

“Growth is never by mere chance; it is the result of forces working together.” James Cash Penney

CGA SIGNS MOU WITH WESTERN CAPE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

On Monday this week the CGA met with Dr Sebopetsa, Head of Department of the Western Cape Department of Agriculture (WCDA), to sign a Memorandum of Understanding that will guide joint activities of the two organisations. The CGA was represented by myself, Gerrit van der Merwe (CGA Vice Chairman and Director for Western Cape) and Fanie Naude (standing in for George Hall, CGA Executive Committee Member and Director for Boland). The CGA has a long standing relationship with the WCDOA and will work proactively on citrus projects in the province.

DURBAN PORT OPERATIONS RETURNING TO NORMAL

With the two outgoing lanes to the container terminals operating efficiently, work is expected to be completed on the ingoing lanes by as early as next week. This has been achieved through the hard work of Transnet, Department Public Enterprises and eThekweni Municipality. While the initial emphasis was on evacuating imported containers, export containers are starting to flow – albeit at a slower pace.

PACKED AND SHIPPED

Grapefruit packing of Class 1 and 2 fruit is very much in line with 2021 with just 2 million cartons packed to date; grapefruit for processing purpose is ahead of 2021 (600 000 cartons vs. 300 000 cartons).

Grapefruit shipping remains in line with 2021 volumes. A smaller percentage has been shipped to the EU (2021 48% vs 2022 31%). Russia (understandably) has also dropped from 11% to 1%. South East Asia seems to be where this fruit has been sent – with 58% in 2022 vs 30% in 2021.

Lemon packing is well below 2021 levels – with 4.8 million cartons vs 7.2 to 7.4 million cartons in the previous two years.

Lemon shipments are also down – 5.1 million cartons in 2021 vs 3.5 million in the current year to date. Russian share is down from 18% to 5%; while the Middle East has also decreased from 61% to 54%. EU (2% to 10%), South East Asia, mostly China (13% to 18%) and North America (4% to 7%) have all increased.

Mandarin packing is lower than the past two years – at 1.2 million cartons vs 1.7 million to 1.8 million in 2020 and 2021. This is predominantly Satsuma with 1.1 million of the estimated 1.7 million now packed.

Mandarin shipments also follow this trend with total volumes of 500 000 cartons well off the early season shipments of 2021 (almost 900 000 cartons). UK’s share has increased from 24% to 61%, at the expense of Russia (32% to 5%) and Middle East.

End of Week 16 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)		0.3 m	0.6 m	0.1	0.1 m			
Grapefruit Class 1&2 (17kg)		2.2 m	2 m	0.9 m	0.9 m			
Grapefruit	2.2 m	2.8 m	2.9 m	1.1 m	1.1 m	16.8 m	16.5 m	17.5 m
Mandarins	1.7 m	1.8 m	1.2 m	0.9 m	0.5 m	34.5 m	34.5 m	30.9 m
Lemons	7.2 m	7.4 m	4.8 m	5.1 m	3.5 m	32.3 m	32.1 m	31 m
Navels	0.2 m	0.3 m	0.1 m	0.1 m	0 m	28.7 m	28.7 m	27.2 m
Valencia	0 m	0 m	0 m	0 m	0 m	58.2 m	58.2 m	55 m
Total	11.3 m	12.3 m	9 m	7.2 m	5.1 m	170.5 m	170 m	161.6 m