

Global Citrus Scan (2018_9)

John Edmonds (16 March 2018)



Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

Indonesia grants South Africa export extension

Fourteen horticultural products have been granted simplified entry into Indonesia's port of Jakarta from South Africa until 11 April 2021. The products granted are apples, apricots, cherries, citrus, grapes, grapefruit, lemons, nectarines, oranges, peaches, pears, pomelos, plums and prunes...Exporters will be allowed to use the Port of Jakarta, Tanjung Priok, which is located close to the main Jakarta market...

[www.fruitnet.com/asiafruit/; 13 March 2018]

Peruvian mandarin exports rocketed in 2017

...Figures from PromPeru show export volumes were registered at 119,065 metric tons (MT) – putting them 31% higher than 2016 and 56% higher than 2015. Meanwhile, the total FOB value was US\$158 million – up 32% year-on-year and 68% higher than in 2016...Shipments to the U.S. – Peru's leading mandarin market – rose in proportion with the volume increase to 46,000 metric tons (MT), while to the U.K. there was a more modest rise of 6% to 27,000MT. There were also increases to Canada (+15%;13,000MT) and the Netherlands (+26%;12,000MT). Notably, shipments to China rose almost six-fold to 6,500MT, having been stable at around 1,000MT for the two years previous...

[www.freshfruitportal.com/; 16 March 2018]

Spain: Still a lot of Primofiori lemon left to be harvested, but sales are slow

"Stressful" is the word that best defines the current campaign for several Spanish lemon exporters. Prices at origin are high, sales are slow and there is still a lot of fruit on the trees that needs to be sold...The lemons that are still in the trees are generally at a very advanced stage of maturity and already have very large calibres. They also continue growing in size, due to the constant rains of recent weeks. "The situation is very worrying, because the lemons are ripening very quickly due to the combination of rain with sunny days and good temperatures; something that can lead to some quality problems if we do not sell them soon."...Ailimpo has described the months of January and February as "very apathetic" in terms of sales, with little continuity. Also, there is greater competition from Turkey in eastern countries, where they do not yet demand Spanish lemons, as their prices are much higher than those of Turkish lemons this year...The Verna production is expected to be 40% lower than last year, according to Ailimpo, although it should be noted that a record harvest was obtained in 2017"...The situation in the sector is one of uncertainty, although Ailimpo believes that the demand may increase a little in the coming days.

[freshplaza.com/; 12 March 2018]

Spain: Argentinian mandarins to compete against Castellon's citrus

Argentinian mandarins are already being shipped to Europe to compete against Spanish citrus. According to Argentinian media, the first 1,000 tonne shipment of early mandarins of the Okitsu variety has departed this week bound to the Old Continent. Jorge García, president of Castellon's provincial citrus association (Asociex), pointed out that although it will still take "a couple of weeks" to reach the European port of destination, there will be some overlap with Spanish citrus on the supermarket shelves, especially in northern Europe. García said that "this is a problem for us, for Castellon-based traders and cooperatives." And this despite the fact that the fruit that will arrive from Argentina (and which also comes from other countries) "is of lower quality," he says. Those Okitsu mandarins are not comparable with the late ones in the area, and much of the production is of protected varieties, such as the Nadorcott or the Orri...Moreover, this could also have an impact on oranges, whose campaign is still in full swing. Therefore, despite the difference in quality, the president of Asociex laments that "it is competition, and it hurts. "Given this, and the competition they were already facing from South Africa, García has called for more action from the European Union to control the arrival of fruit. "We would like the EU to be more restrictive, especially when it comes to quality, pests and phytosanitary treatments accepted."

[freshplaza.com/; 14 March 2018]

Spain: Loss of Andalusian citrus due to rainfall and strong winds

The heavy rainfall and hurricane winds that have hit western Andalusia have caused losses to orange and late mandarin producers, especially in Seville and Huelva. The excess of water has caused peel deterioration in Nadorcott, Tango and Orri mandarins, among others. At the same time, strong gusts of winds, and even several tornadoes, have caused a lot of fruit to fall to the ground, making it impossible to harvest them or use them commercially....Production of citrus fruits in Andalusia. At a national level, the Andalusian orange production is estimated to represent 47% of the domestic production. For mandarins, the percentage stands at 18%, and for lemons, at 13%. Looking at individual provinces, Seville is the region's main citrus producer, with 792,576 tonnes and 39% of the Andalusian production, followed by Huelva, with 523,173 tonnes. Together, both provinces account for 65% of Andalusia's citrus production.

[freshplaza.com/; 14 March 2018]