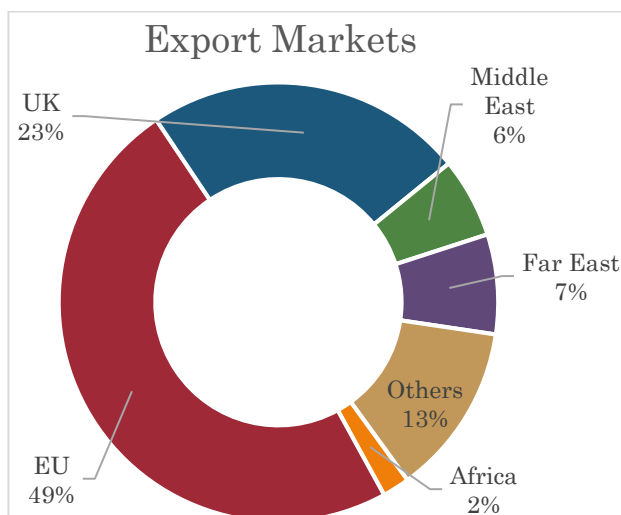


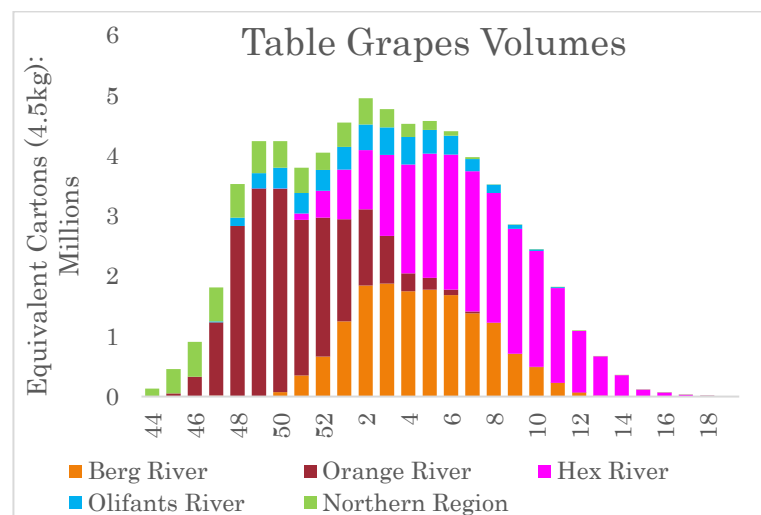
## Table grape industry reaps the fruits of investing in new cultivars

- The 2016/17 table grape industry season just came to an end with a record high of 67.5 million cartons (1 carton equivalent to 4.5 kg). That is almost one million more cartons packed and inspected for exports than they achieved in the previous season (**see Chart 1**).
- Despite the severe drought taking place in the Western Cape province, the industry achieved a good season in terms of yields and quality of the fruits.
- The secret to this success comes from the farmers' decision to invest in new cultivars. Over the past few years they have uprooted the old cultivars such as Dauphine and replaced them with new better tasting, higher yields, early maturing and better resistance to fluctuating weather conditions.
- The bulk of table grape were exported to Europe and the United Kingdom collectively accounting 72% of total exports. About 13% went to Middle and Far East markets and the rest to Africa and other exports markets (**see Chart 1**).
- The industry generated around R7.2 billion from exports between November 2016 and June 2017 which is slightly lower given the high harvest achieved this season. The relatively strong exchange rate was the biggest factor that affected the foreign earnings in the industry.

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Source: Agbiz adapted from SATI, 2017



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