

The EU imported a record 1.57 million tons of citrus fruit this season

This season, the European Union has imported a record-breaking 1,572,564 tons of citrus, marking the highest level on record. This information comes from a report published Wednesday by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food (MAPA), based on data from September 2025 to May 2026.

The report attributes the all-time high to September shipments from South Africa and ongoing shipments from Turkey and Egypt since the beginning of the year. The volume surpasses the cumulative total for the same period in the 2022–2023 season, which was previously the highest, and amounts to 1,564.3 million euros, the highest in recent seasons. This is a 16.4% increase over the total from September to May of last season, and 30.8% above the average of the last five seasons.

The report highlights a notable rise in imports of small citrus fruits like clementines and mandarins, which increased by 55.4% in volume -reaching a record high- and also an 8.6% increase in orange imports. South Africa remains the top citrus supplier, holding a 31.4% market share and increasing volumes by 27.8% compared to the five-year average. Egypt ranks second, with a 31% rise above average, while Turkey falls to third with slightly below-average volumes. Morocco ranks fourth, with a 7.3% growth.

So far in 2026, citrus import volume from third countries totals 841,256 tons, 23.4% higher than in 2025 and 22.9% above the 2021–2025 average. For this period, Egypt leads with a 50.5% share and a 30.4% volume increase, driven by higher orange imports over the last three months. Turkey ranks second with an 18.8% share and a 22.7% increase; Morocco is third with a 14.7% increase; and South Africa is fourth, in the early stages of its season, with a 59.8% increase compared with the average over the last five years.

Frontpage photo: © Grafnata | Dreamstime

Publication date: Tue 18 Aug 2026

-
-

Related Articles → See More



- **"Growing citrus surpluses as South African cultivation continues to expand"**



- **Castellón's citrus industry is struggling to control the red spider mite**



- **Texas A&M's radiation breeding created the Rio Red grapefruit**



- **Cambodia approves Israeli citrus imports for coming season**



- **South Korea's Jeju tangerines to enter Uzbekistan in November**



- **Pricing expected to strengthen on California Valencias**



•

U.S. citrus greening treatment receives EPA registration



- **Berkane soft citrus harvest approaches with stable volumes expected**



- **"The demand has been encouraging, supported by the fruit's eating quality"**



- **The EU imported a record 1.57 million tons of citrus fruit this season**

