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**Argentina**

**Citrus**

**Semi-Annual**

**2001**

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**Report Highlights:**

Total Argentine citrus production for 2001 is estimated at 2,7 million metric tons, slightly higher than the previous season due to good weather conditions in some citrus producing provinces.

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Includes PSD changes: Yes  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Semi-Annual Report  
Buenos Aires [AR1], AR

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## **Production - Lemon**

Argentine lemon production for crop year 2001 is estimated at 1,180,000 metric tons an increase of nearly 13 percent compared to 2000 crop. In Tucuman, the main lemon producing province, the drought during winter and spring adversely affected the first flowering period, but later on weather conditions improved and bearing trees came into production, reasons why a larger fresh lemon crop of better quality is expected, for the upcoming harvest.

## **Production - Oranges**

Production of oranges for the 2001 crop is estimated at 861,405 metric tons, 9 percent more than last year's production, estimated at 788,703 metric tons, due to better climatic conditions in Entre Rios and Buenos Aires provinces. Despite a very rainy and windy spring in Entre Rios, a small increase in production is expected for the upcoming crop. The quality of the fruit is expected to be between good and fair due to the increase of diseases. In

Buenos Aires Province climatic conditions were much better, and a larger production of fresh fruit is expected in this area compared to last year.

### **Production - Tangerines**

The 2001 tangerine crop is estimated to increase by 8.6 percent, up to 473,653 metric tons, compared to 438,058 metric tons produced in year 2000. This slight increase is due to a larger production of tangerines in the provinces of Buenos Aires, Misiones and Jujuy, offset by the smaller production in Salta. Tangerine production similar to year 2000 is expected in the rest of the tangerine producing provinces.

### **Production - Grapefruits**

Argentine grapefruit production in 2001 is estimated at nearly 191,221 metric tons, 1 percent higher than the previous year (189,237 metric tons). In spite of the frost registered in June and July of 2000 in Salta, production was not really adversely affected. Moreover, timely rains in December increased the blossom, and as such there were more fruits on the trees but of smaller size.

### **Fresh Citrus Exports**

For 2001 total fresh citrus exports are estimated at 408,000 metric tons, a 41 percent higher than CY 2000. Lemon exports increased due to reduced lemon production in Spain. During the first seven months of 2001, the best export markets for Argentine lemons were the Netherlands, Russia, Spain, Italy, Canada and the United States. Nearly 254,000 metric tons of Argentine lemon exports are expected in 2001.

Weather conditions adversely affected citrus production in South Africa, which benefited Argentine exports of oranges, tangerines and grapefruits to that destination. During January-July 2001 exports of oranges were in great demand and 2001 orange exports may reach a total of 98,000 metric tons. Principal markets so far are Spain, Russia, the Netherlands, and Belgium.

During CY 2001, 32,000 metric tons of tangerines are expected to be exported mainly to the Netherlands, United Kingdom and Canada.

### **Imports of Fresh Citrus**

For CY year 2001, total citrus imports are estimated to decrease by approximately 26 percent, due to Argentine resolutions #8/2001 and # 28/2001 of the Ministry of Economy establishing import taxes of 25 percent on all imports of fresh citrus fruits from all countries, except for Mercosur countries.

During 2001, Argentina will import approximately 15,000 metric tons of fresh citrus fruit. Oranges will be the principal import with about 6,800 metric tons from Spain, Mexico and Israel. About 6,900 metric tons of grapefruits will be imported, mainly from Israel, followed by Cuba and Chile. Imports of lemons are estimated at 589 metric tons, with imports from Spain and some from Uruguay, while imports of tangerines could reach approximately 393 metric tons from Israel and Spain.

## Consumption

During 2001, tangerines consumption increased compared to year 2000, but consumption of other fresh citrus fruits slightly decreased; export demand for the latter was offset by internal consumption.

## Export Prices

Average FOB export prices for fresh lemons during May-September 2001 to the following destinations were as follows per box of 18 kilos: United States US\$ 9.00 - 12.00; Canada US\$ 7; Russia US\$ 6.50; Europe US\$ 6, and Hong-Kong US\$ 9.50. Average export price for oranges from June through September were as follows: Russia US\$ 5.50-6.00; for Europe and Canada US\$ 5.00. Grapefruit export prices from May through August were as follows for Rubi Red and Star Rubi, Europe and Russia US\$ 5.00. Tangerines exports from April through August for nearly all destinations were US\$ 5.00 for Murcott and US\$ 4.00 for Ellendale.

## General Outlook for 2002

This year, spring is again very rainy with frosts affecting the flowering stage and therefore production in the Northeastern (NEA) areas of Argentina. Moreover, floods adversely affected the small roots of the trees. All these conditions increased the likelihood of more diseases, and thus increased the amount of treatments. In northeast Buenos Aires Province, production has been affected by rain with hail storms. In the Northwestern (NOA) region blossom has started.

Although the weather was dry timely rains improved the situation later. 2002 lemon production will be greater than the previous season and the fruit will be of good quality.

## Policy

No change since last reported, except for tariff increase noted above.

**Table 1: PSD Lemons**

PSD Table						
Country	Argentina					
Commodity	Fresh Lemons					
					(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1999		01/2000		01/2001
Area Planted	37670	37670	39500	39500	40338	40338
Area Harvested	33890	33890	34000	34000	34000	30170
Bearing Trees	6784	6784	7480	7480	8176	8176

Non-Bearing Trees	2797	2797	2728	2728	2750	2659
TOTAL No. Of Trees	9581	9581	10208	10208	10926	10835
Production	1043	1043	1165	1165	1170	1180
Imports	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	1043	1043	1165	1165	1170	1180
Exports	199	199	205	205	208	254
Fresh Dom. Consumption	124	124	82	82	82	64
Processing	720	720	878	878	880	862
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	1043	1043	1165	1165	1170	1180



**Table 3: Exports Fresh Lemons**

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Lemons		
Time period	2001	Units:	metric tons
Exports for:	Jan-July		1
U.S.	11,194	U.S.	
Others		Others	
Russia	28,624		
Netherlands	28,220		
Spain	15,643		
Greece	15,108		
Italy	14,292		
Belgium	12,089		
Poland	11,997		
U.K.	6,058		
Canada	6,027		
Hong-Kong	4,141		
Total for Others	142199		0
Others not Listed	0		
Grand Total	153393		0

**Table 4: Prices Fresh Lemons**

Prices Table			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Lemons		
Prices in	US\$	per uom	kilo
Year	2001`	1	% Change
Jan	0.31		-100.00%
Feb	0.36		-100.00%
Mar	0.36		-100.00%
Apr	0.34		-100.00%
May	0.29		-100.00%
Jun	0.25		-100.00%
Jul	0.24		-100.00%
Aug	0.23		-100.00%
Sep	0.23		-100.00%
Oct	0.22		-100.00%
Nov			
Dec			
Exchange Rate	1 peso = 1 US dollr	Local currency/US \$	

**Table 5: PSD Fresh Oranges**

PSD Table						
Country	Argentina					
Commodity	Fresh Oranges				(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1999		01/2000		01/2001
Area Planted	56276	56276	56276	56276	57580	57580
Area Harvested	46576	46576	49173	49173	52104	52104
Bearing Trees	12575	12575	16970	16970	19672	19672
Non-Bearing Trees	9698	9698	4250	4250	2050	2050
TOTAL No. Of Trees	22273	22273	21220	21220	21722	21722
Production	660	660	789	789	830	861
Imports	5	5	12	12	12	7
TOTAL SUPPLY	665	665	801	801	842	868
Exports	75	75	41	41	35	98
Fresh Dom. Consumption	460	460	620	620	667	626
Processing	130	130	140	140	140	144
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	665	665	801	801	842	868

**Table 6: Imports Fresh Oranges**

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Oranges		
Time period	2001	Units:	
Imports for:	Jan-July		1
U.S.	72	U.S.	
Others		Others	
Spain	2,846		
Mexico	1,873		
Israel	999		
Uruguay	111		
Chile	46		
Total for Others	5875		0
Others not Listed	0		
Grand Total	5947		0

**Table 7: Export Fresh Oranges**

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Oranges		
Time period	2001	Units:	
Exports for:	Jan-July	1	1
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Spain	13,665		
Russia	10,841		
Netherlands	7,094		
Belgium	4,399		
Canada	2,258		
France	1,750		
Italy	1,708		
Greece	1,573		
Poland	1,409		
U.K.	1,080		
Total for Others	45777		0
Others not Listed			
Grand Total	45777		0

**Table 8: Prices Fresh Oranges**

Prices Table			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Oranges		
Prices in	US\$	per uom	kilo
Year	2001	2002	% Change
Jan	0.42		-100.00%
Feb	0.41		-100.00%
Mar	0.44		-100.00%
Apr	0.4		-100.00%
May	0.35		-100.00%
Jun	0.27		-100.00%
Jul	0.22		-100.00%
Aug	0.21		-100.00%
Sep	0.2		-100.00%
Oct	0.21		-100.00%
Nov			
Dec			
Exchange Rate		Local currency/US \$	

**Table 9: PSD Fresh Grapefruit**

PSD Table						
Country	Argentina					
Commodity	Fresh Grapefruit				(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1999		01/2000		01/2001
Area Planted	12679	12679	12679	12679	12615	12615
Area Harvested	10748	10748	10748	10748	12072	12072
Bearing Trees	2687	2687	2909	2909	3132	3132
Non-Bearing Trees	783	783	461	461	138	138
TOTAL No. Of Trees	3470	3470	3370	3370	3270	3270
Production	178	178	189	189	187	191
Imports	6	6	8	8	7	7
TOTAL SUPPLY	184	184	197	197	194	198
Exports	21	21	18	18	14	24
Fresh Dom. Consumption	119	119	99	99	100	93
Processing	44	44	80	80	80	81
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	184	184	197	197	194	198

**Table 10: Imports fresh Grapefruit**

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Grapefruit		
Time period	2001	Units:	M. tons
Imports for:	Jan-July		1
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Israel	2,615		
Cuba	794		
Spain	210		
Chile	165		
Italy	50		
Uruguay	43		
Total for Others	3877		0
Others not Listed	0		
Grand Total	3877		0

**Table 11: Exports Fresh Grapefruit**

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Grapefruit		
Time period	2001	Units:	M. tons
Exports for:	Jan-July		1
U.S.	1,101	U.S.	
Others		Others	
Belgium	8,830		
Netherlands	3,573		
Spain	1,223		
U.K.	1,035		
France	1,003		
Italy	978		
Canada	618		
Russia	485		
Greece	320		
Poland	176		
Total for Others	18241		0
Others not Listed	0		
Grand Total	19342		0

**Table 12: Prices Fresh Grapefruit**

Prices Table			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Grapefruit		
Prices in	US\$	per uom	Kilo
Year	2001	2002	% Change
Jan	0.58		-100.00%
Feb	0.55		-100.00%
Mar	0.45		-100.00%
Apr	0.32		-100.00%
May	0.24		-100.00%
Jun	0.27		-100.00%
Jul	0.25		-100.00%
Aug	0.24		-100.00%
Sep	0.25		-100.00%
Oct	0.22		-100.00%
Nov			
Dec			
Exchange Rate		Local currency/US \$	

**Table 13: PSD Fresh Tangerines**

PSD Table						
Country	Argentina					
Commodity	Fresh Tangerines				(HECTARES)(1000 TREES)(1000 MT)	
	Revised	1998	Preliminary	1999	Forecast	2000
	Old	New	Old	New	Old	New
Market Year Begin		01/1999		01/2000		01/2001
Area Planted	33257	33257	33257	33257	34760	34760
Area Harvested	30050	30050	30900	30900	31187	31187
Bearing Trees	12774	12774	13231	13231	13668	13668
Non-Bearing Trees	1681	1681	2753	2753	1569	1569
TOTAL No. Of Trees	14455	14455	15984	15984	15237	15237
Production	346	346	438	438	445	474
Imports	1	1	0	0	0	0
TOTAL SUPPLY	347	347	438	438	445	474
Exports	31	31	25	25	26	32
Fresh Dom. Consumption	277	277	377	377	383	404
Processing	39	39	36	36	36	38
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	347	347	438	438	445	474

**Table 14: Imports Fresh Tangerines**

Import Trade Matrix			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Tangerines		
Time period	2001	Units:	M. tons
Imports for:	Jan-July		1
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Spain	155		
Israel	112		
Total for Others	267		0
Others not Listed	0		
Grand Total	267		0

**Table 15: Exports Fresh Tangerines**

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Tangerines		
Time period	2001	Units:	M. tons
Exports for:	Jan-July		1
U.S.		U.S.	
Others		Others	
Netherlands	8,610		
U.K.	6,423		
Russia	2,859		
Canada	2,746		
Belgium	922		
Philippines	790		
Poland	789		
Spain	430		
Hong-Kong	359		
Indonesia	195		
Total for Others	24123		0
Others not Listed	0		
Grand Total	24123		0

**Table 16: Prices fresh Tangerines**

Prices Table			
Country	Argentina		
Commodity	Fresh Tangerines		
Prices in	US\$	per uom	kilo
Year	2001	2002	% Change
Jan	0.36		-100.00%
Feb	0.38		-100.00%
Mar	0.33		-100.00%
Apr	0.25		-100.00%
May	0.24		-100.00%
Jun	0.2		-100.00%
Jul	0.19		-100.00%
Aug	0.21		-100.00%
Sep	0.2		-100.00%
Oct	0.21		-100.00%
Nov			
Dec			
Exchange Rate		Local currency/US \$	