo said in a press release. In the case of grapefruit, volumes will start to come on stream from the second half of October. Ailimpo notes that Spain will benefit this year from the significantly shorter crops in Florida and Israel. The association will release a revised forecast in late January that will focus on Verna lemons.
[freshfruitportal.com; 30 September 2016]

Argentine orange growers enjoy 'good surprise' during season…

…Citrus growers' association Federcitrus president José Carbonell told www.freshfruitportal.com orange shippers had been exporting in far greater volumes than previously anticipated. "The orange export campaign has been extended amid much enthusiasm in the industry," he said. "This is because the prices in Europe rose in July and this caused export volumes to increase greatly again previous forecasts. We had been expecting to export around 40,000 pallets and now we're going to pass 70,000." The representative said there were still significant volumes of Valencia oranges currently being shipped via seafreight and consignments would continue until the middle of the month…"There was strong demand for juices and essential orange oils which we had not predicted a couple of months ago," he said…He explained the strong demand for juices was due to lower supplies from Brazil and Florida, as well as Brazil experiencing problems with taste and Brix levels…As for the lemon sector, Carbonell said the season had wrapped up two weeks ago and had been positive overall for the industry. "The season was good. We exported 280,000 metric tons (MT) and apart from the last 15 days the prices were satisfactory and consistent," he said. In 2015, just 185,000MT were exported from the South American country. A record of 450,000MT was achieved in 2008, but in 2013 severe frosts struck the industry and brought the following year's exports volumes down to 150,000MT…
[freshfruitportal.com; 4 October 2016]

Citrus Growers' Association OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Argentina almost doubled fruit exports to Indonesia

This year, fruit exports, including tangerines, lemons, oranges and pears, from Argentina to Indonesia have almost doubled in quantity in comparison with 2015, report Argentine officials. In the specific case of lemons and oranges, the South American country has already sent 3,300 tons to the port of Jakarta – 1,500 more than the amount exported last year…The Indonesian government, however, will limit the admission of mandarins and oranges in September and October, as part of a measure to protect its local industry…The Argentine government has welcomed its new status as a country of recognition, a title also held by the United States, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa and Japan.
[Freshplaza.com; 3 October 2016]

Spain: Valencia wants South African citrus limited to one port of entry

A political coalition from Spain's Valencia region has tabled a motion in the European Parliament that would require South African citrus imports to enter through a sole port, according to website Elmundo.es. Coalició Compromís requested the European Union's Commission for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food make a series of modifications to the recently signed economic deal with the Southern African Development Community. One of these modifications would restrict imports to either the port of Valencia or Castellon, which the political entity said was due to 'economic and phytosanitary' reasons…
[freshfruitportal.com; 5 October 2016]

Inflatable packhouses offer new export option

… "These are soft, pop-up warehouses that are simple and quick to put up," he notes. "They can be installed in just ten days and the structure itself is maintained by air pressure, so there's no need for any structural frame beneath. This means we can get a pack house and coldstore operation up and running in next to no time."…"We combine products in one pack house so that the exporters don't have to invest in infrastructure," he points out. Núñez adds: "We've had a lot of input from growers about what kind of packing and coldstorage facilities they need." Having proven the model in Chile, Broom Group and LCL are understandably keen to replicate it elsewhere in the world, especially in other parts of the Southern Hemisphere. Needless to say, where there's demand for dependable export networks without the need for long-term, expensive investment in infrastructure, this is a business model that has the potential to bring fresh impetus to fruit export channels across the world.
[fruitnet.com/americafruit; 3 October 2016]