

production.

Table 4.3 shows that there was a substantial difference between the consumption and imports of vegetables by the Jewish European settlers. Given the low production of vegetables by the Jewish European farmers, such that as late as 1937, total output amounted to only 12,500 tons, it is safe to assume the obvious that the bulk of the shortfall was provided by local Arab production. Similarly, it is definite that most, if not all, of the Jewish European consumption of tomatoes and cucumbers came from local Arab production because of the fact that at least in the case of tomatoes, local production was sufficient for the country, although there was a ban on its import for “photo-sanitary” reasons through 1935.<sup>22</sup> This is substantiated by the fact that Jewish European vegetable imports consisted primarily of potatoes, onions, and garlic, and for 1926-1928 completely so.<sup>23</sup>

#### 4.1.2 Citrus

The second cash crop was citrus, which was the most valuable of all crops. The planting and export of citrus preceded both the Mandate period and the earlier European Jewish settlement. However, it was during the Mandate period that it underwent a rapid and substantial growth following the disruptions of WWI, when many trees were abandoned or uprooted (see Table 4.4).

---

<sup>22</sup>Brown in Himadeh, 161, 201; *Survey I*, 453.

<sup>23</sup>Keren Hayesod, *Statistical Palestine*, Table 66, 127-8.