

**CGA/FPEF DOCUMENT FOR DIRECT CITRUS SHIPMENTS**

**TO SPANISH PORTS 2023**

**15 May 2023**

**AGREEMENT BY INDIVIDUAL GROWER/EXPORTER**

**NAME.……………………………,,………………………..,,**

**A] BACKGROUND:**

The CGA/FPEF position is not to interfere with market access or marketing arrangements unless the wider Southern Africa citrus market access is compromised. This was the case in 2015 when direct shipments through Spanish ports delivered 36% of the SA CBS Interceptions in the EU on only 3% of the SA citrus consignments that year. Exports through Spanish Ports were suspended by the citrus industry from 2016 onwards.

This decision proved hugely advantageous for SA. The number of interceptions [NONC’s] for CBS in the EU dropped significantly although the logistical costs for SA exporters and Spanish importers increased due to servicing citrus programmes in Spain via other European ports.

As a stark reminder of what SA’s non-intervention in this matter could have resulted in, Argentina lost its entire EU market access in 2020 after experiencing a sudden explosion in the number of 112 CBS NONC’s. This after a minuscule number of CBS NONC’s in previous years and “safe” passage through Spanish ports.

Following the forming of the World Citrus Organization [WCO] and ongoing requests from Ailimpo [our joint partner in creating the WCO] and the Spanish trade, the CGA and FPEF in 2018 embarked on a process to assess conditions and cautiously normalise some citrus trade through Spain ports.

With SA combatting the negative Spanish producer organisation press as well as diverging views in the EU’s Standing Committee on Plant Health [SCOPAF] regarding third country citrus imports, direct Spanish Port access remains a risk.

As stated SA citrus expects a fair and thorough inspection process on any Spanish border post, just as SA consistently experience on all other EU legislated border inspection points.

**B] PROJECT & PROCESS:**

The proposal of the said project for 2023, is to again run limited access of SA citrus through certain Spanish Ports, which are deemed low risk and in doing so, mitigates the risk presented to the wider SA access in the EU. Additionally assisting with logistical challenges and costs for SA citrus producers/exporters.

The one very positive aspect of this ongoing project is the improved cooperation between all SA growers and exporters to limit certain categories and periods of citrus supply in line with CRI recommendations on risk mitigation.

The steering committees initiated 2 meetings, discussing the goals, process and possible abort procedures for the 2023 project, should risk factors associated with the project increase. Lastly a fact-finding mission by CGA and FPEF members took place between 4 and 9 May 2023.

After considering all the information, the steering committees agreed to recommend:

1] A limited “lemons only” program through Cartagena for arrival from 1 June to 31 August provided conditions below are adhered to.

2] A limited program on all citrus commodities through Algeciras and Vigo for the period arrival from 1 June to 31 August, provided conditions below are adhered to.

**C****] CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION DIRECT THROUGH THE 3 CONDITIONAL PORTS 2023:**

A] Program through Cartagena Port.

1] Limited to “lemons only”.

2] Program only for arrival in Cartagena Port from 1 June to 31 August as per Ailimpo agreement.

3] Full estimate for the period provided to CGA/FPEF secretariat prior to shipments commencing. Actual updates on shipments and arrivals are provided weekly on Fridays throughout program.

4] Only lemons from orchards with no CBS hits, strikes or rejections [local and EU] against the PUC for the previous export season (2022) and/or current export season (2023).

5] In the case of a suspected interception [suspicion of CBS but not PCR confirmed] in Cartagena Port, the entire consignment, stock not inspected in South Africa and “floating” consignments on route from that PUC will be put on hold. No fruit will be inspected in South Africa or presented for inspection in Cartagena Port. If suspected interception is withdrawn [PCR test negative] and not reported as an official interception, fruit from this PUC can be inspected in South Africa and consignments can be presented for inspection in Cartagena Port. If confirmed as CBS positive, the consignments from that PUC will not be presented for inspection and will be removed from the Cartagena Port. Fruit will be directed to CBS non-sensitive markets. No further fruit from that PUC will be inspected in South Africa for export to the EU via the Cartagena port and floating consignments will be directed to CBS non-sensitive markets. SA Growers/Exporter to inform receiving agents and EU importer of above arrangements. If a CBS hit is reported on any lemon orchards from a PUC in South Africa, no lemons from that PUC will be inspected for export via the Cartagena Port. All floating consignments will be directed to CBS non-sensitive markets.

B] Program through Algeciras and Vigo Ports

1] All citrus commodities.

2] Program for arrival from 1 June to 31 August, unless extension is advised early in August.

3] Full estimate for period provided to CGA/FPEF secretariat prior to shipments commencing. Actual updates on shipments and arrivals are provided weekly on Fridays throughout program.

4] CBS mitigation: Only citrus fruit from orchards with no CBS hits, strikes or rejections [local and EU] against the PUC for the previous export season (2022) and/or current export season (2023).

5] FCM mitigation: (1) Only Option C shipping regime codes – all citrus except oranges [FMS page 14], and compliance with the 24d cooling requirement [FMS container protocol page 5, paragraph 6b); or (2) Only Option C shipping regime codes – all citrus [FMS page 14].

6] In the case of a suspected interception [suspicion of CBS but not PCR confirmed or FCM] in Algeciras or Vigo Ports, the entire consignment, stock not inspected in South Africa and “floating” consignments on route from that PUC will be put on hold. No fruit will be inspected in South Africa or presented for inspection in Algeciras or Vigo Ports. If the suspected interception is withdrawn and not reported as an official interception, fruit from this PUC can be inspected in South Africa and presented for inspection in Algeciras or Vigo Ports. If confirmed as CBS positive or FCM positive, the implicated consignments will not be presented for inspection and will be removed from the Algeciras or Vigo Ports. Fruit will be directed to CBS/FCM non-sensitive markets. No further fruit from that PUC will be inspected for export to the EU via the Algeciras or Vigo Ports and floating consignments will be directed to CBS/FCM non-sensitive markets. SA Growers/Exporter to inform receiving agents and EU importer of above arrangements. If a CBS hit is reported on any orchards from a PUC in South Africa, no fruit from that PUC will be inspected for export via the Algeciras or Vigo Ports. All floating consignments will be directed to CBS non-sensitive markets.

C] Only use shipping lines/services that agree to short-term cancellation of Spanish Port discharge and this change of COD.

D] Agreement that the effective instruments [access to and monitoring of all shipping information to Spanish Ports] as well as the possible cancellation of the project, is ceded to the CGA/FPEF.

**C] APPROVAL:**

The information above was presented to the working group for a final round of deliberations and now recommend the proposals to the CGA and FPEF Boards.

The CGA and or FPEF can abort the project, should the risk of the project continuing to be considered unacceptable.

Both Boards of CGA and FPEF are requested to approve the project subject to the conditions set.

Signed: Date:

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**OTHER:**

All growers and their exporters are invited and able to partake. This is at their own risk and provided they agree, duly sign up to the project and comply with the rules and criteria set and agreed by the CGA/FPEF working group for 2023 in this entire document.

**1] PARTICIPATION IN TRAIL - SIGNING UP & VOLUMES TO BE SHIPPED:**

* **Each grower/exporter wishing to participate must notify the CGA/FPEF** in writing before close of business 20 May 2023.
* This by completing and signing the entire DOCUMENT declaration of commitment [to the conditions, rules, costs associated and CGA/FPEF jurisdiction to suspend the project] below, as well as co-signing each page of this document and providing their estimated shipping volumes in the table below, before mailing the entire document to:

[**werner@fpef.co.za**](mailto:werner@fpef.co.za) **and** [**deonj@cga.co.za**](mailto:deonj@cga.co.za)

* Additionally, each participant agrees to provide CGA/FPEF access to their shipping information to Spanish Ports. Each participant will update any changes to planned shipments, report actual loading and arrivals weekly by EOB each Friday. Lastly they agree to inform the shipping group immediately, should a CBS/FCM interception occur on fruit shipped, or in orchards, PUC’s associated with this project.
* Lemons from the Western Cape can be shipped unlimited to any Spanish Port as they present no risk for CBS or FCM interceptions.

**2] COMMUNICATION AND REPORTING**

* WERNER VAN ROOYEN will be the secretariat for the pilot project – Contact number: +27 21 526 0321 or mobile +27 084 230 8116, email: [**werner@fpef.co.za**](mailto:werner@fpef.co.za).
* DEON JOUBERT, email: [**deonj@cga.co.za**](mailto:deonj@cga.co.za) will be backup to the secretariat and provide the EU Assessments on risk by liaison with the CGA DMC and CRI.

**3] FINAL**

The CGA/FPEF working group aim to normalise direct trade with Spain in an effort to combat costs, improve grower and exporter returns and enhance unity in the World Citrus Industry - provided it does not undermine or endanger the SA Citrus Industry’s EU market access in any way. This was the provision from both CGA and FPEF Board in allowing this project. Mindful of the absolute requirement of retaining EU market Access, parts or the entire document may need to be changed or withdrawn. All participants must accept this when signing up for this project.

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | **SPAIN TRIAL PROGRAM** |
|  |  | **2021 SEASON ESTIMATE** |
| Export Company: |  |  |
| Technical Contact: |  | Email: Tel: Fax: |
| Admin Contact: |  | Email: Tel: Fax: |
| VAT Number:  (optional) |  |  |
| Address: |  |  |
|  |  | **SPAIN TOTAL CITRUS ESTIMATE** |
| Shipping Line and volume split (in Pallets): |  |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CAPE TOWN FACILITY(NAME):** | **DURBAN FACILITY (NAME):** | Other: |
| ------------------ Pallets | ------------------ Pallets | ------------------ Pallets |

**COLD STORAGE FACILITY & PORT OF LOADING**

**Signatures:**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (the undersigned) as (senior management or director) representative of

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(the company) agrees to the requirements for participating in the trial shipment program to Spain and will adhere to the measures set out in this document.

Signed at:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_on this\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_day

of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_20\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_