

Justin Chadwick 22 July 2022

“A man’s always got choices. Sometimes you just gotta choose the good ones.” Dr Teddy Oglethorpe [in Don’t Look Up]

LATEST ON EU AND THE NEW MEASURE

The Citrus Growers’ Association of Southern Africa (CGA) wrote to President Ramaphosa last week regarding the impact of the drastic, misinformed and unjustified new regulations requiring the cold treatment for oranges headed to the European Union (EU). This includes the fact that an estimated 3.2 million cartons of citrus valued at R605 million (€38.4 million) currently en-route to the region could potentially be destroyed by authorities, in light of the new regulations being enforced from this week. This new legislation will have a devastating impact on the local citrus industry, in particular the 140 000 jobs it sustains.

To date, the CGA can confirm that it has received reports of containers being detained on arrival – in some cases not only oranges, but other citrus containers as well. This is why World Trade Organisation (WTO) law specifically requires a 6 month process in the implementation of a new measure.

The CGA remains hopeful that President Ramaphosa’s recent engagement with EU Council President Charles Michel will lead to the new regulations being abandoned or at the very least delayed, until they can be properly reviewed. The CGA will continue engaging with the President, Minister of Agriculture and Department of Trade, Industry and Competition on the matter.

TRANSFORMATION INITIATIVES

The CGA is seeking to amplify the transformation initiatives that are being undertaken by citrus growers across the country in order to highlight the progress being made when it comes to creating a more inclusive citrus industry in South Africa. To this end, we will be sharing a short “Transformation Survey” link early next week aimed at collecting information on all of your initiatives so that we can share these via the weekly CEO newsletter, press statements, the Grower Development Company newsletter and in our engagements with key government stakeholders. We know there are many great initiatives being run by growers on their farms and in their communities and we would be grateful if you could share these details with us via the survey, which will only take a few minutes to complete. Our team will then be in contact with you, if we are keen to communicate further on your programmes.

PACKED AND SHIPPED

End of Week 28 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
SOURCE: PPECB/AGRIHUB	2020	2021	2022	2021	2022	2022	2022	2021
Grapefruit PP (17kg)		2.4 m	2.5 m	2.0 m	1.9 m			
Grapefruit Class1&2 (17kg)		11.2 m	10.6 m	10.8 m	9.1 m			
Grapefruit	14.4 m	15.4 m	14.8 m	14.4 m	12.5 m	16.8 m	15.3 m	17.5 m
Mandarins	14.7 m	17.9 m	17.9 m	14.3 m	15.3 m	34.5 m	33.7 m	30.9 m
Lemons	22.3 m	23.5 m	26.3 m	20.7 m	23.8 m	32.3 m	32.4 m	31.0 m
Navels	19.0 m	19.3 m	18.2 m	15.4 m	15.8 m	28.7 m	27.2 m	27.2 m
Valencia	10.6 m	10.0 m	9.1 m	5.2 m	4.9 m	58.2 m	57.3 m	55.0 m
Total	81.0 m	86.1 m	86.3 m	70.0 m	72.3 m	170.5 m	165.9 m	161.6 m

THE CGA GROUP (CRI, RIVER BIOSCIENCE, XSIT, CGA CULTIVAR COMPANY, CGA GROWER DEVELOPMENT COMPANY & CITRUS ACADEMY) ARE SUPPORTED BY AND WORK FOR THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN CITRUS GROWERS’