

Peru: Fruits and vegetables boost agricultural sector's exports

According to the Association of Agricultural Producers' Associations of Peru (AGAP), Peruvian agricultural exports, up to October 2018, registered a growth of 15% over the same period of the previous year and amounted to US \$ 5.086 billion.

That result was mainly driven by the export of fresh fruits and vegetables (23%), equivalent to US \$ 2.534 billion, they added.

Within this sub sector, fresh fruits had the best performance, as their export increased by 30% (US \$ 2,158 million).

The main product export was Hass avocado with US \$724 million (26%). It was followed by blueberry with US \$381 million (57%), a figure that surpassed the amount achieved in all of 2017 (US \$361 million).

The list also includes grapes with US \$373 million (7%), mango with US \$204 million (46%), organic bananas with US \$142 million (14%), and pomegranates with US \$67 million (12 %).

During this period, citrus exports amounted to US \$183 million, while exports of Brazil nuts amounted to US \$60 million (46%).

Other products that surpassed the exports of 2017 were passion fruit and watermelons with US \$ 3 million each, as well as cherimoyas, dates, coconuts, and pineapples.

In the fresh vegetables sub sector, onion exports grew by 20%, and amounted to US \$49 million between January and October 2018; while peas, capsicums, tomatoes and olives exceeded the amount achieved in 2017 by US \$23 million, US \$1.3 million, US \$1 million, and US \$0.2 million, respectively.

Asparagus continued to be the most exported vegetable during this period, with shipments of US \$289 million.

Destinations

Exports to Europe already exceeded the exports to that destination in 2017, going from US \$1.141 billion to US \$ 1.158 billion, while exports to Central America went from US \$60 million to US \$65 million, export



to Oceania went from US \$7 million to US \$8 million, and exports to Africa increased from US \$ 1 million to US \$ 2 million.

Exports to North America, Asia, and South America increased by US \$950 million, US \$287 million, and US \$57 million, respectively.

The United States continued to be the main market destination with US \$908 million (18%). It was followed by the Netherlands with US \$640 million (31% and more than last year), the United Kingdom with US \$221 million (14%), China with US \$89 million, South Korea with US \$77 million (96%), and Hong Kong with US \$75 million (7%).

It is important to highlight the contribution that cocoa and Peruvian coffee have had to the country's exports, with US \$222 million (15%) and US \$500 million, respectively.

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