

# The berry sector is growing strongly in Spain and the world

The acreage planted with berries in the 2018 campaign in Huelva, a province that accounts for more than 95% of the Spanish production and sales, has grown by 11.12% compared to the previous year, totalling 11,145 hectares, according to data from the Association of Producers and Exporters of Strawberries from Huelva, Freshuelva (an association integrated in FEPEX). This growth, which is also noticeable in the Cantabrian coast, is also being recorded in other important producing countries, such as Argentina, Chile or Peru in the Americas, or Morocco and South Africa in Africa.

Blueberries are one of the berries growing the most. In Huelva, the acreage has increased from 1,150 hectares in the 2013/2014 season to 2,858 hectares in 2017/2018. In the Cantabrian coast, the acreage stands at 400 hectares and the autonomous governments want to promote the expansion of these crops. Specifically, the governments of Asturias and Cantabria have published orders to promote blueberry plantations with subsidies to producers, with production oriented to the period from June to October.

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