

Global Citrus Scan (2020_1)

(John Edmonds 17 January 2020)



Citrus Growers Association (CGA)

Spain: Second stage of mandarin campaign begins early to prevent shortage

The sale of Castellon's entire Clemenules harvest during the Christmas campaign has led to the harvest of the late mandarin varieties being advanced so as to prevent a shortage in the European markets. The second stage of the season is thus taking place up to ten days earlier than usual. The decline in the production, which exceeded 40% in the case of Clemenules; and the reduction of the pressure from various competitors in Europe are the main reasons for this situation, following the terrible 2018/2019 campaign...Both exporting firms and the agricultural organizations La Unió de Llauradors and Fepac-Asaja believe that the reduction in the production of competing third countries is one of the most decisive factors for the positive development of Castellon's citrus sales. In fact, this situation is expected to remain unchanged in the second stage, already underway, since Italy, Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia or Greece, which sell varieties with overlapping campaigns, also have smaller productions...

[Freshplaza.com; 14 January 2020]

US navel oranges sold in Vietnam

Navel oranges out of California, the United States, have been officially sold in Vietnam, starting on January 11. Speaking at the launching ceremony, Jim Phillips, President and CEO of Sunkist Growers, the world's most recognized citrus brand said, "We are very excited to bring our fresh and juicy navel oranges to Vietnam."...

[Freshplaza.com; 13 January 2020]

Spain: Late and Lane Navel orange harvest decreases by 25 to 30%

The first part of the mandarin and clementine campaign has practically ended in the Valencian Community, with a 35 to 55% decrease in production compared to last year, depending on the producing area. The second part is starting now at quite high prices. "We are finished with Clemenvilla and we are now starting to sell the first Nadorcott, Tango, and Hernandina, which yielded better volumes compared to the varieties of the first part of the campaign," stated Carlos Sancho, the administrator of the Valencian company Madremia...Producers are still uncertain about how the market will behave, taking into account the high prices of late varieties, most of which are protected varieties...The Naveline early orange harvest yielded more or less the usual amount, although it was longer than last year. According to Carlos Sancho, the Late Navel and Lane Navel will soon be marketed and their production decreased between 25 and 30%. "We had a stable market with the Navelina but the price of the Navels is already three times higher than last year due to the drop in volumes. We'll have to explain why prices are so high to our clients," he stated.

[Freshplaza.com; 14 January 2020]

California citrus growers optimistic about progress in Chinese trade

...the Chinese trade market is a significant export destination for California citrus growers and the ongoing trade dispute has created substantial challenges for the citrus industry. However, there is optimism that the initial trade deal that was agreed to by the US and China can set the tone for future trade relations between the two countries...The United States Department of Agriculture dedicated \$104 million to help alleviate some of the pressure on the citrus industry related to the ongoing trade tensions. Because of the trade dispute with China, US citrus has lost some of the market share in China to other citrus competitors such as South Africa, Australia, and Egypt...the industry is hopeful that once the agreement is signed that "China will follow through on their commitment to purchases and that you'll start to see China remove the retaliatory tariffs on citrus and you'll start to see a normal flow back into China."

[Freshplaza.com; 14 January 2020]

USA: Good news for grapefruit

In the first forecast of the new year, the National Agricultural Statistics Service of the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) projected a 10 per cent increase for Florida grapefruit, as Florida orange production held steady. The numbers are a 3 percent increase for oranges and a 20 per cent increase for grapefruit over 2018/19...

[fruitnet.com/eurofruit; 13 January 2020]