

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (19/23)

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Justin Chadwick 12 May 2023



“Social media made y'all way to comfortable with disrespecting people and not getting punched in the face for it”

Mike Tyson

CITRUS SUMMIT PRESENTATION: LOGISTICS – ROAD AND RAIL

Efficient logistics is a key element to a successful 2023 citrus season, and an enabler to get to achieve the CGA's vision of exporting 260 million cartons by 2032. Mitchell Brooke presented an excellent paper at the March CGA Citrus Summit – a video of the presentation can be found at this link [Packhouse to Port \(Mitchell Brooke\)](#).

Some key take-outs from the presentation:

- In the next 5 years' export volume from the northern regions will increase from 82 to 110 million cartons. This volume will be shipped through Durban and Maputo ports – the number of trucks per week will increase from 2 150 to 2 900. This means an additional 750 trucks per week on already congested roads between the north and these ports.
- In the next 5 years Eastern Cape volumes will increase from 48 to 55 million cartons. The number of trucks per week will increase from 1 100 to 1 500 trucks – an increase of 400 per week. Fortunately, the distances travelled are less than the northern regions.
- Western and Northern Cape regions (shipping through Cape Town port (unless diverted)) will increase from 33 to 45 million cartons. The present 800 trucks per week will increase to 1 100 – an increase of 300 trucks per week.
- The commodity boom means that there is significant pressure on the road network. Coal and other trucks have become a nightmare on many routes – impacting on road safety, deterioration in road conditions and condition of trucks.
- The rail network has considerable challenges – not least of which is cable theft. This means less is transported by rail.

INTERNATIONAL JUICE CONFERENCE

This past week the International Fruit Juice Association and S A Fruit Juice Association held a conference in Stellenbosch. Attended by 250 delegates from 22 countries the conference covered a range of juice related topics. The CGA has not engaged much with the processing sector – so the learning curve was steep:

- The conference was opened by Western Cape Premier Alan Winde who gave an address covering the province's focus on energy, mobility and safety. He spent some time on Cape Town port issues – and did note an improvement in dwell times. With the Western Cape accounting for 53% of South African agricultural exports, an efficient port is vital.
- On average around 70 billion litres of juice are consumed around the globe annually.
- Consumers are moving away from pills to natural products for vitamins and minerals.
- Sugar from fruit juice is just 4.5% of sugar consumption in the total diet.
- Consumer choices are firstly influenced by product labels, and then social media (before doctors, politicians).
- In terms of fruit used for juice in South Africa, some fruits (apricot 67%; peaches and nectarines 61%; pears 36%; apples 34% and grapefruit 30%) have significant processed volumes.

PACKED AND SHIPPED

End of Week 18 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
SOURCE: PPECB/AGRIHUB	2021	2022	2023	2022	2023	2023	2023	2022
Grapefruit	8.0 m	6.3 m	5.5 m	2.7 m	3.1 m	14.4 m	14.4 m	16.7 m
Mandarins	3.0 m	2.4 m	3.7 m	1.4 m	2.5 m	34.1 m	34.1 m	31.8 m
Lemons	9.9 m	6.9 m	11.1 m	5.1 m	7.9 m	37.3 m	37.3 m	34.7 m
Navels	1.0 m	0.2 m	0.5 m	-	0.1 m	25.3 m	25.3 m	27.8 m
Valencia	-	-	-	-	-	54.5 m	54.5 m	53.8 m
Total	21.9 m	15.8 m	20.8 m	9.2 m	13.6 m	165.6 m	165.6 m	164.8 m

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