FROM THE DESK OF THE CEO (33/15)

justchad_cga

Justin Chadwick 28 August 2015

QUOTE OF THE WEEK *"Never be afraid to raise your voice for honesty and truth and compassion against injustice and lying and greed. If people all over the world did this, it would change the earth" William Faulkner*

RUSSIA CAUTIONARY – MESSAGE FROM CGA REPRESENTATIVE IN MOSCOW

By the end of week 34 (on the 20th of August) exchange rate of Ruble to USD was 67. Today on Monday the 24th of August it is already over 71. Prime Minister Anatoli Medvedev said on TV that the decline is temporary and that the Ruble will return to a stronger position. At the same time forecasts of further decline of oil prices, present devaluation of Chinese currency, economic problems in Far Eastern countries, and now unfavorable news from New York Stock Exchange - all these factors predict strengthening of USD and further weakening of Ruble. According to analysts in Sberbak USD will be running to 90 till the end of the year.

So far retail has been loyal to their word given to government to keep prices stable. But with weakening of the Ruble purchasing power in the international markets they will not be able to subsidise the prices, and first of all of imported commodities.

In view of the above situation SA exporters of fruits (presently citrus) must be aware of risks of defaults by Russian importers.

In our presentation of the situation in the Russian market we would like to go further and suggest to consider it as extraordinary. Extraordinary situation demands for extraordinary measures to be taken to prevent losses to SA fruit industry. It is suggested therefore that stern advice (if a stricter way of recommendation is not possible) is given to SA exporters not to ship fruits without 100 per cent payment on the date of loading. In our view as experts on the spot such condition will be understood and positively accepted by prudent Russian importers. For importers commodities now present better guarantee against losses, than cash in Rubles.

CRI PRODUCTION, INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT AND DISEASE MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS

Registration: 09:00 – 10:00 ; R700 per person (plus R100 for braai)

Date	Time	Workshop	Venue
Tues-Wed 15-16 Sept	10:00	**Limpopo**	Swadini, Hoedspruit 015-7955141
Thurs-Fri 17-18 Sept	10:00	**Limpopo**	Loskopdam, Groblersdal 013-2623075
Tues-Wed 22-23 Sept	10:00	**Mpumalanga**	CRI, Nelspruit 013-7598000
Tues-Wed 29-30 Sept	10:00	**KZN & Swaziland**	Garden Court South Beach Hotel 031-4924005
Thurs-Fri 1-2 Oct 15	10:00	**Oos-Kaap**	Mentorskraal, Jeffreys Bay 042-2931142
Tues-Wed 6-7 Okt 15	10:00	**Wes-Kaap**	Piekenierskloof, Citrusdal 022-9213574

Growers are reminded about these essential workshops. For registration forms please contact jeandeg@cri.co.za .

PACKED AND SHIPPED

The grapefruit prediction has been upped to reflect the volume already packed. Generally good marketing conditions could result in another upward revision.

To end Week 34 Million 15 Kg Cartons	Packed	Packed	Packed	Shipped	Shipped	Original Estimate	Latest Prediction	Final Packed
SOURCE: PPECB	**2013**	**2014**	**2015**	**2014**	**2015**	**2015**	**2015**	**2014**
Grapefruit	17.5 m	15 m	15.7 m	14.3 m	15.2 m	15.3 m	15.7 **m**	15.6 m
Soft Citrus	7.7 m	9.4 m	9.2 m	8.6 m	8.8 m	10 m	**9.7 m**	10 m
Lemons	10.1 m	12.9 m	14.2 m	12.6 m	13.5 m	13.6 m	14.3 m	13.2 m
Navels	25 m	25 m	23.9 m	24.1 m	23.1 m	25.1 m	**24.1 m**	26 m
Valencia	30.1 m	30.7 m	31.8 m	21.5 m	22.1 m	49.1 m	49.8 m	50.9 m
Total	90.4 m	93 m	94.8 m	81.1 m	82.7 m	113.1 m	113.6 m	115.7 m

SOUTHERN AFRICAN CITRUS GROWERS HAVE INVESTED IN THEIR FUTURE THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT AND CONTINUED FUNDING OF CGA, XSIT, CRI, RIVER BIOSCIENCE, CGACC AND CITRUS ACADEMY