



## Cherries drive 18% rise in Chilean fruit exports so far in 2018

Cherries drove an 18% year-on-year rise in Chilean fruit exports from January through August, with the FOB value reaching US\$4.6 billion.

Over the eight-month period, cherry exports grew by a massive 187% to US\$856 million, while blueberry exports rose by 39% to US\$484 million, and fresh plums by 15% to US\$158 million.

The figures were recently released by trade promotion agency ProChile.

Cherry export volume during the 2017-18 season nearly doubled year-on-year to exceed 180,000 metric tons (MT).

The growth in fruit exports contributed to a 15% overall rise in non-copper exports from Chile, which reached US\$27 billion over the period.

“This is great news for the country. While all export sectors registered positive figures, non-copper exports registered the highest figures since records began, which reinforces the country’s intention to diversify its export basket, with greater added value,” said ProChile director Jorge O’Ryan Schütz.

### Cherry hectareage overtakes grapes in O’Higgins

In Chile’s main cherry production region, O’Higgins, there are now 13,699 hectares of cherry orchards, marking growth of 58% – or 5,024 – hectares since 2015, according to figures from Ciren.

This means that cherries have now overtaken table grapes – which grew by 9% to 13,435 hectares since 2015 – as the region’s most planted fruit crop.

The varieties that saw the biggest growth were Lapins and Satina, which more than doubled over the period, each now representing around a quarter of planted hectareage.

Lien article : <https://www.freshfruitportal.com/news/2018/09/17/cherries-drive-18-rise-in-chilean-fruit-exports-so-far-in-2018/>