

Global Citrus Scan (2019_29)

(John Edmonds 27 September 2019)



Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

Analysis of Chinese market for imported South African oranges

...Manager Wang of the Green Belt company shared his insights into the current market conditions and the future prospects. "The volume of oranges exported from South Africa to the Chinese market has shown continuous growth in recent years. The South African oranges are quite popular with Chinese consumers... This year, however, the market conditions in the Chinese import market were less than ideal... The mainstream market price of imported oranges is around 130-150 yuan [18.27-21.05 USD] per box of 15 kg. Only a few boxes sell for more than 160 yuan [22.48 USD]..." sales of South African oranges are currently below average. We have to pay attention to Egyptian oranges and Spanish oranges... Furthermore, the weather may also play a factor in the disappointing performance of South African oranges. Some of the oranges were not completely ripe. The color of the oranges also did not change properly but remains weak. Other oranges were not sweet enough...

[Fresh Plaza; 25 September 2019]

Short US season for RSA citrus

... "The start of our season was a bit slower than anticipated due to an overflow of Californian fruit," said Boet Mouton, chairman of Summer Citrus from South Africa, the umbrella body under which all South African citrus fruit is sold in the US. Despite this, South African fruit was again well received and soft citrus and mandarins did particularly well in a fairly tough market... Mouton said that various factors probably contributed to the development of the season. "There was a large Californian crop and we saw that the overflow, as well as the supply of other fruits during our season, created a very competitive situation. We had excellent fruit though and our quality again stood us in good stead..."

[Fruitnet.com/Eurofruit; 24 September 2019]

Argentinian Eureka lemons enter the Indian market

IG International, India's largest fresh fruit importer, will be importing fresh lemons from Argentina since the access to import has been granted. These lemons are exported by San Miguel, Argentina's biggest growers and exporters of lemons. IG International will be importing around 500 MT (2020) for consumption majorly in Delhi, Mumbai, and Bangalore among other cities... Though the volume is really small we are really keen to work on lemons to grow this category in India for the future," said Mr. Tarun Arora, Director- IG International Pvt. Ltd.... "We... are positive that we can increase the quantity of lemons imported to India from the current 100MT to around 2000MT in the next 3-5 years," Mr. Arora added...

[Fresh Plaza; 25 September 2019]

An "unprecedented catastrophe": Spanish crops destroyed covering more than 300,000ha

The agricultural losses from what is considered the worst storm to hit eastern Spain in more than a century are expected to top €100 million in the region of Valencia alone... National farming organization ASAJA says that more than 300,000 hectares of farmland have been ruined. Valencian farming body AVA-ASAJA said that 90% of the regional damages were in the Alicante area... "The most affected crops are citrus..." "The surface area of citrus that has been affected to some degree is at least 40% of the harvest covering 20,000 hectares..." Further south in Murcia, there has also been extensive damage...

[Freshfruitportal.com; 16 September 2019]

Egypt: "We expect the Navel season to be even better than last year"

...Lemon season is currently in full swing, but Navel season is also coming up in just under two months. Last year it was a great season for the Navels, one Egyptian exporter expects these fruits to do even better this year. Elkhtib is the export manager for Egyptian exporting company Zamel. Although the ongoing lemon season is going pretty well, Elkhtib expects the Navel season to be the real moneymaker this year. "...We always see high demand at the start and end of a season, so when the Navels start at the end of November there should be a lot of traffic. Last season we exported a total amount of 3600 tons of citrus, this year we are aiming to export 5000 tons..." "We're currently doing well in China, Europe, Russia, Bangladesh, Malaysia and India. These markets are good for us, but to really grow our brand we would like to enter new markets like Singapore, Brazil, Belarus and Canada..."

[Fresh Plaza; 25 September 2019]