



Greek fruit and veg exports up by 18.5% in first quarter of 2018

The Greek Statistical Authority's data for the first quarter of 2018 are encouraging for Greek fruit and vegetable exporters, as they show an upward trend.

According to the latest data from the Hellenic Statistical Service of Greece, processed by Incofruit-Hellas, fresh fruit and vegetable exports increased by 18.5% in the first quarter of this year and amounted to 398,480 tonnes, while their value showed a significant improvement, with a 24.6% rise, reaching 275.820 million Euro.

With a 22% growth in terms of volume compared to the same period last year, vegetable exports totalled 79,566 tonnes in the first quarter of this year, although they also recorded a slight 0.2% decline, down to 101.3 million Euro.

Meanwhile, fruit exports amounted to 318.914 tonnes, i.e. 17.7% more than last year, and in terms of value, they generated 216.365 million Euro; 33.7% more than in 2017. As explained by the head of Incofruit-Hellas, Giorgos Polychronakis, the fruits recording the greatest increases have been mandarins, with 55.9%, kiwis, with 25.5%, and oranges, with 12%. As for vegetables, the most noteworthy increases in terms of volume are those of cucumbers, with 37.6%, and tomatoes, with 18.4%.

"What's most impressive is the 33.7% increase in the value of exported fruits, which shows the rise in the average price per unit.

Imports

In the first quarter of this year, vegetable imports fell compared to the same period last year, while fruit imports moved in the opposite direction. Specifically, during the aforementioned period, vegetable imports were reduced by 12.8% in terms of volume and by 10.9% in terms of value, while fruit imports grew by 4.2% in terms of volume and by 10% in terms of value.

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