

CIF Trading Company
P.O. Box 324
Cobram. Vic. 3644.

CITRUS INDUSTRY INQUIRY
PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION.

Dear Sir,

I wish to make a submission to the Productivity Commission which will shortly review government policy regarding Citrus Fruit Growing and Processing in Australia.

Our business designs, manufactures, installs and maintains irrigation equipment in the Cobram/Barooga area, as well as keeping a range of irrigation equipment and parts. Many of our clients are Citrus growers.

In recent years, Citrus growers have suffered a large decrease in their income and standard of living. Most noticeable though, has been the problems faced by these families in finding the financial resources to maintain their irrigation equipment. A good irrigation plant is not only essential to produce their crops, but also uses water more efficiently and is beneficial to the environment.

Decreased sales of irrigation services means fewer people employed in our business, and less opportunity to take on and train younger people. Naturally disposable income and job security of our staff has suffered, with less money being spent in town.

We are constantly being told to use water wisely, but see examples constantly of growers unable to adopt modern methods due to low fruit prices. For the sake of growers and their families, as well as businesses and employees servicing the industry, and the towns in general, something must be done to alleviate the dumping of fruit from overseas.

Yours faithfully,



Keith Hindson
Manager
CIF Trading Company.