

Spain: Horticultural imports grew by 7% up until August

Up until August, Spanish fresh fruit and vegetable imports grew by 7% compared to the same period of 2017, totaling 1,830 million Euro. 70.5% of the purchases were made to third countries, with 1,290 million Euro, according to the latest data supplied by the General Directorate of Customs. In terms of volume, imports increased by 10%, to 2.1 million tons.

70.5% of the total value of Spanish imports during the period at hand corresponded to purchases from third countries. Morocco is the leading supplier, with 496 million Euro, 15% more than in the same months of the previous year. The volume imported from Morocco amounted to 311,184 tons (+8%). Far behind, Peru and Costa Rica are Spain's second and third largest non-EU suppliers, with 159 million Euro (+11%) in the case of Peru and 108 million (+8%) in the case of Costa Rica.

The value of Spain's fruit and vegetable imports from the EU stood at 540 million Euro, 12% less than in the previous year. France, with 179 million Euro (-15%), is the largest supplier.

By product groups, the import of vegetables in the first eight months of the year grew by 12% in terms of volume, standing at 982,037 tons, while the value was reduced by 7%, down to 492 million Euro. Potatoes are the most imported vegetable, with 582,490 tonnes (+13%) and 117.2 million Euro (-30%).

Fruit imports amounted to 1.2 million tons (+8.5%) worth 1,338 million Euro (+14%). Worthy of note is the growth of bananas, with 237,269 tons (+21%) and 125.5 million Euro (+20%), and that of avocados, with 86,640 tonnes (+30%) and 164 million Euro (+7%), and pineapples, which grew in terms of volume (+9%), reaching 113,760 tonnes, although not in terms of value (-3.5%), standing at 77.2 million Euro. Other products worth mentioning are kiwifruit, with 114.122 tons imported, and apples, with 105.739 tons, according to data from the General Directorate of Customs, processed by FEPEX.

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