

JANUARY 2018

ISSUE: 13

MONTHLY BULLETIN | NAFTC TURKEY

Turkish egg producers started to export to Europe

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Turkish egg producers started to export to a number of European countries where productions slumped due to insecticide scandals from last July. First exports were made to Greece after a sanction was lifted on Turkey. Turkey meets the eligibility criteria for the European Union's (EU) import of eggs and is one of the countries on the EU's import list.

"Turkey could not export any of its animal products to EU for years due to animal health rules and regulations. Now Turkey has opened the door slightly with egg exports. Confidence in Turkish eggs will now build up in EU countries. We want to take advantage of the egg supply deficit and higher prices in the EU. Therefore, we are in communication with many European countries including the Netherlands, France and Poland.", said Dr. Huseyin Sungur, the Secretary General of the Central Union of Egg Producers.

UPCOMING EVENTS

1 - 4 February 2018 – Agro-expo, Izmir



The Aegean Fisheries and Animal Product Exporters Association Vice Chairman, Bedri Girit said the pastry and cake industry has been the worst hit. *“They have been observing egg production in Turkey for years. They preferred us because they knew that our products are healthy. We have started exporting category B products. There is little difference between category A and category B products. Eggs that will be pasteurized are classified in the B category,”* he added.

Previously, Eggs –coming mainly from the Netherlands– have been found to contain fipronil which is a type of substance used to get rid of fleas and ticks from animals

that is banned by the EU for use in the food industry. After the discovery of fipronil contaminated eggs, millions of eggs and egg products have been recalled. After authorities confirmed that fipronil had been used, about 180 Dutch farms have been temporarily shut down. The European Commission said that eggs contaminated with the insecticide have been discovered in 40 countries, including 24 of the European Union’s 28 member states.

The duration of compliance with certain hygienic rules on raw milk processing has been extended

The Turkish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Livestock announced that the period of compliance with certain special hygienic rules for the processing of raw milk is postponed until the end of 2019. The amendment of ‘the Regulation on Special Hygienic Rules for Animal Fertilizers’ was published on the Official Gazette. Thereby, dairy enterprises will have 2 years to make necessary changes in their farms and production sites.



Trade in livestock to continue in 2018

Last month, the Turkish Meat and Milk Board (ESK) shook hands with two supermarket chains for cheap red meat sales



The ESK announced that A101 and BIM supermarket chains were found qualified to meet the criteria they put. As such, ESK will deliver carcass meat to these companies to start sales in their supermarkets in 81 provinces.

Accordingly, one kilogram of meat cubes will be sold for TRY 31 (EUR 6.8) and one kg of minced meat will be sold for TRY 29 (EUR 6.4) in these supermarkets. The chains will not be allowed to sell red meat for higher than the above mentioned prices.

The Turkish Minister of Agriculture, Food and Livestock (MinFAL), Dr. Ahmet Esref Fakibaba said the government is searching ways to cut red meat prices. “We will increase the number of heifers and will reduce calf deaths. Vaccinations, ear tags and their applications will be free of charge. When we lower the calf mortality rate, large part of the problem is solved. We declared 2018 as a working year to reduce calf mortality.”, added Dr. Fakibaba.

Despite rising production, red meat prices are still above world average in Turkey. The Ministry has been implementing several measures including subsidies given to the producers. However, the government policies have not been effective to decrease the meat prices.

Subsidies being offered for individual irrigation machinery and equipment

The Ministry of Food Agriculture and Livestock (MinFAL) announced subsidy on the purchase of individual irrigation machinery and equipment is being given to farmers



As per the announcement, the government will provide 50% cash compensation on the purchase of individual irrigation machinery and equipment. The value of machinery and equipment shall not exceed TRY 1,000,000.

According to an announcement, following investment topics are eligible for the subsidy: establishment of in-field drip irrigation systems, in-field sprinkler irrigation systems, in-field micro irrigation systems, underground sub-surface drip irrigation systems, linear or a center pivot irrigation systems, tumble irrigation systems and irrigation systems with solar energy.

The application period for the subsidy for individual irrigation machinery and equipment will continue until 1 March 2018.

In Turkey, agricultural irrigation consumes more than 70% of total water. However, getting enough water to crops is still a major problem due to the traditional irrigation methods that are in use.

Turkey's crop production increased

Turkish Statistical Institute (TurkStat) published a press release on crop production statistics in 2017



According to the TurkStat report, increase was occurred in the production of cereals and other crops, vegetables and fruits in 2017 with rates of 4.2%, 1.8% and 9.7% compared to the last year.

Production quantities of cereals and other crops, vegetables and fruits in 2017 became as follows; 68 million 61 thousand tons for cereals and other crops, 30 million 826 thousand tons for vegetables, 20 million 809 thousand tons for fruits.

Ornamental plants production in 2017 increased by 7% compared to the previous year. While cut flowers had a share of 64.9%, other ornamental plants had 35.1% share in the total ornamental plant production.

Agro-expo is to take place in Izmir

'International Agriculture, Greenhouse and Livestock Exhibition' will take place in Izmir between February 1st and 4th

Organized by the Orion Fair Organization, Agro-expo 2018 is going to take place between 1-4 February 2018 at the Gaziemir International Fair Area in Izmir.

Being Turkey's biggest agricultural exhibition, Agro-expo is a platform where domestic and foreign visitors can find all the products they seek for in their area of interest. Last year, Agro-expo brought 750 exhibitors and almost 300,000 visitors together from all over the world.



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