



## Citrus industry information for commercial growers

by George Morris, Technical Officer, South Perth

**Commercial citrus growers need to be aware of a range of important information. For general information on the WA citrus industry, citrus growing and industry research and promotion please contact:**

### Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia (DAFWA)

3 Baron-Hay Court, South Perth, WA 6151  
 Locked Bag 4, Bentley Delivery Centre, WA 6983  
 Tel: (08) 9368 3333 Fax: (08) 9368 1205  
 Email: <mailto:enquiries@agric.wa.gov.au>  
 Web: [www.agric.wa.gov.au](http://www.agric.wa.gov.au)

### WA Fruit Growers Association (WAFGA) / Citrus Council

Market City 280 Bannister Rd., Canningvale, WA 6155  
 Tel: (08) 9455 2075 Fax: (08) 9455 2096  
 Email: <mailto:wafga@bigpond.com>

### Agricultural Produce Commission

3 Baron-Hay Court, South Perth, WA 6151  
 Locked Bag 4, Bentley Delivery Centre, WA 6983  
 Tel: (08) 9368 3333 Fax: (08) 9368 1205  
 Email: <mailto:apc@agric.wa.gov.au>  
 Web: [www.apcwa.org.au](http://www.apcwa.org.au)

### Australian Citrus Growers Inc (ACG)

51 Deakon Ave., Mildura, Victoria  
 PO Box 5091, Mildura, Victoria 3502  
 Tel: (03) 5023 6333  
 Email: [admin@australiancitrusgrowers.com](mailto:admin@australiancitrusgrowers.com)  
 Web: [www.austcitrus.org.au](http://www.austcitrus.org.au)

### Horticulture Australia Ltd (HAL)

Level 1/50 Carrington St., Sydney, NSW 2000  
 Tel: (02) 8295 2300 Fax: (02) 8295 2399  
 Email: <mailto:info@horticulture.com.au>  
 Web: [www.horticulture.com.au](http://www.horticulture.com.au)

The Department of Agriculture and Food has pooled resources with the WA Fruit Growers Association (WAFGA) Citrus Council, Horticulture Australia and the Australian Citrus Growers (ACG) CITTgroup Program to develop a project that supports the strategic development of the WA citrus industry. This strategy has met with the approval of all stakeholders and is considered an effective method of servicing the needs of the industry. Our website contains a range of resources and links to other organizations that may be useful for improving your business.

Australian Citrus Growers Inc (ACG) is the peak body for the nation's citrus growers. Its aim is to promote the common interests, the financial and environmental sustainability of all Australian citrus growers. Their website is very comprehensive, covering topics from marketing and current research, to seasonal updates and the CITTgroup program.

The Citrus Council is part of WAFGA, the state peak industry body that represents more than 200 commercial growers and is also member of the national peak industry body. WAFGA will put you in touch with your local representative who can also direct you to your local WA Citrus Improvement Group. WAFGA provides technical information and contact with other growers through their newsletter "The WA Fruit Grower", seminars and field activities.

Horticulture Australia Ltd (HAL) is the national body that handles promotional issues, research and industry development activities for a range of horticultural commodities. To fund these activities, member commodities (including citrus) pay a 'fee for service' on all fruit sales. This fee is set in consultation with industry (usually through ACG) and is compulsory.

The current rates are (accurate at time of printing):

- Research and Development Levy \$1.97 per tonne.
- Marketing levy - Oranges only \$0.75 per tonne.
- Plant Health Australia Levy \$0.03 per tonne.

### Important Disclaimer

The Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Agriculture and the State of Western Australia accept no liability whatsoever by reason of negligence or otherwise arising from the use or release of this information or any part of it.

For more information visit our web site [www.agric.wa.gov.au](http://www.agric.wa.gov.au)

The Agricultural Produce Commission (APC) is the State body that handles a range of issues from research to market development for member horticultural commodities including WAFGA Citrus Council. The APC collects the funds on behalf of industry and administers these funds under a strict set of guidelines. How the funds are spent is determined by an industry appointed working group for each commodity. The payment of this 'fee for service' is compulsory.

The current rates are (accurate at time of printing):

- Mandarins in containers \$0.013 per kilogram.
- All other citrus in containers \$0.01 per Kilogram.
- All processing fruit \$0.01 per kilogram.

## Regulations

### Food safety

You are legally obliged to produce safe food, that is, it must meet certain conditions relating to foreign contaminants of a chemical or physical nature. A number of quality assurance systems are available to address food safety including HACCP, SQF1000 and Freshcare. All growers and their staff need to be trained in the correct and safe use of chemicals. This means that only registered chemicals can be used and only at label rates. We therefore advise that all users of chemicals attend an approved chemical users training course.

Contact: ChemCert WA Inc, phone/fax (08) 9341 5325

### Land clearing

Do not assume that because you own the land that you can clear the native vegetation. There are restrictions on land clearing, for more information you should contact your local office of the Department of Agriculture and Food to discuss your clearing plans.

### Water resources

Most water resources in WA are controlled, licences are generally required for commercial bores and many regions have restrictions over dam installations. Contact the Water and Rivers Commission or your local office of the Department of Agriculture and Food for more details.

### Exporting

Exporting citrus to markets in other states is not a simple matter of loading it into a truck and sending it off. Because we have Mediterranean fruit fly (medfly), there are quarantine regulations restricting the movement of citrus from Western Australia to other states. Citrus must be from an area free of medfly (e.g. The Ord River Irrigation Area), be fumigated or cold disinfested under controlled conditions.

For more information, contact WAQIS, Tel: (08) 9311 5333, Fax: (08) 9455 3052.



*Know-how for Horticulture™*



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN  
FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION  
INCORPORATED