

Garlic production in San Juan Province, Argentina is gradually recovering



Garlic production has always been an important agricultural activity in the province of San Juan, Argentina. Between 2005 and 2009, nearly 2,000 hectares of land and 25 packaging sheds in the province were dedicated to this production. Subsequently, local garlic production has stalled slightly, but garlic cultivation in the area is now recovering. Luis Kulichevsky, an engineer from INTA's rural extension agency in Positto province, said that this season there will be about 1500 hectares of land dedicated to garlic. Kulichevsky said: "Last season, producers earned 0.80 to 1 US dollar per kilogram of dried garlic." The expert said: "China and Spain have high production this season, but no one knows whether China can sell products normally due to special circumstances. China usually exports 1.5 million tons of garlic annually, while Argentina only exports 80,000 tons. According to Kulichevsky, the current world situation leads to great uncertainty in export prices. He said: "For example, the United States imported 70% of its garlic from China. Today this country is severely affected by special circumstances. San Juan exports white garlic to the United States and Europe, and purple garlic to Brazil." He said. "Argentine's garlic consumption is very low, about 150 grams per person per year, while Brazil's per capita garlic consumption is 1.5 kg, and Spain's is 3 to 4 kg. If our country increases consumption, producers' income will increase." "Compared to other countries, San Juan garlic is known for its high nutrient content. Producers perform phytosanitary treatments to control pests such as

fungal diseases in weeds, leaves and soil, as well as pests Such as thrips and nematodes. "

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