

## Russia harvests almost 1 million tons of greenhouse vegetables in first nine months of 2019

In the first nine months of 2019, Russian producers harvested 966.7 thousand tons of vegetables grown in protected agricultural production, out of which 897.0 thousand tons were cultivated in winter greenhouses. This is 13.5% more than the figure reached in 2018 (790.4 thousand tons). According to the report, as of October 22, 2019, 547.7 thousand tons of greenhouse cucumbers had been harvested, which is 12.8% more than in the same period of 2018 (485.5 thousand tons). Also, the tomato volume stood at 336.8 thousand tons, which is 15.2% more than in 2018 (292.4 thousand tons).

This year, the Ministry of Agriculture of Russia expects a record volume of vegetable production in winter greenhouses: 1.2 million tons. This is 18% higher than the target (1.02 million tons) and 20% more than in 2018 (1 million tons).

The leaders in the production of greenhouse vegetables are the Krasnodar and Stavropol Territories, the Lipetsk and Moscow Regions, and the Republic of Bashkortostan.

In recent years, the Russian greenhouse vegetable growing industry has given a significant boost to investment. Over the past five years, more than 1 thousand hectares of high-tech greenhouse complexes have been built and modernized. In 2018, 350 hectares of greenhouses were commissioned and modernized. The total acreage of winter greenhouses over the years has increased to 2.5 thousand hectares, which is a quarter more than in 2014.

Considering that, in terms of performance, the new greenhouses do significantly better than previously built ones, the production volumes have increased by 65% compared to 2014. By 2025, the Ministry of Agriculture expects the production of greenhouse vegetables to reach 1.5 million tons.

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