

## The point of no return? The case of South African citrus and beyond

March 2023 – Citrus Summit



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### Agenda

1 Year 2022 Reefer market overview

2 South African Citrus case study

3 Key takeaways

4 SA Shipping project update





## Long-term historic growth of reefer trade higher than dry cargo

#### Annual growth of containerized ocean trade, 2005-2022YTD Year-over-year TEU change (%)



### Reefer volumes decreased in 2022, after a decade of continuous growth

Note: Container ocean trade only; Reefer container trade described as "Temperature Control" in Seabury databases; 1) Includes Jan-Nov data, compared against Jan-Nov 2021 Source: Seabury Cargo Global Ocean Trade Database; Seabury Cargo and Eskesen Advisory analysis (February 2023).

## Fresh food volumes dropped 8% in November vs 2021



#### **Global ocean trade of perishables, 2019-2022** Thousand TEU

1



### Container trade in frozen foods is reasonably stable across the year

# Reefer trades grow less than dry trade in 2022, especially into Asia Pacific and from Latin America to Europe

**Reefer trade growth by trade lane, 2022 YTD<sup>1</sup> vs. 2021** TEU change (%)







## 2022 Other major highlights

- Global Port congestion impacted deliveries and on-time arrivals well below 50%
- Carriers Reefer equipment positioning was hampered by full and more attractive dry cargo, prompting carriers to accelerate reefer rate increases in most trades
- Record profits by ocean liner companies may eventually translate into better service and capabilities
- Significant investments made by Ocean carriers in newbuildings, containers and logistics assets
- The Russian invasion of Ukraine had profound impact on reefer markets and input costs



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1 Year 2022 Reefer market overview

<sup>2</sup> South African Citrus case study







### South Africa is the largest citrus exporter in the world by ocean



### Citrus fruit is the largest category in all fresh fruit exports from South Africa

Notes: Container ocean trade only; Reefer container trade described as "Temperature Control" in Seabury databases; 1) Comparison of Jan-Oct 2022 v Jan-Nov 2019 Source: Seabury Cargo Global Ocean Trade Database, Seabury Cargo and Eskesen Advisory analysis (February 2023).



## Reefer transport costs have roughly doubled since 2020



## Since 4Q 2022 dry container freight rates are falling, making reefer business relatively more attractive to container lines





## In 2022 EBITA margins no longer pay for capital costs



## Freight rates account for about 1/3 of total CIF costs for citrus fruit exports, and other FOB costs are on the rise as well

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## <sup>2</sup> Unless we see significant changes, farmers will go bankrupt **E** ADVISORY

Industry average	Reefer freight rate change vs 2022	Russia	Europe	Middle East	United Kingdom	Far East	North America
2.27	-30%	1.10	1.56	1.34	2.85	3.71	5.23
1.78	-20%	0.48	1.07	0.98	2.37	3.30	4.56
1.28	-10%	(0.13)	0.58	0.63	1.89	2.90	3.88
0.79	0%	(0.74)	0.10	0.27	1.40	2.49	3.20
0.30	10%	(1.35)	(0.39)	0.09	0.92	2.09	2.52
(0.19)	20%	(1.96)	(0.88)	(0.45)	0.44	1.68	1.85
(0.69)	30%	(2.57)	(1.37)	(0.81)	(0.05)	1.27	1.17

## For the Russian market to turn into a positive EBITA, reefer container rates need to drop by more than 10%

### <sup>2</sup> EBITA pressure is not necessarily limited to the South African citrus market but could affect all fresh fruit worldwide



### Liner industry could face revenue loss of USD 1B if fresh fruit market declines



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### Key take-aways

- Global reefer volumes have declined by 2% in 2022
- Fresh volumes were down 4%, with frozen steady. Decline accelerated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half to 6-8%
- We believe this relates to farmers inability to recover rising input costs like fertilizers, packaging, electricity and output for transport. This is projected to accelerate into 2023
- Container freight rates have risen sharply the last 2 years, putting the South African citrus industry and potentially others at risk
- The overall impact for shipping lines can be around 1B USD in revenue loss and even higher for the larger agricultural sector
- We need to think harder about sustainable returns to farms and the business model



## SA Fruit Project 2022 - Conclusions

SA fruit industry in dire straits due to dramatic rise is input/output cost

Value destruction is likely to continue in 2023+ unless things change

The SA fruit industry is highly seasonal, fragmented and competitive. Large quanties exported on consignment and frequent use of middle me

Shipping lines cost to serve SA hampered by poor infrastructure costing the SA fruit industry in excess of \$100m annualised

Longer term SA well positioned to service high populous markets in Asia, Sub-Continent and Africa

The SA fruit industry has oportunities to stimulate more shipping choice but it require a different mind set to control own destiny



### **Progress Update March 2023**

1. Close dialogue initiated with Shipping Lines HQ's

- MSC
- Maersk
- CMA
- Hapag Lloyd
- ONE
- Baltic/Cool Carriers
- Seatrade

15



### **Progress Update**

- 2. Global market conditions softened significantly since Q3
  - Time Charter rates for vessels have fallen
  - Ships availability improved
  - Record ship newbuilding program commissioned for 2023-2025
    - Global Port bottle necks eased to pre-covid
    - Equipment situation improved and easier to position boxes
- 3. Cargo demand for reefers showing decline and reduced forecast for 2023

16



### Container Rates and Time Charter – Correction towards pre-Covid

Maersk Broker Container Index (MBCI) & Fixture Length Index, Jan 95 = 1.000 (lhs), months (rhs)



#### Average Charter Rates

#### USD/day

Size (TEU)	2019 FY	2021 FY	2022 Q2	2022 Q3	2022 Q4	2023 Q1*
900-1,200	6,343	16,339	27,035	29,875	13,333	11,917
1,600-1,800	8,463	23,383	48,600	41,125	16,079	14,290
2,400-2,700	10,050	30,370	74,667	57,000	19,450	16,817
2,700-2,900	10,814	31,199	46,250	42,000	21,650	16,500
4,000-5,400	13,468	40,679	78,333	46,083	22,200	18,750
5,500-7,000	21,150	39,408	N/A	56,563	45,000	29,250



### Container Newbuilds – Orderbook 30% of current fleet





### **Progress Update**

- 4. Dry spot rates returning to pre-covid levels in many trades
- 5. Reefer Cargo gradually becoming more attractive again for shipping lines
- 6. SA Infrastructure remain a large challenge to attract competition. SA extremely exposed as world

has re-opened

- 7. Communication
  - Berlin Logistica EA Key note delivered
  - TPM Long Beach EA Key note delivered

8. Contracting strategy 2023



### **Bottleneck in the flow**



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