

NSW

29 November 2001

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

Dear Sir

I am a citrus grower who has been in the industry for 10 years.

My farm of 175 acres of citrus is to support a family of 6. I have 4 boys that love farming and are needed to help run the farm, however, with the prices of citrus ever since I started farming there is no way it can support us. It is at the stage where my children need to look at other careers rather than staying on the land.

I feel the that the reasons citrus prices have been very poor over the past ten years are, lack of government support, high quantities of cheap Brazilian concentrate, picking costs, cost of production, 25% sales tax concession abolishment and the low tariffs the Australian government has put in place for Countries wanting to import into Australia.

Please investigate all the above factors in an effort to revive the citrus industry.

Yours sincerely

(signed)

Vince Costa