



MVCB Weekly News

23rd April 2013

www.mvcitrus.org.au

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Valley
Citrus
Board**

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Qfly Update

The table below sets out the number of Qfly adults and larvae found in the past week.

Location	# Qfly	Action
Trentham Cliffs	1	No Action
Paringi	1	No Action
Buronga	3	Extends Outbreak
Tooleybuc Town	9	Extends Outbreak
Goodnight	1	No Action
Goodnight North	1	Extends Outbreak
Euston	1	Extends Outbreak

Crop Forecast

The 2013/14 final crop forecast for the Murray Valley has been released.

Navels	72,008 tonnes
Valencia	29,625 tonnes
Mandarin	11,206 tonnes
Afourer	9,672 tonnes
Tangelo	1,900 tonnes
Grapefruit	4,625 tonnes
Total	129,036 tonnes

Note: The crop forecast is based on density data and sizing of fruit and actual tonnages from the previous season. As some packers are no longer reporting tonnages of individual citrus categories the actual tonnage for the 2013/14 season may vary by as much as 20%.

The decrease in tonnage is across the board in all Navels and density counts were lighter on all Navels, however late season Navels are showing a large decrease of 30%. While there is a decrease in the number of fruit on trees, the size of this fruit is smaller by 5 to 6 mm compared to the long term average, therefore overall tonnage is down by 14.5% on last season's tonnages.

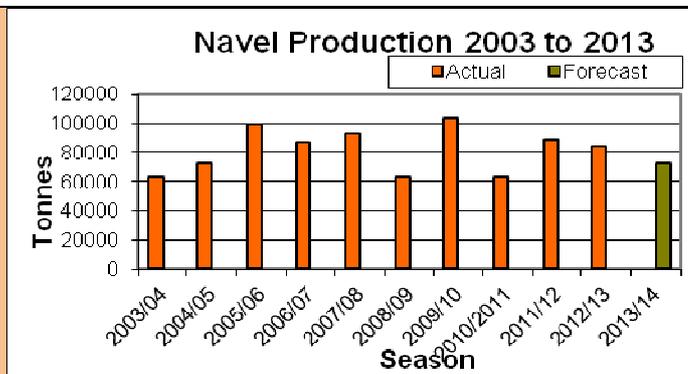
Assessments have been conducted during March to ascertain rind quality and packing potential using the Riversun quality parameters. This may vary as albedo, colour and late pest infestation cannot be factored in at this stage. This year in summary: pest damage on fruit is not substantial, however, there has been an increase in Katydid damage and Kelly's Citrus Thrip infestations; and, sunburn and wind damage blemish is evident on all varieties.

Overall size is smaller than average when compared to long term growth rates with a range of sizes on the tree. Eating quality is excellent; and juice content is high. Factors to consider that may affect the final stages of fruit growth are extreme wet weather conditions and prolonged frost conditions.

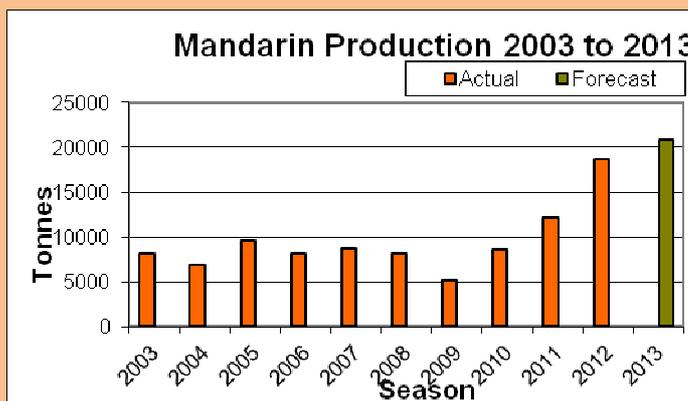
The graph below shows Murray Valley Navel production over the last ten seasons.

Diary Dates:

26 June, 2013, Grower's Technical Field Day, 9:00am to 5:00pm, NSW DPI Research Station (More details in future newsletters)



The graph below shows Murray Valley mandarin production over the last ten seasons.



The 2012 actual tonnage is based on packer levy returns and does not account for the dumped or unpicked fruit left on trees last season and packers who do not report tonnages.

Indonesia Scraps Horticultural Import Quotas to Head off U.S. Spat

(Reuters) -Indonesia will scrap import quantity limits on horticultural products, the trade ministry said on Friday, as it looks to head off a World Trade Organization (WTO) trade spat with the United States.

The United States said in March it had asked the WTO to strike down import restrictions imposed by Indonesia on horticultural and animal products.

The request for a dispute settlement panel was the next step in a case the United States first raised in January, and came after talks in February failed to resolve the issue. "There will be revisions on trade ministry regulations and agriculture ministry regulations on horticulture importation," Trade Minister Gita Wirjawan said. "We will not impose quantity restriction on import anymore."

The United States says regulations approved by Indonesia over the past two years unfairly restrict imports of fruits, vegetables, flowers, juices and other horticultural products.

A spokeswoman for the U.S. Trade Representative's office said they were "reviewing the announcement and seeking details" and had no additional comment.

The United States is also challenging long-standing import quotas for beef and other animal products that it says Indonesia drastically cut in December.

Southeast Asia's largest economy, which relies on agriculture for about 15 percent of its GDP, is struggling to balance the interests of domestic farmers and consumers.

The government has put in place strict import controls and often uses import tariffs or quotas to protect domestic farmers.