



GEOGRAPHY OF PROCESSING, STORAGE AND EXPORT OF FRUIT PRODUCTS

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Abstract: This article analyzes today's results of the geography of export of fruit and vegetable products in our country. Proposals on finding new buyers for the export of fruit and vegetable products, maintaining a high quality level, and establishing "green corridors" between countries were previously requested. At the same time, the possibilities of growing, processing, storing and exporting fruit products in Samarkand region were highlighted. Also, recommendations on the organization of agroclusters, laboratories, logistics centers in the regions for the further development of this network in the future are presented.

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Introduction.

Unfortunately, the efforts to further increase fruit and vegetable production, to deliver it to the population and to export it are not sufficient. Today, only 20% of the fruits and vegetables grown in our country are processed, and only 8% are exported. These indicators are still low in particular, Syrdarya, Jizzakh, Khorezm, Kashkadarya and Tashkent regions. In January-December 2021, 1,521,800 tons of fruits and vegetables were exported to foreign countries with a total value of 957.3 million dollars, which has almost doubled compared to 2018. It is predicted that the export of fruits and vegetables in our republic will reach 2.5 billion dollars in 2022, and 5 billion dollars in 2023. As a result of this, in 2021, due to favorable climatic conditions, an abundant harvest of fruits and berries was obtained in our republic. As a result, in 2021, a total of 325.4 thousand tons of fruit products worth 402.3 million dollars were exported. Compared to 2020, fruit export increased by 116.0% or 44.8 thousand tons, the

value increased by 111.8% or 48.4 million dollars. During the period under study, 27.6 thousand tons of processed fruit and vegetable products worth 26.6 million dollars were exported to 33 foreign countries. It can be seen that the export of fruits and vegetables in our republic is increasing year by year. Nevertheless, it is possible to achieve high efficiency by expanding the export geography of fruit and vegetable products and finding new buyers.

Main part of the paper.

Consequently, there is work to be done, untapped opportunities and challenges in the network. In particular, the need to create infrastructure in accordance with international standards and to establish "green corridors" between countries in order to deliver the grown products on time, while maintaining a high level of quality, based on the demand of foreign countries, is becoming evident.

Table 1. Export of fruit and vegetable products in Uzbekistan (thousand tons)

No	Type of product	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2021 in % compared to 2020
1	Vegetables	364,1	670,1	643,0	403,6	801,5	220,1
2	Fruits and berries	284,5	307,6	294,6	280,6	325,4	114,4
3	Grape	213,9	206,8	158,9	208,5	270,6	126,5
4	Peanuts	13,5	29,3	18,2	23,5	22,0	169,2
5	Melon and watermelon	28,1	16,5	29,7	22,7	82,9	295,0

It was developed by the author based on the information of the State Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan

In accordance with the resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On additional measures to increase the efficiency of the export of fruit and vegetable products to the foreign market”, it is significant because it is aimed at simplifying the work and services aimed at organizing the export of fruit and vegetable products in the regions [2-1]. As a result, the processes of growing and exporting fruit products in our republic are changing radically. Depending on the geographical location of Uzbekistan, fruits and berries are widespread in places suitable for their growth, development and production [3-6]. Including in Samarkand region, great attention is being paid to the geography of growing fruit products and exporting them to foreign countries in the following years.

As of January 1, 2021, a total of 345,624 tons were harvested in all economic categories, and the yield was 107.8 tons/ha. 39.3% of the grown fruits are contributed by farms, 48.6% by farmers and 12.1% by agricultural enterprises. 59.8 percent of the fruits grown in the region were seeded fruits, 29.1 percent were grains, 4.7 percent were nuts, 4.3 percent were subtropical, 2.0 percent were berries, and 0.1 were citrus fruits. 31.2% of the total fruits of the region were used for processing, 22.4% for export, 8.5% for the city of Tashkent and other fairs, 0.6% for healthcare, educational institutions and organizations, and 37.4% for the domestic market and domestic consumption. In January-July 2022, a total of 106.1 thousand tons of fruits and vegetables were exported to foreign countries for 108 million dollars. Apples accounted for 28.5% of exported fruits, pears for 9.4%, apricots for 5.6%, peaches for 19.1%, cherries for 2.9%, cherries for 5.9%, plums for 3.8%, and the remaining 24.8% for formed by other fruits. [4]

The main goal of reforms in the agrarian sector of our country is to develop the sector at the level of modern requirements, to increase product quality and efficiency, and to ensure stable economic growth. The main factor of stable economic growth of our regions depends on the well-formedness and development of agro-industrial sectors. In our republic, serious attention is paid to the rational use of new ideas and modern methods aimed at the development of the agricultural sector. As a result, stable economic growth is ensured in the industry, and the volume of production of competitive goods is increasing. In the resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 11, 2019 “On additional measures to further develop the fruit and vegetable and viticulture industry, to create a value added chain in the sector”, it was aimed at the organization of clusters for the cultivation, processing and export of fruit and vegetable and grape products.

Today, Samarkand region has great potential in the field of cultivation and processing of high-quality, competitive, exportable products by creating intensive varieties of fruits. It serves to ensure sustainable economic growth in agriculture by establishing production of products intended for export in regional fruit growing. At the same time, the export potential of horticultural products and activities among its growers and producers in the regions are not developed to a significant extent. In regional horticulture, there are many problems in implementing infrastructure that fully meets international standards. As a result, there is a need to apply international standards to the network. That is why it is necessary to create methods of introducing international standards in horticultural production enterprises. Any product is brought to the market after it is produced or grown.

Competitiveness in the market primarily reflects the quality indicators of the products offered to the market. Product quality indicators are usually determined based on the interests of the producer, while competitiveness is determined mainly based on the interests of consumers. Several factors of natural-climatic, technical-technological, socio-economic importance affect the quality of fruit products. Natural factors that affect the quality of fruit products include soil composition, climatic conditions, duration of the growing season of plants, solar temperature, light and humidity levels.

In country, including in the Samarkand region, the vegetation period lasts from March to the end of November. Such favorable natural and climatic conditions create the opportunity to grow fruits and get an abundant harvest. One of today's main demands is to deliver high-quality fruit products with a unique taste and high consumption characteristics to consumers in the local and global markets.

Samarkand region is the leader in terms of population in our republic. One of the most important issues in the development of the region's economy is the issue of providing employment to the population and fully satisfying their needs. Today, as the volume of products consumed by the population is increasing, the demand for agricultural products is also growing year by year. Continuous supply of horticulture products to the residents of the region is one of the urgent issues. In order to meet consumer demand, it is necessary to improve the processes of growing, processing, storing and exporting more agricultural products, including fruit products.

For this, the issue of increasing labor productivity and creating new jobs through the widespread introduction of the agrocluster method in the cultivation, processing, storage and export of fruit products in the forms of farming specialized in

horticulture in regional districts is of socio-economic importance. In paragraph 3.3 of the Actions Strategy for the Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2017-2021 the relevance of the issues such as implementation of investment projects in the modernization and rapid development of agriculture, construction of new processing enterprises equipped with the most modern high-tech equipment for deep processing of agricultural products, production of semi-finished and finished food and packaging products, is highlighted.

Therefore, in the agriculture of Samarkand region, including horticulture, production of exportable products through processing is being carried out. For this purpose, the most up-to-date new technologies and equipment are brought from abroad, and investments are made to modernize enterprises. It cannot be said that the work being carried out in Samarkand region on the production of high-quality, ecologically safe and unique taste fruit products, their classification according to quality indicators, storage, packaging and delivery in a convenient way for consumers is not being fully implemented. Because of this, the level of marketing and advertising-information provision between the producer and the recipient of the product partially meets today's requirements. For this reason, some of the fruits exported to foreign countries are not at the level of demand when they are tested in the laboratory and are returned.

Conclusion and results.

For this purpose, in addition to the organization of modern laboratories that carry out accurate inspections of the quality indicators of fruit products, the design and packaging of fruits, price, cost, environmental safety, compliance with technical norms and standards, guarantees and warranty periods, pre-sale and after-sales service. It is desirable to properly organize services such as condition, timely arrival of goods to the market. When evaluating the quality of fruit products, vitamins, microelements, and nutritional value are of primary importance. In addition to these, the reliability of the product for consumers, i.e., whether it has passed a laboratory test and safety for consumption are also important indicators.

It is important to implement the following measures in order to ensure the competitiveness of the products of enterprises exporting fruit products, farms and private enterprises in the world markets:

- further development of state support mechanisms for fruit products exported abroad;
- introducing information about changes in the market situation, prospective markets, competitors by helping fruit exporting enterprises to reduce production and sales costs;

- taking into account that transport and communication systems carry out the main task in the export of fruits, reducing the costs of transporting export goods by opening new transport corridors;

- introduction of international standards intended for the production of innovative fruit products in order to increase the competitiveness of fruits;

- to further expand the scope of cooperation with foreign countries in the field of standardization of modern technologies, metrology and quality certification.

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