

Argentina

Country-Case Studies on Reflecting National

Circumstances and Development Priorities in

National Codes on Good Agricultural Practice that

can be benchmarked to EurepGAP

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Production & Trade patterns

2004: Argentina agroalimentary exports to UE:

16 mill Tons

4.500 mill U\$S

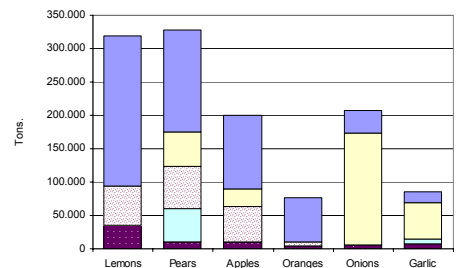
6.9 % Fruits

1.61 % Vegetables

Argentina contributes 20 % of UE imports (of 3rd countries)

- Fruits:
 - Citrus: Lemons, Oranges, Tangerines (2nd)
 - Pears
 - Apples
 - Grapes
- Vegetables:
 - Onion
 - Garlic
 - Asparagus

Argentine Exports of Fruits & Vegetables



	Lemons	Pears	Apples	Oranges	Onions	Garlic
EU	70%	47%	55%	86%	16%	19%
Russian	19%	20%	26%	9%	0%	0%
Brasil	0%	16%	14%	0%	81%	64%
USA	0%	15%	0%	0%	0%	8%
Others	11%	3%	5%	5%	3%	9%

Producer profile for the main export products

**Pears
&
Apples**

- 6.000 producers
- 50 % farms- less than 10 Has
- 41.000 workers
- Integrated: 50 % no
 - 30 % moderately-
 - 20 % completely
- Prices established in the packing place.
Reduce taxes 10 % lower if written contracts
1.500 contracts were signed
- 300 Packing plants (90 % qualified for export)
- Associated to Camera of Integrated Fruit Producers

Producer profile for the main export products

Citrus fruits

- 5.300 producers
- 529 Packing plants (15 % qualified for export)
- 100.000 Workers
- High sanitary exigencies for UE market
(Xantomonas campestris)

Garlic

- Small Farms (75 % less than 5 Has)

Onions

- Increased the surface and the yields the 90's.
- In Mendoza the 85 % of the unit of production have less than 5 Has .
- Poor pos-harvest technology.
- No integrated for trade.

Food Safety and Quality Requirements

1. EurepGAP
2. HACCP and GMP
3. BRC
4. ISO 9001
5. ISO 14000
6. Social responsibility norms (SA 8000)
7. Specials requirements of supermarkets

Argentina certified EUREPGAP (2003)

14.000 Has
150 producers

Surface in production
F&V: 560.000 Has

Awareness of Eurepgap

- Main Exporters know (or concious) the relevance of environment requirements.
- They considerer important to have implemented (almost in one farm the certification) in order to obtain the certification if they became mandatory.
- They need to be good diferenciated.

Not all the Argentine Production sent to UE is certified

% Certified ? (probably less than 20 %- variably according regions & Cultures)

Exporters: not all the suppliers are EUREPGAP certified (the owns farms).

Exporters & producers delay certification if access to market is not restrictive

Unfair Competition

Some Productions

point 8.2. Choice of Chemicals

8.2.2

Agrochemicals not register if the market is small (ex. Berries, avocados, figs)

New Approved (extension to used to comply eurepgap CP) only MRL

but not the 8.2.1, 8.2.8 (recommended & Instructions in the label) 8.2.10 pre-harvest interval.

Certification Bodies in Argentina

ARGENCERT
 BSI Inspectorate
 IRAM- Argen-INTA
 OIA
 BVQI*
 LATU Sistemas*
 SGS*
 Surveyseed*

*Certification bodies with branches in Argentina subcontracted by foreign companies.

National GAP Scheme

- "Guides of Good practices of Hygiene and Agricultural for the Primary Production (culture-harvest), Packaging, Storage and Transport of **Fresh Vegetables**", **1999**: Resolution 71/99 of SAGPyA.
- "Guides of Good practices of Hygiene and Agriculture for the Primary Production (culture-harvest), Packing, Storage and Transport of **Fresh Fruits**", **2002**: Resolution 510/02 of the SENASA.

National GAP Scheme

The objectives of the guidelines are:

- To identify the essential principles of hygiene for fresh fruit and vegetables products in the primary production (in field, under cover or in hydroponics), packing, storage and transport, in order to obtain innocuous and apt foods for human consumption.
- To provide specific recommendations for the general practices of hygiene in the primary production (culture-harvests), packing, storage and transport of vegetables and fruits.
- To offer recommendations about good agricultural practices, necessary for the maintenance of the characteristics and quality of the product.
- To establish work guidelines tending to preserve the security and health of the people involved in the production chain.
- To preserve the natural resources of the productive areas and human health, by means of the implementation of a productive system.

National GAP Scheme

Is in stage of recommendations (and as a consequence of being voluntary) their level of implementation is still low, and their diffusion is still not so relevant as to evaluate their impact

The main limitations for the implementation are:

- Insufficient **access to credits** for the required investments for the improvements of **machineries and installations**.
- Insufficient availability of sufficiently **trained personnel**.
- In some regions with traditional family productions, the attitude of the producers is a limit because of their age and their **cultural habits**.
- There is **no price premium** for the product. The producer must absorb the costs of the system (implementation and certification)

National protocol on Good Agricultural Practice

Objectives of the Argentine EUREGAP Working Technical Group were set up as follows:

- to elaborate -in a coordinated way together with official institutions- an adequate legislation as to facilitate the fulfillment of the certification requirements.
- to establish implementation guidelines for each sector.
- to make the fruits and vegetables producers aware about the EUREGAP norms
- To adjust the EUREPGAP protocols to the specific conditions of our country.

Smallholders

Risk become dependent to large exporters

Difficulties:

record keeping
 Self inspections
 Documentary needs
 Storages facilities

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