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Citrus Fruit

Sitrus



TARIFFS the playing fields are still not level

Although the World Trade Organisation (WTO) is purporting to level the playing fields by reducing tariffs around the world, tariffs still exist. Many countries are not members of the WTO, and therefore do not need to abide by their rules. In some cases tariffs are imposed to protect domestic farming sectors, while in others the objective is government revenue.

In the citrus world the highest tariffs are to be found in Asia. South Korea imposes 147% tariffs on imported mandarins, and 60% on oranges, while India imposes 40% on oranges and lemons. Throughout the subcontinent tariffs are higher than elsewhere in the world - with only Indonesia (5%) showing single digit citrus tariffs. Chinese tariffs are going through a process of reduction, which will soon result in a reduction to 12.8%.

The Americas and Middle East (apart from Iran) have the lowest global citrus tariffs. Under the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) tariffs to America have been reduced to zero, saving R1.71 per 15 kg carton.

The protectionist role of tariffs is evident in the European Union. During the northern hemisphere's harvesting period tariffs peak at 16%, reducing to 3.2% in their off-season. The rest of Europe is a mixed bag of tariff levels - zero in some countries (such as Lithuania), and as high as 26% in others (Norway).

The Department of Agriculture has purchased the national licence for Market Access Maps - one of the elements of which allows interrogation of tariffs anywhere in the world. Should any citrus industry stakeholder wish to determine tariff levels for citrus to any international market they can contact Justin Chadwick at justchad@iafrica.com. Some tariff levels are given in the table.

Country	Oranges	Mandarins	Lemons	Grapefruit
AMERICA'S				
USA *	0%	0%	0%	0%
Canada	0%	0%	0%	0%
EASTERN EUROPE				
Lithuania	0%	0%	0%	0%
Ukraine	\$96.2/ton	\$96.2/ton	\$96.2/ton	\$96.2/ton
Bulgaria	5% + E22.62/ton	5% + E22.62/ton	10%	10%
Turkey	57%	N/L	57%	N/L
Russia	5%	5%	5%	5%
Norway	25.71%	23.17%	N/L	N/L
MIDDLE EAST				
Saudi Arabia	0%	0%	0%	0%
UAE	0%	0%	0%	0%
Iran	45%	45%	N/L	45%
ASIA				
Pakistan	25%	25%	N/L	25%
India	40%	35%	40%	25%
Japan	20%	N/A	17%	10%
Taiwan	20%	35%	30%	30%
South Korea	60%	147%	N/A	N/A
Indonesia	5%	5%	5%	5%
China	16.8%	17.6%	N/L	17.6%
EUROPEAN UNION				
EU Jan - Mar	16%	-	-	-
EU Apr	10.4%	-	-	-
EU 1 - 15 May	4.8%	-	-	-
EU May - Oct	3.2%	-	-	-
EU Nov - Dec	16%	-	-	-
EU All Year	-	16%	6.4%	-
EU Jan - May	-	-	-	1.5%
EU Jun - Oct	-	-	-	2.4%
EU Oct - Dec	-	-	-	1.5%