

Export of products with “Argentine Food” mark seen tripled

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The Government Secretariat of Agroindustry, Ministry of Production and Labour of Argentina, announced that in the first quarter of the 2019, there are more food products certified with the quality assurance seal called "Argentine Food, Natural Choice" (Spanish: Alimentos Argentinos, una Elección Natural), and also the value of the FOB price from exports of these food products has been tripled. With a total of 438 products certified with the seal, 9,204.98 tons have been exported, making revenue of 15,812,847 USD, compared to the same period in the year 2018 with 162 certified food products with the export amount of only 5,389 tons, earning 5,182,755 USD.

The increased export value is also a result of the increased amount of type of product. In the first quarter of last year, the food products that received such certified seal were lemon, raisin and mate herb. But, in the same period of this year, there are 7 more types of products: olive oil, cherries, frozen cooked beef fillet, organic honey, concentrated grape juice, frozen pre-fried potatoes, and pistachios. The increased amount of type of product is a result of an increase in companies that have gained benefits from the Argentine Food quality assurance seal. The seal has made them recognized and given them advantages in the market, also has created confidence among the consumers both domestically and internationally.

As for the products that have been certified with other measures, such as Geographic Indication or Certificate of Origin (abbreviated as IG / DO), 4 certificates of export tax return have been issued for 3,810 tons of mate herb exported to Syria with the FOB price value of 7,354,524.61 USD. There is no certificate of export tax return for the products certified with the quality assurance seal issued in the first quarter of this year.

However, the measure of an additional 0.5% tax return for the export of products certified with the Argentine Food quality assurance seal, including products that are certified with the organic standards or received the Geographic Indication or Certificate of Origin certificated seal, is still in effect. The exporter must register themselves online to receive this benefit.

The issuance of these certification seals is made by the National Directorate of Food and Beverage, under the Food and Bio-economic Department of the Government Secretariat of Agroindustry, with the objective of providing the quality SMEs of food business with a certification seal that makes their products stand out in the international market and promoting the brands of the country to be more recognized in the world market.

These measures have been made in accordance with the goal of increasing the potential of the agricultural industry development in various ways, both in the production and territory management sectors, by promoting value-adding for agricultural, livestock and food products. The operations are divided into three groups: strengthening the regional economy, developing the related production processes, and improving the function of the value chain.

Source: <https://www.foodnewslatam.com/paises/73-argentina/9111-se-triplicaron-las-exportaciones-de-productos-con-sello-de-alimentos-argentinos.html>

Thailand Office of Agricultural Affairs, Los Angeles

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