

Global Citrus Scan (2018_20)

John Edmonds (18 May 2018)



Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

Mozambique: Chinese Jiangsu Huaxi Group grants \$6.2 million to develop grapefruit sector

The Mozambique province of Manica will benefit from a grapefruit production project worth \$6.2 million. This was announced by the region's governor Alberto Mondlane. The initiative will be funded and led by a pool of Chinese investors, powered by the Jiangsu Huaxi Group consortium. Wu Xie'en, president of the consortium, said that a request for 2000 hectares to implement the project has already been submitted. Governor Mondlane indicated that at the end of this three-year project, the lion's share of the harvest will be shipped to Europe and China. In 2016, Mozambique produced about 78, 800 tons of citrus fruit.

[freshplaza.com; 18 May 2018]

Citrus canker confirmed on two Western Australia properties

Western Australia's Department of Primary Industries (DPIRD) has confirmed the detection of citrus canker on two properties, linking it to imported plants from the Northern Territory, ABC News reported...Citrus canker has been detected on six properties in the Northern Territory, including one commercial production nursery and two retail outlets, with all citrus material being destroyed.

[www.freshfruitportal.com; 17 May 2018]

Florida citrus dips in latest forecast

...The USDA's May report estimated orange production for 2017/18 at 44.95m boxes, a 50,000 box decrease from last month, while grapefruit production was also reduced by 50,000 boxes, to 3.95m boxes. The reductions were in Navel oranges and white grapefruit, according to the USDA.

[www.fruitnet.com/eurofruit; 11 May 2018]

Chinese consumers show continued enthusiasm for South African grapefruit

...The Guangzhou Jiguoxuan fruit trading company dispatched a special delegation to South Africa in April when the citrus season began...This year the grapefruit matured slowly, and took a long time to get a ripe colour...This increased the gap between the supply periods of Israeli grapefruit and South African grapefruit.

The website of Jiguoxuan states that "the interval between supply from these two production areas is greater this year, which means that traders who are desperate to sell their late-season Israeli grapefruit can still sell them at a good price, despite the relatively poor quality of late-season Israeli grapefruit."

There are farmers who see the opportunity here and harvest grapefruit early for export to the Chinese market, even though it increases the cost price...

[freshplaza.com; 16 May 2018]

Morocco aims to export 1 million tons of citrus in 2022

Morocco is aiming to increase its citrus exports from the current 600-650,000 tons to 1 million tons by 2022. One of the aims of the Commercial Acceleration Plan for Moroccan Citrus Exports is to export an additional 200,000 tons to Europe and 300,000 tons to African countries...Whilst Morocco was one of the main suppliers to the EU market, the commercial agreement with Russia directed them to this new market, leaving room for competitors on the European market...

[freshplaza.com; 14 May 2018]

Initial Brazil orange crop production forecast for 2018 – 2019

Fundecitrus provided a report, released May 9, 2018, which forecasts a Brazilian orange production of 288 million boxes, approximately 100 million fewer boxes (approximately a 25% reduction) as compared to the 2017 – 2018 crop.

[freshplaza.com; 14 May 2018]

U.S. easy peeler market "heating up"

The U.S. easy peeler market is "heating up" as the California season winds down, according to a recent Capespan North America market report..."On the import side, the Chilean clementine crop is running a few days later than last season with only 1,751 metric tons having loaded to the USEC through Week 18. These volumes will increase over the next few weeks as the harvest gains momentum," said CEO Mark Greenberg. "Peruvian shippers have loaded 209 thousand cases of clementines (Primasole) and satsumas (Okitsu) with volumes expected to increase in the next few weeks as the Owari satsumas and clementine volumes increase."...USEC soft citrus pricing is around the US\$36-38 range for 10 3-pound bags for clementines and US\$32-36 for satsumas. West Coast pricing is said to be US\$2-4 higher. The price differential between satsumas and clementines is expected to widen as clementine arrivals increase, but in general the prices are expected to continue at these levels, and perhaps higher, through May..

[www.freshfruitportal.com; 17 May 2018]