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Top 5 - yesterday

South African blueberry expansion takes industry by surprise
 US: navel orange grower adopts 64 lanes of grading technology
 Persian lime demand soft as yield remains strong
 Argentina unable to export lemons to US until 2018
 "We put our energy into making a taste profile for each customer"

Plenty of hot peppers from the Dominican Republic

People in the west don't realize how big the spicy food market is. Excluding Mexico, gastronomic culture in America is quite conservative regarding flavors containing spicy ingredients.



The Dominican Republic is no exception to this rule despite having a big production and a diverse offer of peppers, which includes: Bell peppers from greenhouses, chilis and, best of all, Jamaican hot peppers. Among these, only the bell pepper has an important local market in the country.

Nevertheless, the industry is focusing on the overseas market including the Netherlands, France, Italy, United Kingdom, Belgium, United States and Canada, which are the main destinations for exports.

Exporters says they sell three boxes of peppers per box of eggplant they ship. It's an indicator of how important the peppers are in the daily diet of the consumers of oriental vegetables in these markets.

In 2017, Dominican Republic has had an active interaction with the foreign markets, with the specialized Trade Fair Agroalimentaria 2017, and with the visit of multiple importers from Europe and North America. It is not a coincidence that one important need in their proform orders is the hot peppers, specially the red Jamaican pepper.

Knowing that, some exporters have been making arrangements with their growers and on their own lands, in order to guarantee a high-quality offer combined with consistency for regular shipments worldwide.

Companies like F&B Export and Cayena Export, are good examples of smart responsive actions taken. Both companies are managing multiple plots distributed in different parts of the country in order to mitigate weather risks and ensure consistent availability for the high season coming soon in the next few weeks.

The Export Quality Program (USDA-IESC) is helping these and other exporters in multiple initiatives such as getting certifications and improving their internal inspection processes, aimed at complying with the international market requirements.

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Top 5 - last week

Dominican Republic evaluates damage after Hurricane Maria
 Hainan dragon fruit leads China towards a green and healthy lifestyle
 Expansion overseas, new markets, new trade fairs, a new approach
 Chile positions itself to meet future food challenges
 Argentina: First shipment of blueberries sent to the US

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Top 5 - last month

Dominican Republic evaluates damage after Hurricane Maria
 Report on the first round of negotiations to update NAFTA
 Ardo and VLM Foods join forces in the North American Market
 Ruby Valencia: An orange with the flavour and characteristics of grapefruit
 Ruby Fresh acquired by the Wonderful Company

Other news in this sector:

10/3/2017 Walsh Mushrooms launch a Vitamin D Mushroom
 10/3/2017 Why Pakistan has banned tomato imports from India
 10/3/2017 Cambodia PM urges citizens to stop buying chemically grown vegetables
 10/3/2017 Asparagus could help to significantly detox the liver
 10/3/2017 Chile: Fresh asparagus exports resume after 15 years
 10/3/2017 Spanish broccoli will be needed earlier in Europe
 10/3/2017 Spain: 7 out of 10 tomatoes exported to the EU come from Almeria and Granada
 10/3/2017 Very diverse: 800 different pumpkin varieties
 10/2/2017 US asparagus seed company expands international presence
 10/2/2017 Early start for The World of Mushrooms
 10/2/2017 Bostwana bans import of potatoes and other vegetables
 10/2/2017 Dominican Republic addressing prevalence of thrips among veg exports
 10/2/2017 "Mediocre spring for vegetables partly compensated by lack of summer slump"
 10/2/2017 China: Zhangzhou konjac sold to Portugal for the first time
 9/29/2017 Organic mushroom popularity increasing monthly
 9/29/2017 Virginia's bountiful pumpkin harvest to continue until end October
 9/29/2017 AU: Low tomato & capsicum prices following Debbie could put growers out of business
 9/29/2017 Spain largest importer of Peruvian Piquillo peppers
 9/29/2017 Underground air-raid shelter in London turned into urban farm
 9/29/2017 Morrisons launches £5 wonky veg box

Exchange rates [more »](#)

USD: 1.1744
 JPY: 132.50
 GBP: 0.88418
 AUD: 1.5036
 BRL: 3.7274
 CAD: 1.4693
 CNY: 7.8138
 NZD: 1.6336
 ZAR: 16.0141

Euro foreign exchange reference rates
 Source: ECB

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