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For fresh produce marketing in Australia and New Zealand

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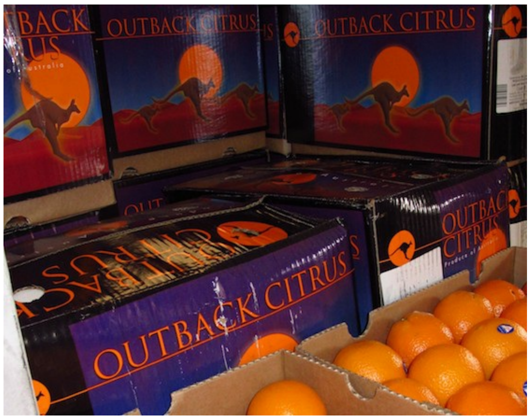

Improved access for Australian produce

New Year�s Day triggers tariff reductions under terms of multiple trade agreements

Australian exporters are ready to capitalise on improved trade conditions in a number of key Asian markets.

A fresh round of tariff cuts on a range of the country's fresh produce products came into effect on 1 January 2020, under free trade agreements settled by the Australian government.

The terms of the China-Australia Free Trade Agreement (ChAFTA), which came into force in December 2015, have seen the tariff on Australian oranges fall from 4.9 per cent to 3.7 per cent, while the tariff on mandarins has fallen from 5.3 per cent to 4 per cent.

"These reductions follow the most successful export season Australian citrus growers and exporters have had with industry estimating that over 273,000 tonnes worth over A$500m (US$350m) of citrus was exported to China in the 2019 season," said Australian minister for agriculture, Bridget McKenzie.

Meanwhile, the Korea-Australia Free Trade Agreement (KAFTA) has seen the tariff on Australian mangoes decrease from 12 per cent to 9 per cent.

Further tariff reductions on Australian fresh produce products entered force on 1 January 2020 under the terms of the ASEAN-Australia-New Zealand Free Trade Area (AANZFTA). This included the elimination of a 3 per cent tariff on both Australian-grown oranges (fresh or dried) and macadamias (in shell and shelled) in Vietnam.

The Progressive Agreement for Trans Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) has also delivered a further round of tariff reductions on selected Australian export products in Canada, New Zealand, Mexico, Singapore and Vietnam, although there have been no significant gains for fresh produce.