

FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (20/23)

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Justin Chadwick 19 May 2023



“The one who thinks it cannot be done should not interrupt the one doing it” Confucius

ORANGE HEART FRUIT DONATIONS

Last season, there were many stories doing the rounds about large volumes of fruit being discarded and destroyed because of the poor market conditions. Many growers and export agents were desperately looking for an alternative, for somewhere they could send or donate the fruit.

We have the answer! The CGA’s Orange Heart Fruit Drive collects fruit donations from the industry and redirects them to charities, such as foodbanks and soup kitchens, that provide support to poor households, schools, orphanages, and individuals. Our main partner is FoodForwardSA (www.foodforwardsa.org), a foodbank with a nationwide footprint and internal logistics resources that enables them to bring fruit from where it is to where it is needed. Fruit can be collected anywhere in the country, directly from farms, packhouses, cold stores, warehouses, marketplaces, or fruit terminals. We also work with local soup and sandwich kitchens in Durban to distribute fruit that is rejected for export at the Durban harbour. You only need to let Sive at Orange Heart know if you have fruit available, where it is, when it can be collected, and we will take it from there. You can contact her at sive@citrusacademy.org.za, through the Orange Heart Initiative Facebook page, through Instagram or Twitter using the handle *@cga_orangeheart*, or through the Orange Heart Initiative LinkedIn. Please pass this information on to your export agent as well. Let’s have a heart, and help each other.

MAPUTO PROVIDES AN ATTRACTIVE OPTION FOR CITRUS EXPORTS FROM THE NORTH (MITCHELL BROOKE)

Mitchell, accompanied by three CGA Board Directors, attended the opening ceremony of the Matola Cargo Terminal cold store in Maputo and did a tour of the DP World Container Terminal to see the new reefer yards and operational set up. Maputo now has three fully functional and operational cold stores and an ambient facility in the port that can handle export citrus. Coupled to the landside infrastructure, good shipping opportunities now exist for shipments primarily to Middle East, Asia and Far East markets with very good transit times. While the border crossing at Komatipoort Ressano Garcia remains a challenge, once through, trucks can access the cold stores in good time. The N4 between Malelane to Maputo is currently being upgraded to 2 lanes in both directions. This will greatly assist in reducing truck congestion at the border. Cold store developments, coupled to a 24-month expansion and development on the road and rail, border crossing, port infrastructure and terminal expansion, will no doubt position Maputo as an extremely attractive port for exports. DP World and CFM are planning a rail terminal in the Komatipoort SEZ, which will open an attractive option for investment in cold treatment facilities, principally aligned to opening up access via Maputo to Japan and China (the grapefruit belts’ big markets) with existing markets already accessible. However, careful consideration must be given to the high costs involved as a result of high transport costs and US\$ based port cost chain. The weakening of the Rand against the US\$ is not positioning Maputo favourably, cost wise at the moment. If service providers can look carefully at the cost chain and make it viable for citrus exports, the port will no doubt increase export volumes of citrus. Maputo port – a space to watch closely.

PACKED AND SHIPPED

End of Week 19 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	10.2 m	7.8 m	6.4 m	4.1 m	3.8 m	14.4 m	14.4 m	16.7 m
Mandarins	4.0 m	3.4 m	5.2 m	1.9 m	3.0 m	34.1 m	34.1 m	31.8 m
Lemons	11.2 m	8.7 m	12.9 m	5.9 m	9.2 m	37.3 m	37.3 m	34.7 m
Navels	2.2 m	0.6 m	1.1 m	0.1 m	0.2 m	25.3 m	25.3 m	27.8 m
Valencia	0.1 m	-	-	-	-	54.5 m	54.5 m	53.8 m
Total	27.7 m	20.5 m	25.6 m	12.0 m	16.2 m	165.6 m	165.6 m	164.8 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’