

## Spain: Value of Andalusian processed tomato exports up 29%

The value of Andalusian processed tomato exports in the first six months of the year, exceeded 32 million Euro, 29% more than in the same period last year, as reported by the Councillor of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development, Carmen Ortiz, who visited the facilities of the cooperative, Las Marismas de Lebrija, Seville.

About 70% of the processed tomatoes produced in Andalusia are exported, mainly to EU countries (the UK, Germany, France, Italy and Poland), as well as Russia, Turkey, Malaysia and Japan. Almost all exports are made from the province of Seville, with a value in the first semester amounting to 31.4 million Euro. In 2015, the volume of Andalusian processed tomatoes marketed, reached 62,500 tonnes, worth 49.13 million Euro.

The average tomato production for industrial processing in Andalusia amounts to about 450,000 tonnes per year, worth nearly 37 million Euro.

In Andalusia, the cultivation of tomatoes for processing concentrates mainly in the province of Seville, which accounts for 86% of the acreage, with about 7,400 hectares, mainly in the Lower Guadalquivir. Lebrija stands out with 53% of the total, followed by Utrera (10%), Cabezas de San Juan (7%), Aznalcázar and La Rinconada (with 6% each). In the Lower Guadalquivir there are currently four factories for the processing of tomatoes.

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