**MARKET SITUATION REPORT RELEVANT TO COVID-19 IMPACTS**

**Report: 6**

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This reports seeks to communicate the current situation in each key citrus market in relation to the current impact brought about by COVID-19. Every effort has been made to ensure the information is reliable, but conditions in each market may well shift quickly and exporters should be engaging their trading partners directly in each market.

**General (All markets):**

* Generally, the demand for citrus across markets seems to be holding up after the high demand during the panic buying phenomenon that occurred from mid-March.
* Prices remain good, and higher than normal in markets where supply is short. Fruit availability relates to changes in logistics chains and the ability to get fruit through ports and cold stores.

**European Union:**

* No new information here.

**Middle East**

* No additional feedback here.

**Bangladesh**

* Exporters are advised to actively engage receives there about the situations in the ports. Shipping lines were apparently bypassing the port due to the congestion, and also introducing penalties for cargo they are having to hold.

**China**

* Buyers are looking to the SA citrus season with some anticipation, but cautiously. While markets have improved the recovery is slow, with Egyptian and US oranges not moving quickly.
* The question being considered is how well the economy is doing in general and to what extent this will improve over the next months and weeks – as this will determine customer demand.

**Japan**

* DALRRD are looking into options to ensure fruit arriving in Japan will be cleared there. These discussions look promising as the Japanese have responded with feasible options from which DALRRD must choose from.

**South Korea**

* No new information.

**USA**

* Demand through retail outlets remains high.

**Russia**

* No additional information.

**India**

* The lockdown has been extended in India until 3rd May, and for some public spaces until 31st May.
* Trade through the fruit markets is slow, attributed to consumers being somewhat confused by the changes in the lockdown rules.
* Ports are operational but fruit is building up in cold stores.

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