

Spain: Stability of watermelon prices

Watermelon prices remain stable, while melons have registered a significant drop, according to the monitoring report published by the Prices and Markets Observatory of Andalusia for week 21 (18 to 24 May). Melon prices at origin have dropped to an average of 0.37 Euro/kg.

Cantaloupe melons are scarce in Almeria, making it the most valued during the period at hand, with an average price of between 0.70 and 0.80 Euro/kg. The province of Almeria has marketed approximately 40% of the overall volume of Cantaloupe planned for this campaign. Morocco does not yet have a sufficiently large volume at this time and France has not yet started its campaign.

Yellow melons are also at the peak of their production cycle, with 50% of the season's total volume harvested. The average price for this product is of around 0.40 Euro/kg.

As regards Galia melons, between 55-65% of the total volume planned for this season has already been marketed. Calibres and organoleptic quality are adequate, although incidents are emerging due to the product's post-harvest shelf life. The average price of Galia melons stands close to 0.35 Euro/kg.

Piel de Sapo melons, of later production, have yet to reach the peak of their production cycle, which is expected for early June.

Production in Murcia is expected to start in mid-June, with a slight delay caused by the rainfall registered last week and the reduction in radiation levels.

Watermelons

During the week at hand, watermelon prices have been marked by stability, with lower sales volumes than usual compared to previous campaigns and stable demand.

The watermelon harvest is being carried out in stages; nevertheless, a peak in production is expected in Almeria between weeks 22 and 24. In late May, the productions from Italy and Greece will also hit the market; countries where the Crimson variety is the most appreciated.

The report from the Andalusian Government reveals that black watermelons with seeds have reached an average price of 0.40 Euro/kg, black seedless watermelons stand at an average of between 0.55 and 0.60 Euro/kg and striped watermelons are sold for 0.48 Euro/kg.