

Spain: Almeria's maritime exports reached 40,352 tonnes in 2013

In 2013, the Plant Protection Service of the Border Inspection Post (BIP) located in the port of Almeria inspected a total of 7,305 batches of horticultural products, 40,352 tonnes of fruits and vegetables, before being shipped to third countries and the Canary Islands.

Export volumes last year dropped by 38%, while imports increased by 33%, reaching 5,054 tonnes, according to data provided by the province's Government delegation. Meanwhile, the analysis of products in transit, especially to France and the Netherlands, was virtually identical and involved the review of 9,589 tonnes of produce.

The most exported fruits and vegetables were tomatoes, with 6,327 tonnes; cucumbers, with 5,277 tonnes, and oranges, with 5,183 tonnes. These were followed by peppers (3,052 tonnes), grapes (2,200 tonnes), kiwis (1,600 tonnes), apples and plums (1,300 tonnes each), nectarines (1,121 tonnes) and cherries (800 tonnes).

Regarding non-EU destinations, the most noteworthy were the exports to Algeria, with 18,516 tonnes of up to 55 different fruits and vegetables, followed by Russia with 8,846 tonnes and Norway with 2,615 tonnes. Meanwhile, Morocco imported a total of 5,011 tonnes, 4,762 of which corresponded to tomatoes.

As for seeds, while the figures reached are not really significant, their export has great commercial value, in addition to shipments being made on an experimental basis. This noteworthy transit follows the introduction in the province of Almeria of a number of seed producing companies.

Compared to 2012, freight traffic has increased by 35%. The total number of batches reached 1,197, of which 620 were sent to the Canary Islands and the rest to over 29 different countries, including Morocco, Cameroon, Turkey, Lebanon and Algeria. Seeds from Almeria are being shipped to destinations as far away as New Zealand, Australia, Chile, Peru and Iraq.

Of the total exported batches, 495 left via the airport and the rest via the port. Seeds produced in 13 different countries are being shipped from Almeria to 29 destinations.

Source: www.freshplaza.com/ 24/04/2014