

Russia imports of mandarin and grapefruit on the increase

Russian citrus imports rose by 6% last year compared to 2012. The markets for mandarin and grapefruit in particular show high growth rates, respectively 40% and 34%, reports the Russian website fruitnews.ru. Turkey and Morocco traditionally are the two main citrus suppliers, but have to surrender a part of their market share to South Africa and Egypt. A striking newcomer on the mandarin market is Georgia.

Import citrus Russia 2013		
Country of origin	value in million dollars	volume in thousand tons
Turkey	431,0	420,0
Morocco	231,0	248,5
Egypt	227,0	240,5
South Africa	193,5	197,1
China	156,8	156,8
Spain	103,2	92,2
Argentina	95,3	87,3
Pakistan	77,9	80,3
Israel	46,3	40,6
Abchaz	17,2	37,3
Cyprus	19,6	19,1
Greece	15	14,2
Uruguay	13,5	13
Georgia	8,9	11,9
Belarus	4,0	9,0
Mexico	5,8	5,5
Iran	4,8	5,5
Italy	4,8	4,7
Croatia	4,4	4,1
Peru	4,3	3,9
Brazil	3,4	3,1
Syria	1,7	1,8
Zimbabwe	1,3	1,4
Australia	1,4	1,4
Switzerland	1,2	1,1
USA	1,1	1,0
Azerbaijan	0,8	0,9
Miscellaneous	1,6	1,6
Total	1.677,3	1.703,9

Source: Federal Customs Service (2013)

Russia imported 1.7 million tons in 2013, accounting for 1.68 billion dollars. An increase of 6% compared to the year before. The main suppliers of citrus are Turkey and Morocco, accounting for 40% of the total volume. Egypt is third, followed by South Africa and China. The first EU country on the list is Spain occupying the sixth place. Cyprus and Greece are good for respectively the eleventh and twelfth place.

Import mandarins Russia 2013		
Country of origin	value in million dollars	volume in thousand tons
Morocco	206,20	221,21
Turkey	204,30	200,58
China	85,65	86,93
Pakistan	77,94	80,28
Spain	52,94	47,70
Argentina	47,90	43,97
Abchaz	17,25	37,34
Israel	24,40	22,74
Cyprus	19,06	18,60
South Africa	15,17	14,12
Greece	13,18	12,38
Georgia	8,92	11,88
Uruguay	8,81	8,05
Belarus	2,38	5,75
Iran	4,53	5,22
Egypt	5,28	5,00
Croatia	4,36	4,06
Italy	4,09	4,05
Peru	4,19	3,71
Australia	1,13	1,04
Azerbaijan	0,84	0,88
South Korea	0,52	0,66
USA	0,78	0,65
Miscellaneous	0,54	0,54
Total	810,36	838,32

Source: Federal Customs Service (2013)

Mandarins and oranges are the most popular citrus fruits amongst the Russian consumers. Last year Russia imported more than 838,000 tons, accounting for almost half of the total citrus import.

The largest mandarin suppliers are Turkey and Morocco. Although the volume from Morocco decreased compared to the previous years, the volume from Turkey grew. Together both countries account for half the mandarin supply. Other major suppliers are China, Pakistan, Spain, Argentina and Abkhazia. In October 2013 Georgia was allowed to supply the Russian market and ended up twelfth on the list with 12,000 tons.

Import oranges Russia 2013		
Country of origin	value in dollars	volume in tons
Egypt	220.103,82	233.790,4
South Africa	120.127,83	128.852,8
Turkey	64.532,54	66.525,3
Spain	30.094,72	27.517,8
Morocco	23.061,90	24.531,1
China	10.365,44	9.635,8
Uruguay	3.243,56	3.698,4
Belarus	944,26	1955,9
Greece	1.761,44	1787,1
Syria	1.678,74	1762,4
Zimbabwe	1.068,82	1.186,7
Italy	567,44	550,8
Argentina	464,58	493,1
Brazil	433,83	442,7
Australia	308,78	325,7
Swaziland	252,47	276,1
Iran	221,49	247,6
USA	170,52	157,8
Cyprus	129,20	142
Portugal	63,83	101,2
Miscellaneous	61,54	55,7
Total	479.656,74	504.036,4

Source: Federal Customs Service (2013)

Oranges were mainly imported from Egypt and South Africa. Volumes grew to 70% of the import. In total Russia imported 500,000 tons of oranges. Other major suppliers of oranges were Turkey, Spain and Morocco.

Import grapefruit Russia 2013		
Country	value in dollars (x1.000)	volume in tons
China	56.740,8	56.488,4
Turkey	45.667,6	43.689,1
South Africa	27.694,4	25.703
Israel	14.074	13.838,7
Mexico	3.366,7	3.302,8
Egypt	1481,5	1.562,1
Swaziland	956,3	888,2
Morocco	614,8	612,1
Spain	432,4	364,5
Vietnam	225,6	202,1
Zimbabwe	194,9	182,6
Cyprus	179,7	174,1
Belarus	142,8	139,9
Peru	113,5	100,7
Miscellaneous	274,4	166,3
Total	152.159,5	147.414,6

Source: Federal Customs Service (2013)

Grapefruit import grew by 20% compared with 2012 to 147,000 tons. The largest supplier of this citrus fruit is China, followed by Turkey, South Africa and Israel. The rise in consumption is due to media attention.

In the first quarter of this year, import fell by 11% to 577,000 ton. Key suppliers are Morocco, turkey, Egypt, Pakistan, China and Spain. New comer Georgia exported 2.6 tons of mandarins to Russia.

Citrus import Russia		
Country	Jan-March 2014 (x1.000ton)	Jan-March 2013 (x1.000ton)
Morocco	161	98
Turkey	132	143
Egypt	120	157,7
Pakistan	63,8	71,7
China	36,3	48
Spain	30,3	49,4
Israel	12,3	20,2
Cyprus	6,8	15
Greece	2,6	8,6
Georgia	2,6	0
Italy	1,9	2,7
Miscellaneous	7,4	11,9
Total	577	626,2

Source: Federal Customs Service (2013)

Expressed as a percentage, the market share of the export countries is stable. Turkey is on top of the list with 24.6%, followed by Morocco (14.5%) and Egypt (14.1%). In recent years the import of mandarins increased by almost 40% from 605,000 tons in 2010 to 838,000 tons in 2013. The import of grapefruit is also on the rise, growing 34%. In 2010 109,000 tons was imported, in 2013 it rose to 147,000 tons

Market share per country in %	
Turkey	24,6
Morocco	14,5
Egypt	14,1
South Africa	11,5
China	9,2
Spain	5,4
Argentina	5,1
Pakistan	4,7
Israel	2,3
Abkhazia	2,2
Miscellaneous (Cyprus, Greece, Uruguay, Georgia, Belarus)	6,4

The orange import grew with 5% from 478,000 tons in 2011 to 504,000 tons in 2013. The volumes from Egypt and South Africa are growing at the expense of Morocco and Turkey.

Source : <http://www.freshplaza.com/article/122245/Russia-imports-of-mandarin-and-grapefruit-on-the-increase> (20/06/2014)