

Argentine citrus fruits lose up to 40% of the market after new EU regulations

The European Union's decision to suspend imports of Argentine citrus fruits has had a severe impact on the companies that produce and export these fruits. Nicolas Carlino, a cooperative leader of Monte Caseros and a member of the San Francisco cooperative, stated that this measure has left Argentine citrus-producing companies without 35% -40% of the market scheduled for 2020.

According to Carlino, this generates an important problem because Europe is a very important market for Argentina. "As a result, many companies are looking for alternatives," he said. Today, under the same conditions, Argentine citrus products are distributed to Asia and the Middle East, he said.

"We at the San Francisco cooperative continue to work with Southeast Asia, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaysia. We're interested in all of the Middle East. That's where we were already working to change the market," he said.

On the other hand, Carlino said that the prices of fresh fruit within the Argentine territory had begun to increase because there wasn't much supply. "In the Mercosur area we are fighting with Brazil to achieve an opening, but we still haven't been able to channel that. There have been lemon exports to Brazil, but we haven't been able to export the remaining sweet citrus there yet," he said.

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