

NSW

19 November 2001
Citrus Industry Inquiry
Productivity Commission
Locked Bag 2
Collins Street East Post Office
MELBOURNE VIC 8003

Dear Sir

I, Adrian Dametto from Farm, would like to express my concerns in regards to the current citrus industry crisis.

I am a grower of over 40 years and grow 20 ha of citrus in the area.

The major impacts on my income as a citrus grower have been the following:

- The abolishment of the 25% Sales Tax Concession
- The drop in tariffs
- imports of cheap Frozen Concentrate Orange Juice (FCOJ)

The impact of the above three issues has resulted in prices for my fruit that are less than my cost of production.

I am averaging 18 cents per kilo for my produce, whereas in most stores you don't see many prices under \$2.50 per kilo.

My costs indicate that my cost for producing this fruit is approximately \$5,000 per hectare, this equates to approximately \$200.00 per tonne. Our costs are constantly going up (repairs, water, labour, electricity etc) and our income is decreasing rapidly.

Yours sincerely

Adrian Dametto Farm