

EN

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Answer given by Mr Wojciechowski  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(7.4.2021)

For marketing year 2019/2020, the EU27 imported around 2.2 million tonnes of citrus fruit<sup>1</sup>, of which 260 thousand tonnes from Turkey.

This corresponds to legally imported citrus fruits which are required to respect relevant EU laws and requirements including those related to plant-health and residues of plant protection products. The Commission follows, on a regular basis, the evolution of the citrus market<sup>2</sup>.

The citrus market in the EU is characterized by high level of domestic consumption as well as significant intra-EU trade flows. On top of national strategies, there are EU tools at the disposal of EU producers to become even more competitive on the EU market as well as abroad such as promotion programmes<sup>3</sup> and the market-management scheme through the set-up of producers organisations and operational programmes.

Currently, consignments of oranges, mandarins, clementines, wilkings and similar citrus hybrids from Turkey are listed in Annex I to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793<sup>4</sup>, according to which they are subject to an increased level of official controls upon their entry into the EU. The Commission keeps these control measures regarding citrus fruit imported from Turkey under review in the light of available information on control results and on measures taken by the Turkish authorities to ensure compliance of exported consignments with EU legislation.

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<sup>1</sup> Citrus fruit includes grapefruit, oranges, lemons, mandarins, clementine, lime and other citrus. Source: <https://agridata.ec.europa.eu/extensions/DashboardCitrus/CitrusTrade.html>

<sup>2</sup> Fruit and vegetables market observatory: [https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/farming/facts-and-figures/markets/overviews/market-observatories/fruit-and-vegetables\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/food-farming-fisheries/farming/facts-and-figures/markets/overviews/market-observatories/fruit-and-vegetables_en).

<sup>3</sup> For 2021, the total envelope for fruits and vegetables sector has been increased to around EUR 19 million.

<sup>4</sup> Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1793 of 22 October 2019 on the temporary increase of official controls and emergency measures governing the entry into the Union of certain goods from third countries implementing Regulations (EU) 2017/625 and (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 277, 29.10.2019, p. 89).