

Update

June 2016 – Issue 14

Beacon Commodities



We have just returned from a hot trip to Egypt to inspect the orange and lemon groves. The groves we visited were only 5 years old and were established in the desert after special irrigations systems were installed. As well as orange and lemons, they are also growing mangoes, pears and pomegranates.



Lemon Trees

They are now reaching full production as it usually takes 3 years before you get the first fruit. Each tree is fed water by a piped irrigation system and water is supplied almost daily. Whilst we were there the temperature was between 42 – 45 degrees! Last year was the first commercial harvest which was sold to the local Egyptian market. As the tree becomes more established the yield increases, so there is now enough to process into 'Dried Lemon Peels'. See our earlier Newsletter Issue 13.

Cropping and Harvesting

The trees produce 3 crops between October and the end of May. The pictures you see are of the last harvest before the dormant period between June and September. The harvest is picked by hand and the fruit loaded into baskets for transport to our processing factory. They are immediately peeled and dried. Apart from the local market, the other markets are juice processors and the extraction of 'Lemon Oil' which has a wide use in various cosmetic and food industries.

