

Spain: Avocado campaign comes to a close with 55,000 tonnes

The avocado harvest is about to end in Malaga and Granada, closing with a total production of about 55,000 tonnes, as was reported by the president of Asaja Malaga, Benjamin Faulí.

According to the latest monthly report from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Food and Environment (Mapama), corresponding to February 2018, the total Spanish production of avocados this campaign will reach 100,000 tonnes for the first time. This is 9.2% more than the 91,936 tonnes of 2016.

The Mapama points out that last year, Spain devoted 11,812 hectares to the production of avocados, with Malaga (6,804 hectares and 44,863 tonnes) and Granada (2,584 hectares and 30,085 tonnes) at the top, followed by the Canary Islands (1,607 hectares and 11,001 tonnes).

According to data from the General Directorate of Customs processed by the producer organization Fepex, Spain imported a total of 98,056 tonnes of avocados during the twelve months of 2017 and exported another 107,006 tonnes, mainly to EU countries.

Imports have tripled since 2012, when the volume purchased from other countries stood at 33,948 tonnes. This figure then increased to 41,035 tonnes in 2013, 52,770 tonnes in 2014, 60,956 tonnes in 2015 and 88,362 tonnes in 2016.

In that same period, exports have grown, but not at the same rate as imports, which have doubled since 2012, when according to Customs, they reached 59,924 tonnes. This figure then grew to 63,496 tonnes in 2013, 74,285 tonnes in 2014, 81,580 tonnes in 2015, 91,664 tonnes in 2016 and the aforementioned 107,006 tonnes in 2017.

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