A & A Giacca PO Box 258 Farm 889 GRIFFITH NSW 2680

Telephone: 02 69642463

Fax: 02 69641292

5 November 2001

Citrus Industry Inquiry
Productivity Commission
Locked Bag 2
Collins Street East Post Office
MELBOURNE VIC 8003

Dear Sir

I would like to draw to your attention to the current difficulties that are being encountered by Australian citrus growers.

The Australian citrus industry is facing the worse problems ever and its outlook appears to be very grim, unless we see prompt action from the Federal government to reinforce their policies.

Citrus growers believe that the Federal government has failed them by not enforcing their stated polices. Currently Frozen Concentrate Orange Juice import tariff charges have decreased from 35% down to only 5%. The removal of sales tax concession for orange juice containing minimum level of local juice combined with the Primary Industry's extremely high inspection charges for citrus exports have also drastically reduced the growers return.

These are just a few problems facing Australian citrus growers and are having an extreme adverse affect on Australian citrus prices.

All these factors combined, make the citrus industry a non-viable venture and this is a matter of concern as we can see the time when there will be no Australian citrus industry whatsoever. Therefore, we implore you to take action on our behalf and to advise us of any further developments on this matter.

Yours faithfully
A. ficeca

A & A Giacca