

Peruvian agro-export prices have increased during the quarantine

Peru has been in quarantine for nearly three weeks and, even though agricultural exports haven't stopped, they have slowed down. During the first two weeks (from March 16 to 29), shipments decreased by 25% when compared to the previous weeks (from March 02 to 15). This isn't normal, as shipments generally register slight growth in these weeks due to the start of the avocado and mandarin campaigns.

The avocado campaign had a good start. Up until the first half of March, avocado exports grew by more than 65% when compared to the same period of the previous year. However, during the first week of quarantine shipments only increased by 45% and then dropped 20% in the following week. On these dates, prices rose in international markets. In the United States, the kilogram of avocado went from \$ 4.65 in early March to \$ 6.85 during the first week of quarantine to stabilize at 6.09 during the second week. In March, the main avocado suppliers are Spain (18% participation) and Peru (12%). Lower shipments from both countries due to issues caused by the coronavirus have improved prices.

Mandarin shipments began in the second half of March, coinciding with the start of the quarantine. Only 396 tons have been exported so far this season, i.e. 56% less than in the same period of the previous year. Mandarin prices have also increased during the quarantine. In the United States, the price went from \$ 1.44 per kilogram during the first days of March to \$ 1.71 during the quarantine. Spain is the main supplier of mandarins during the month of March with a 38% market share. Its decrease in exports had an influence on the increase in prices.

It is clear that the context of uncertainty and the measures being taken have a negative effect on the agricultural export volume, but this has been partially offset by better prices.

Moreover, there are products that in this context find opportunities in the international market, such as bananas. In 2019, fruit exports fell 9%, a trend that continued until the first half of March 2020. During the



quarantine, banana exports showed a slight increase of 8%, compared to the previous weeks. In the United States, the kilogram of bananas went from \$ 1.26 a kilo to \$ 1.56. In this period, Ecuador is the main supplier of bananas with a 34% participation. Coincidentally, Ecuador began its quarantine together with Peru, but the effect of the quarantine was greater in that country and this generated a major improvement in international prices.

Rapport complet :

https://agfstorage.blob.core.windows.net/misc/FP_es/2020/04/07/boletin_informativo_109.pdf

Lien article :

<https://www.freshplaza.com/article/9206721/peruvian-agro-export-prices-have-increased-during-the-quarantine/>

