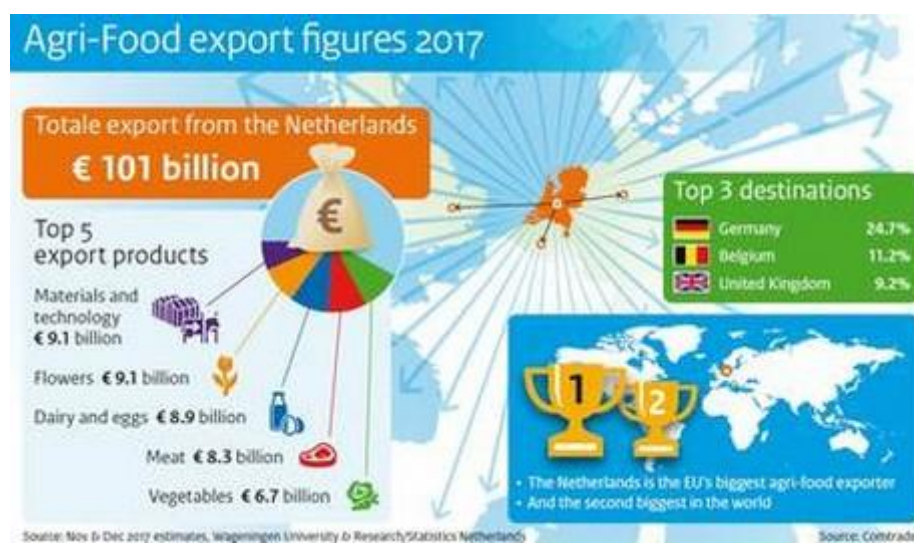


Netherlands: Agricultural exports up 7% to €91.7 billion

In 2017 the Netherlands exported €91.7 billion in agricultural goods. This marked another new record, up 7% on 2016 when exports totalled €85.5 billion. Last year the Netherlands also exported agriculture-related goods such as farm machinery, chemical fertilisers and plant protection products worth €9.1 billion. These provisional figures (produced by Statistics Netherlands and Wageningen Economic Research) were presented by the Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, Carola Schouten, at International Green Week (IGW) – an agricultural trade fair held every year in Berlin.



'This growth in exports confirms the strength of the Dutch agricultural and horticultural sector,' said the minister. 'But Dutch know-how and innovation are just as important. A growing global population, increasing demand for healthy food and climate change are having an ever greater impact on agriculture, as in other areas. The Netherlands is developing smart farming technologies that can help us meet these challenges and at the same time boost our export position. For instance, we are devising techniques to cultivate crops on salty soils. Saline farming enables food to be grown on land that, in the past, would have been unusable. The need to export this know-how is becoming ever greater.'

Export destinations

Most of the Dutch agricultural produce is exported to Germany. The next biggest export markets are Belgium, the United Kingdom and France. Fruit and vegetables (including potatoes) are the most popular Dutch products in foreign markets, accounting for over 13% of total exports in 2017.

Last year agricultural exports generated €44 billion for the Dutch economy. Some €40.5 billion is attributable to products made in the Netherlands, while €3.5 billion came from goods that were first imported before undergoing limited processing and then being exported. If agriculture-related products are included, the contribution to the Dutch economy rises to €48 billion.

Europe important for exports

The figures highlight the importance of the European single market: 78% of Dutch exports of processed and unprocessed agricultural goods go to other EU member states. The Dutch agrisector is also a major player globally, making the Netherlands the biggest exporter of agricultural goods after the United States.

Lien article : <http://www.freshplaza.com/article/188282/Netherlands-Agricultural-exports-up-7-procent-to-%E2%82%AC91.7-billion>