

## Colombian bananas' export volume increased by 2.5% in 2018

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The Association of Colombian Banana Producers (Augura) reported that in 2018 Colombia was able to export bananas to international markets up to 100.49 million boxes, with a total value of 859.2 million US dollars, increased from the volume of the previous year of 98.01 million boxes, which is worth 850 million US dollars, despite the fact that the agricultural sector of the country had experienced climate problems causing a reduction of the production.

In 2018, the banana producers in Colombia faced difficulties from climate factors, such as strong wind in many cultivation areas, La Niña phenomenon, unusual rainy season, and higher temperature, causing a reduction of the production for several months. Also, the oversupply of the fruit in many countries made the price of banana dropped. However, Colombia managed to increase the export volume of its bananas by 2.5% from 2017, with a total value of 859.2 US dollars. European countries are the principle export markets.

Mr. Juan Camilo Restrepo Gomez, President of Augura, said that in 2019 the association has many projects to promote banana export, such as, the use of national seal or certificate of origin for bananas produced in Colombia, in order to create a trade strategy to increase the sales in the existing export markets and to seek opportunities in new markets.

Source: <https://www.elcolombiano.com/negocios/crece-exportacion-de-banano-en-colombia-CC10211021>