

NSW

21 November 2001

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

Dear Sir

I have been farming in citrus for 24 years in area of New South Wales. Fifty five acres of my farm is made-up of citrus, and 19 acres of grapes.

I feel that the government needs to bring stability into the citrus industry if we are to survive and give our children a future on the farm. The stability we have not got has forced my wife, a partner in the business, to gain off-farm employment. This is not only the case in my family.

The tariff decrease has affected our industry dramatically, in the mid90's it was around 30% and is now down to around the 5% mark. Due to the tariff decrease our markets were flooded with imported fruit and juice products.

Why is it that the Australian citrus industry is always the industry that is sacrificed, like the lamb at the slaughter, for the betterment of other industries?

Yours sincerely

George Nardi