

## Ukraine: Temperature fluctuations and strong demand push tomato prices up

The supply of greenhouse tomatoes on the Ukrainian market is declining, according to EastFruit experts. The main reason for this, according to industry experts, is the decrease in average temperatures at night, as well as the sharp temperature fluctuations during the day. As a result, the ripening of tomatoes in greenhouses has slowed down considerably, leading to a significant reduction in the product's supply.

At the same time, the demand for tomatoes in Ukraine remains quite high, so local wholesalers, retail chains and exporters are actively buying the product. This is allowing producers to push prices up. Today, farms in the southern region are offering tomatoes from summer greenhouses for no less than 18 UAH / kg (\$ 0.64 per kg). Others are selling them for 24 to 28 UAH / kg (\$ 0.86 to 1.0 per kg), depending on quality. Thus, in just one week, tomatoes in Ukraine have become 22 to 26% more expensive.

It is also worth noting that Ukrainian farms are already shipping tomatoes for prices that are 15 to 20% more expensive than in the same period last year. Moreover, many of them admitted their intention to continue trying to raise prices as early as next week. According to the producers, the demand remains quite high, even after the price rises.

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