***FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (40/19)***

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*Justin Chadwick 4 October 2019*

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| ***“It does not matter how slowly you go as long as you do not stop.” ― Confucius*** |

**PHILIPPINES**

South Africa applied for access for citrus products to the Philippines back in 2009 – and now some ten years later prospects are good that the journey will be finalised before the 2020 season. A Fruit South Africa/DAFF delegation visited Manila this week to discuss finalisation of the import protocol.

**CITRUS STATISTICS**

For this weeks’ newsletters I extracted some of the statistics on the soft citrus/mandarin trade – comparing 2017 (latest data) with 2012. This shows the fastest growing and the fastest declining global trade flows:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Fastest Growing** | **%** | **Fastest Declining** | **%** |
| Pakistan to Indonesia | +42% | China to Indonesia | -31% |
| Israel to France | +28% | China to Malaysia | -29% |
| Morocco to USA | +27% | Spain to Ukraine | -27% |
| Peru to USA | +26% | Spain to USA | -22% |
|  |  | Spain to Netherlands | -17% |

Pakistan replaced Chinese citrus exports to Indonesia as Indonesian authority’s decision on import permits took effect. USA has increased imports from both Africa and South America – seemingly at the expense of Spain. The decline in Spanish exports could explain some of the recent problems experienced.

**ANNUAL CITRUS COORDINATING MEETING**

Department of Agriculture have announced that the date of the Annual Coordinating meeting has been changed to **Wednesday 13 November 2019 from 09h00 to 13h00.** The meeting will be in the Nelspruit area – venue will be communicated when finalised. The Department apologises for any inconvenience.

**CITRUS MARKETING FORUM (CMF)**

The final CMF for 2019 will be held on 9 October 2019 at 10h00 at Nelson Wine Estate, R44, Windmeul, Paarl. RSVP **by 4 October 2019** to claudia@fpef.co.za .

**PACKED AND SHIPPED**

Conditions in the north of the country have meant that the final predictions for grapefruit (-1 million cartons), navels (-2.5 million) and Valencia oranges (-5.8 million) are below the original March 2019 estimate. Soft citrus (+800 000 cartons) and lemons (+ 400 000 cartons) are slightly up on predictions.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Million 15 Kg Cartons to end Week 39 | Packed | Packed | Packed | Shipped | Shipped | Original Estimate | Latest Prediction | Final Packed |
| **SOURCE: PPECB/AgriHub** | **2017** | **2018** | **2019** | **2018** | **2019** | **2019** | **2019** | **2018** |
| Grapefruit |  15.5 m  | 18.7 m | 16.1 m | 17 m | 14.6 m | 17.1 m | **16.1 m** | 18.8 m |
| Soft Citrus | 13.4 m | 16.1 m | 18.2 m | 15.6 m | 17.2 m | 18.3 m | 19.1 m | 16.2 m |
| Lemons | 19 m | 19.6 m | 21.9 m | 18.8 m | 19.1 m | 22 m | 22.4 m | 19.9 m |
| Navels | 21 m | 26.6 m | 24.3 m | 26.3 m | 22.2 m | 26.9 m | 24.4 m | 26.7 m |
| Valencia | 52.1 m | 51.7 m | 46.3 m | 46.5 m | 40.3 m | 52.9 m | **47.1 m** | 54.4 m |
| **Total** | **121 m** | **132.7 m** | **126.8 m** | **124.2 m** | **113.4 m** | **137.2 m** | **129.1 m** | **136 m** |