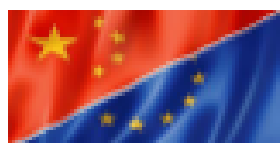


EUCOFEL - Statement EU High Level Mission to China – SIAL China 2018



(16th May 2018, Shanghai, China)

“EU fruit and vegetables producers deliver healthy, safe, tasty, affordable and high-quality food”

EUCOFEL, the European Fruit and Vegetables Trade Association, is honoured to take part in the EU Agri-food High Level Mission to China from 14th-19th May 2018. This mission is part of the business offensive of Commissioner Phil Hogan and the European Commission to facilitate the exchange and agreements between the European Union and Chinese agri-food business operators.

EU fruit and vegetables producers deliver *healthy, safe, tasty, affordable and high-quality food* to EU's consumers and the world. At the same time they are preserving Europe's traditional, cultural and natural heritage.

The European fruit and vegetable sector is a key sector in the EU agriculture, weighting 20.5% of the total EU agricultural output (vegetable sector 13.7% and fruit sector 6.8%).

The vegetable sector represented 13.7% of EU agricultural output in 2016.

- The total production of vegetables in the EU was 63.9 million tonnes: the most important producers were Spain (24.1 %) and Italy (17.4 %).

The fruit sector represented 6.8% of EU agricultural output in 2016.

- The total fruit production in the EU was 36.4 million tonnes: the most important producers were Spain (29.1%), Italy (23.9 %) and Poland (12.2%).

The EU fruit and vegetable at a glance

Vegetables in 2016	Fruits in 2016
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13.7% of all EU agricultural output. • 63.9 million tonnes: Spain (24.1%) and Italy (17.4%) most important producers. • Main producers in terms of economic value: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Netherlands (37.6 %); • Spain (16.7 %); • Italy (16.6 %). • Most important products in terms of the volume of harvested products: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tomatoes (17.9 million tonnes) • Onions (5.6 million tonnes) • Carrots (5.4 million tonnes) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6.8% of all EU agricultural output. • 36.4 million tonnes: Spain (29.1%), Italy (23.9%) and Poland (12.2%) most important producers. • Main producers in terms of economic value: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spain (33.4 %); • Italy (18.7 %); • France (13.4 %). • Most important products in terms of the volume of harvested products: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apples (12.6 million tonnes) • Oranges (6.4 million tonnes) • Peaches (2.7 million tonnes)

from Eurostat

Europe's climate is hugely varied, which means it can produce a wide range of products on a large scale, with the notable exception of tropical fruits.

In the EU, over 2.8 million hectares are given over to the production of fruit and berries and a further 2.1 million hectares to the production of vegetables.

Fruit

The EU fruit sector offers a large number of different products. The most important fruits, in terms of the volume of harvested products, were:

- Apples (12 million tonnes). Apples are produced in almost all EU Member States, although Poland (28.7%), Italy (19.5%) and France (14.3%) are, by far, the largest producers.

Fruit (1000 tonnes)	2014	2015	2016	2017	Vegetables* (1000 tonnes)	2014	2015	2016	2017
Apples	12,048	12,487	12,000	8,300	Tomatoes ¹	13,731	17,034	17,881	16,000
Oranges	6,028	6,180	6,060	3,800	Onions	5,341	5,148	5,594	6,000
Berry Peaches	3,801	3,000	3,260	3,000	Carrots	3,208	3,880	3,987	4,000
Watermelons	2,708	2,875	2,960	3,000	Cabbage	2,708	3,000	3,000	4,000
Pears	2,400	2,400	2,175	2,100	Cucumbers	2,907	2,710	2,700	2,000
Peaches	2,266	2,206	2,100	2,400	Peppers	2,404	2,516	2,514	2,000
Pink Grapes	1,648	1,728	1,775	1,700	Lettuce	2,410	2,400	2,283	2,100
Waters	1,000	1,000	1,175	1,700	Cauliflower	3,000	3,000	3,000	2,000
Acornons	1,516	1,400	1,448	1,400	Strawberries	1,350	1,400	1,520	1,500
Other	9,001	10,270	10,000	11,000	Other	10,878	14,100	10,881	11,000
TOTAL	46,692	46,820	46,000	41,700					

Source: Eurostat, AgriStat, Eurostat/FAO, AgriStat

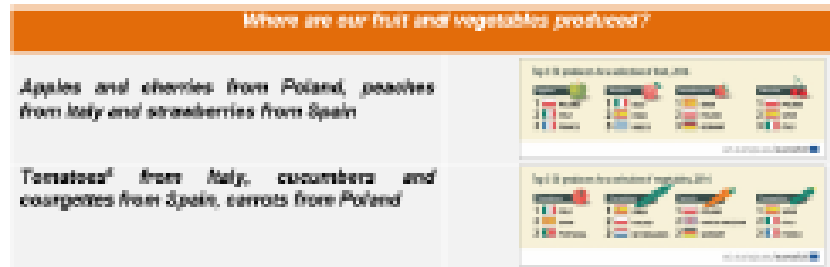
* Excluding potatoes. Including tomatoes for processing.

- Oranges (6.4 million tonnes). Orange production in the EU is much more restricted by climatic conditions; the vast majority of oranges (80.4 %) are produced in Spain (55.4%) and Italy (25.0%).
- Peaches (2.7 million tonnes). Peaches are produced in Italy (33.9%), Spain (33.6%) and Greece (23.3%), representing 91% of the EU production

Vegetables

Tomatoes, carrots and onions were the most important vegetables in 2016:

- Tomatoes (17.9 million tonnes, fresh consumption and industry). Approximately two thirds came from Italy and Spain (11.2 million tonnes).
- Onions (6.6 million tonnes). The Netherlands and Spain were the EU's main onion producing Member States, together accounting for 43.4 % of EU-28 output in 2016.
- Carrots (3.6 million tonnes). Carrot production was relatively high in Poland and the United Kingdom — together these two countries accounted for over a quarter (14.7 % and 12.9 % respectively) of EU-28 output in 2016.



Fruits and Vegetables from the EU: Quality, safety and taste

- EU law lays down strict production requirements to guarantee the standards of all European agricultural products and foodstuffs.
- European marketing standards for fruit and vegetables encourage EU growers to produce products of given quality, in conformity with the consumers' expectations.
- European consumers are very demanding about food safety and taste, which is why dealing with fresh agricultural products is subject to various legal and other buyer requirements.

Four reasons to have the European Union as a partner

1. The EU production system offers you a vast variety of high quality, safe, tasty and affordable fruits and vegetables.
2. Strict compliance with food safety regulations is a priority for every EU fruit and vegetables producer and exporter.
3. The EU fruit and vegetable producers are a reliable and committed partners.
4. Chinese consumers, as EU consumers, demand:



About EUCOFEL

Founded in 1953, EUCOFEL, the European Fruit and Vegetables Trade Association, is the main sectoral association representing, defending and promoting the European fruit and vegetable trade. Its main mission is to represent and defend the interests and trade of fruits and vegetables produced in the EU.

EUCOFEL's members are national Federations, Associations and prominent companies from the main fruit and vegetable producing countries and regions in the EU: France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal and Spain.

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