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| |  | | --- | | CGA_Eng_Fax_logo_72  ***FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (11/18)***  **(Follow me on Twitter justchad\_cga)**  *Justin Chadwick 16 March 2018* | |  |   ***“When we remember we are all mad, the mysteries disappear and life stands explained” Mark Twain***  **INDONESIA**  The Department Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) announced a three year extension to the Mutual Country Recognition (MCR) granted by Indonesia for the import of eleven products from South Africa, including all citrus sectors (oranges, lemons, grapefruit and soft citrus). The handful of countries that have MCR experience considerable advantages. Only those countries with MCR can export directly into the port at Jakarta – others have to use other Indonesian ports and transport their product to the significant market in Jakarta, at considerable cost. Also, significantly, the mutually recognised food safety regulations in South Africa mean less costs and hassles in meeting Indonesian requirements.  Although the volumes of citrus shipped by South Africa to Indonesia are modest, with a big population with a taste for fresh produce, the Indonesian market could be a significant market in the future. Past exports have peaked at just over 3 500 pallets – with Valencia oranges and lemons being the most popular.  **EUROPEAN UNION**  As the southern African citrus industry gears up for 2018 it is interesting to look back at exports into the EU from 2015 to the past season. After a supply induced drop from 710 thousand tons in 2015 to 668 thousand in 2016, volumes bounced back to 721 thousand tons in 2017.  Ninety percent of export volumes went to five countries – Netherlands accounting for over a half, UK with 20%, Portugal and Italy at about 10%.  **THE CGA GROUP OF COMPANIES (CRI, RIVER BIOSCIENCE, XSIT, CGA CULTIVAR COMPANY, CGA GROWER DEVELOPMENT COMPANY & CITRUS ACADEMY) ARE FUNDED BY SOUTHERN AFRICAN CITRUS GROWERS** |