



World Citrus Organisation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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World Citrus Organisation (WCO) presents annual Southern Hemisphere production forecast

Following the formal adoption of the organisation's Statutes in March 2020, the WCO Secretariat just collected and released the first crop production and export forecasts for the forthcoming Southern Hemisphere citrus season 2020. The preliminary forecast is collected from industry associations in Argentina, Australia, Chile, Peru, South Africa, and Uruguay. The Secretariat is working closely with Brazil and Bolivia to include their data as well into the forecast very shortly.

The preliminary forecast shows that the 2020 citrus Southern Hemisphere crops is expected to reach 8.387.341 T, which represents a small decrease of 3% compared to the 2019 crop. Export is expected to increase by 12% to 3.486.883 T, which could be explained as a result of consumers' higher demand for citrus fruit in COVID-19 times, thanks to the nutritional benefits associated with citrus and more home consumption. On the processing side, a total of 2.426.154 T of citrus are expected to be destined to the juice market (pending the confirmation of Brazil's data), which constitutes a decrease of 15% compared to 2019.

By citrus categories, the soft citrus and lemon & lime markets show stable figures, with similar production volumes compared to 2019, whereas orange showed a small decrease (-6%), and grapefruit production increased by 3 percent compared to the previous year. Expected export volumes show increases across all categories, with lemon & lime projecting the greatest increase, by 32% compared to 2019.

WCO is now fully operational with a complete agenda of activities for 2020. In July, a meeting of the membership will review the state of the industry and take stock of the latest consumer trends and producing countries' experiences in the midst of the coronavirus crisis. Indeed, in the past months, citrus has been highlighted as one of the most attractive fruit categories for consumers, given their health properties. Consequently, the issue of nutrition and promotion of citrus consumption will also be discussed with members in the upcoming meeting.

WCO Members are ABCM- Associação Brasileira de Citrus de Mesa (Brazil), Ailimpo – Asociación Interprofesional de Limón y Pomelo (Spain), AKIB – Mediterranean Fresh Fruit and Vegetables Exporters Association (Turkey), AMFresh*. (Spain), Bollo* (Spain), Citrus Australia, Citrus Growers' Association (South Africa), Chilean Citrus Committee (Chile), Fruitimpresse (Italy), Morocco Foodex* (Morocco), PCN* (USA), Procitrus – Asociación de Productores de Citricos del Peru (Peru), Upefruy - Unión de Productores y Exportadores de Fruta del Uruguay (Uruguay) and MAFA-Magrabi Agriculture* (Egypt).

*Associated Members

Engagement is ongoing with organisations in Argentina, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Israel, Tunisia, Florida, California and Portugal to complete their respective membership applications.

ENDS

Note to the Editors: World Citrus Organisation is a global platform for dialogue and action that brings together citrus producing countries. For more information, contact the association at wco@worldcitrusorganisation.org or visit the association website worldcitrusorganisation.org



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Southern Hemisphere citrus forecast 2020*

Soft citrus	%2020/2019	2020	2019
TOTAL PRODUCTION	0%	1.685.342	1.686.812
Destined to export	14%	823.101	723.278
Destined to processing	-11%	192.418	216.937
Destined to domestic market	-7%	694.823	746.597
Orange	%2020/2019	2.020	2.019
TOTAL PRODUCTION	-6%	3.584.994	3.834.213
Destined to export	3%	1.497.950	1.454.135
Destined to processing	-11%	845.323	954.994
Destined to domestic market	-13%	1.241.721	1.425.084
Lemon	%2020/2019	2.020	2.019
TOTAL PRODUCTION	0%	2.595.463	2.589.496
Destined to export	32%	905.376	686.505
Destined to processing	-19%	1.190.317	1.461.830
Destined to domestic market	13%	499.770	441.161
Grapefruit	%2020/2019	2.020	2.019
TOTAL PRODUCTION	3%	521.542	506.098
Destined to export	9%	260.457	238.857
Destined to processing	-5%	198.096	208.080
Destined to domestic market	7%	61.789	57.961
ALL CITRUSES	%2020/2019	2.020	2.019
TOTAL PRODUCTION	-3%	8.387.341	8.616.619
Destined to export	12%	3.486.883	3.102.774
Destined to processing	-15%	2.426.155	2.841.840
Destined to domestic market	-6%	2.498.103	2.670.804

* Based on data from Argentina, Australia, Chile, Peru, South Africa, and Uruguay.

World Citrus Organisation (WCO) Members

