



# HORTICULTURE BIWEEKLY 2023

## Report No. 16 2023

15 September 2023

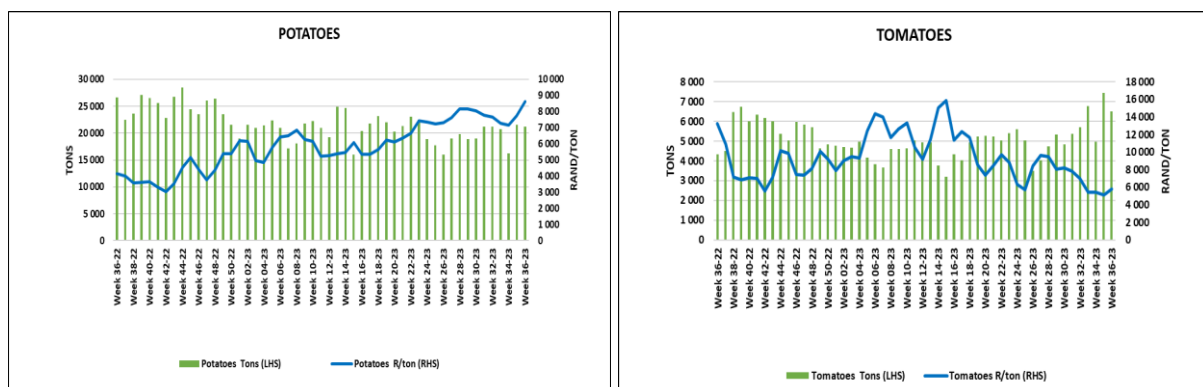
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## Summary

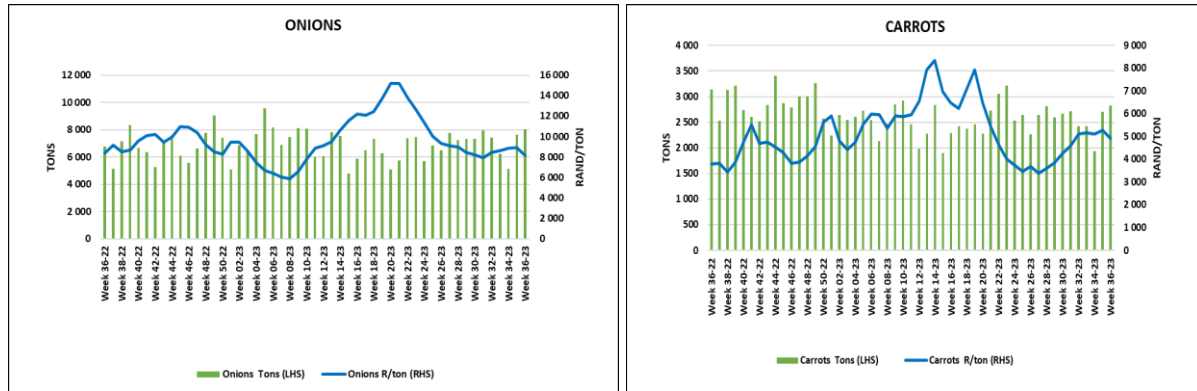
The Citrus Growers Association (CGA) and the Fresh Produce Exporters Forum (FPEF) recently announced the voluntary exclusion of oranges from the European Union (EU) market. This comes as the South African citrus season reaches its end. Today is the final inspection day of oranges destined for the EU from South Africa, excluding exports from the Western and Northern Cape provinces. The voluntary termination of orange exports to the EU is attributed to the ongoing dispute around citrus black spot (CBS) and attempts to reportedly limit South African imports to protect Spanish citrus producers. As a result, the EU market may experience orange shortages coupled with higher prices for the rest of the season. The South African avocado industry is also nearing the tail end of its exporting season. By week 35-2023, approximately 92% of the export estimate (72 000 tons) had been shipped. With about 8% of the export crop remaining, exporters are hoping to begin their first trial shipments to China.

## Potatoes and Tomatoes



- In week 36-2023, **potato** prices increased by 11% w/w to R8 616/ton as volumes dipped by 2% w/w to 21 184 tons. Prices may decline in the coming week as lower demand is expected around mid-September.
- **Tomato** prices rose by 13% w/w to R5 780/ton due to a drop in volumes by 12.5% w/w. Prices are expected to remain bullish in the coming week on the back of tight supply.

# Onions and Carrots



- **Onion** prices decreased by 8% w/w to R8 160/ton as volumes rose by 5% w/w to 8 047 tons. However, prices are expected to trend upwards over the coming week due to lower supply.
- **Carrot** prices declined by 7% w/w to R4 910/ton mostly due to higher market volumes. Supply rose by 4% w/w to 2 818 tons. In the coming week, prices are expected to remain bearish due to expected lower demand.

## Fruit Trends on all NFPMs in South Africa

Commodity	Rand per ton		% change (w/w)	Ton		% change (w/w)
	Week ending			Week ending		
	01 Sep	08 Sep		01 Sep	08 Sep	
<b>Apples</b>	9 790	9 830	↑ 0.4%	3 256	3 528	↑ 8%
<b>Pears</b>	9 410	9 300	↓ -1%	915	926	↑ 1%
<b>Bananas</b>	10 640	11 490	↑ 8%	4 518	4 421	↓ -2%
<b>Oranges</b>	3 840	4 390	↑ 14%	3 470	2 238	↓ -36%
<b>Avocados</b>	16 500	16 550	↑ 0.3%	643	635	↓ -1%

- **Apple** prices increased slightly by 0.4% w/w to R9 830/ton from higher demand, even though market supply rose by 8% w/w. Prices are expected to remain bullish for rest of the month as per seasonal trend.
- **Pear** prices decreased by 1% w/w to R9 300/ton as volumes rose by 1% w/w. Prices are expected to remain elevated as local supply is expected to dwindle.
- **Banana** prices increased by 8% w/w to R11 490/ton as market volumes dipped by 2% w/w. Prices are expected to remain bullish for the rest of the year due to lower volumes.
- **Orange** prices increased by 14% w/w to R4 390/ton due to volumes that dropped by 36% w/w. Prices are expected to increase as per seasonal trend from smaller market volumes.
- **Avocado** prices increased slightly by 0.3% w/w to R16 500/ton due to higher demand and supply that contracted by 1% w/w. Prices may remain on an upward trend as the avocado season reaches its tail end.

# Pome Fruit Exports

Week 36 Weekly Volumes 12.50 kg Cartons	2022 Exports (a)	2023 Exports (b)	y/y Change (a/b)	Cumulative Volumes YTD 2022 (c)	Cumulative Volumes YTD 2023 (d)	y/y Change (c/d)
Apples	492 798	618 345	↑ 25%	32 022 625	32 648 757	↑ 2%
Pears	162 097	175 177	↑ 8%	17 044 248	15 810 564	↓ -7%

## Week 36-2023 exports:

- South Africa exported 618 345 cartons (12.5kg) of **apples**, an increase of 25% y/y. **Pear** exports rose by 8% y/y to 175177 cartons. The cumulative export volume of apples increased by 2% y/y, while pears declined by 7% y/y. Overall, 2023 apple and pear exports are forecast to decline by 7% and 17% y/y, respectively.
- The bulk of the consignment of apples was shipped to the Far East and Asia (68%) and Africa (18%). South African pears were mainly shipped to the Far East and Asia (67%) and the Russian Federation (29%).
- In week 36-2023, apple and pear volumes inspected and passed for export are down by 4% and 13% y/y, respectively.

# Citrus Exports

Week 35 Million 15kg Cartons	Packed 2022	Packed 2023	Packed Difference y/y	Shipped 2022	Shipped 2023	Shipped Difference y/y	Original Annual Estimate 2023	Latest Annual Prediction 2023	Final Annual Packed 2022
Grapefruit	16.4	14.4	↓ -12%	14.3	13.1	↓ -8%	14.4	14.5	16.7
Soft Citrus	29.7	35.4	↑ 19%	27.4	33.5	↑ 22%	34.1	36.0	31.8
Lemons	33.7	34.9	↑ 4%	32.3	34.8	↑ 8%	37.3	35.5	34.7
Navels	26.2	24.4	↓ -7%	24.6	23.7	↓ -4%	25.3	24.5	27.8
Valencia	41.2	42.5	↑ 3%	28.7	31.6	↑ 10%	54.5	48.5	53.8
Total	147.2	151.6	↑ 3%	127.3	136.7	↑ 7%	165.6	159.0	164.8

## Week 35-2023 exports:

- **Grapefruit** exports declined by 8% y/y to 13.1 million cartons (15kg) in week 35-2023 as the season concludes.
- **Soft citrus** shipments increased by 22% y/y to 33.5 million cartons. Most of the soft citrus varieties have been packed and the latest annual prediction is up by 5.6% from its original estimate.
- **Lemon** exports rose by 8% y/y to 34.8 million cartons. The latest lemon prediction is about 5% lower than the original estimate.
- **Navel** exports declined by 4% y/y to 23.7 million cartons as the Eastern Cape is expected to conclude its packing.
- **Valencia** exports rose by 10% y/y to 31.6 million cartons. The latest Valencia prediction dropping by 11% from the original estimate of 54.5 million cartons.

Weekly Volumes 4kg Cartons	SA Exports to EU			EU Imports from the World		
	Week 36	Week 37	w/w Change	Week 36	Week 37	w/w Change
Hass	58 000	153 000	↑ 164%	4 516 000	3 920 000	↓ -13%
Green Skin	56 000	164 000	↑ 193%	190 000	280 000	↑ 47%
<b>Total</b>	<b>114 000</b>	<b>317 000</b>	<b>↑ 178%</b>	<b>4 706 000</b>	<b>4 200 000</b>	<b>↓ -11%</b>

## Week 35-2023 exports:

- In week 37-2023, South Africa's **avocado** exports to the EU market are expected to increase by 178% w/w to 317 000 cartons (4kg). Hass exports are expected to increase by 164% w/w to 153 000 cartons, while Green Skin exports are expected to decrease by 193% w/w to 164 000 cartons.
- A total of 4.2 million cartons of avocados should be received by the EU market in week 37-2023. This is a decrease of 11% w/w as Peruvian exports should decline by 21% w/w.
- Peru will remain the dominant exporter to the EU market in week 37-2023, holding a market share of 69% of total exports. South Africa comes in second with a market share of 7.5%.

## Sources

*Agri-Market Trends.*

*Bureau of Food and Agricultural Policy*

*Citrus Growers Association.*

*Department of Agriculture Land Reform and Rural Development.*

*Fresh Plaza.*

*Hortgro.*

*South African Avocado Growers Association.*

*South African Table Grape Industry.*

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