

Spain: Almeria grows 60% of courgettes consumed in Europe

In the first half of this year, from 1 January to 30 June, the European Union (EU) has purchased a total of 251.38 million kilos of fresh and refrigerated courgettes; 6.85% less than in the same period of 2013, according to data provided by the statistical service Euroestacom (Icex-Eurostat).

For these courgettes, EU countries paid a total of 197.73 million, which result in a price of 0.79 Euro per kilo.

Spain sold the most courgettes to the EU, totalling 159.65 million kilos; 63.51% of the total, followed by Morocco with 26.47 million kilos and the Netherlands, with 15.42 million kilos.

In the fourth position we have Germany with 11.64 million kilos, followed by Italy (11.15), France (10.27), Turkey (6.81), Belgium (5.98), United Kingdom (0'67) and Austria (0'65).

By provinces

Almeria has shipped 60.41% of the total purchased by the EU and 80.77% of the Spanish total; it sold six times the volume of Moroccan suppliers, in second place. The second largest supplier in Spain was the province of Valencia, which exported 4.74% of Spain's total; followed by Alicante with 4.09% and Murcia with 3.75%.

Prices

Of the three major courgette suppliers to the EU, the one achieving the best price in the first half of 2014 was the Netherlands, with 1.08 Euro per kilo, surpassing Spain, which reached an average price of 0.76 Euro per kilo, and Morocco, which sold the produce for 0.64 Euro per kilo.

As for the remaining countries in the top 10, Germany obtained a price of 0.85 Euro per kilo; Italy 1.02; France, 0.88; Turkey 0.62; Belgium 0.81; United Kingdom, 0.93; and Austria, 1.30 Euro per kilo.