

EurepGAP Certified Area Nearly Doubled in First Half of 2004

Cologne: With total numbers about 40 % up and area nearly doubled (+90 %) since December 2003, the latest statistics (June 2004) from the EurepGAP database revealed an accelerating growth in the first half of 2004. Certificates have now been issued in more than 50 countries, coming from 65 approved certification bodies.

The table below shows numbers of certified growers and aggregate hectares for Fruit and Vegetables (EurepGAP and approved schemes) as they have been reported to the Secretariat by the responsible Certification Bodies and benchmarked schemes. They do not yet include the new large applicant schemes that are currently in the benchmarking recognition process, which will bring a further boost during the next 12 months.

Country	Number of certified growers			Certified area/hectares (until June 2004)
	2002	2003	Additional January-June 2004	
Argentina		50	+104	14,999
Australia		4	+4	771
Austria		430	./.	-
Belgium	163	636	+317	14,409
Brazil	5	31	+77	11,916
Canada		1	+7	601
Chile	34	34	+424	34,210
China	-	19	+1	199
Colombia		8	+12	425
Costa Rica		26	+96	36,062
Cuba			+1	-
Cyprus	3	12	+186	1,277
Dominican Republic			+5	-
Ecuador			+12	1,231
Egypt	45	116	./.	11,566
Ethiopia			+4	408
France	10	268	+108	8,733
Gambia		1	./.	-
Germany	43	344	+136	9,490
Ghana	1	84	./.	2,109
Greece	114	411	+14	6,321
Guatemala		2	+3	1,187
Honduras		1	./.	-
Hungary		1	./.	-
India			+12	94
Ireland			+1	-
Israel	1	75	+544	14,863

Country	Number of certified growers			Certified area (June 2004)
	2002	2003	Additional January-June 2004	
Italy	142	235	+359	6,116
Jamaica			+2	1,161
Kenya	15	8	+20	1,676
Malta		106	./.	98
Mexico		2	+2	60
Morocco		9	+22	1,499
Namibia		6	+2	532
Netherlands Antilles			+568	6,750
New Zealand		423	+409	16,506
Peru		12	+1	2,466
Poland		2	+4	142
Portugal	17	17	+2	1,687
Puerto Rico	1	2	./.	776
South Africa	255	926	+735	110,327
Spain	1,011	1,844	+1105	66,721
Sweden			+3	390
Tanzania/United Republic			+2	18
Thailand	3	48	+1	376
The Netherlands	2,015	3,382	./.	81,978
Turkey		16	+86	2,905
United Kingdom	12	3,400*	./.	Approx. 230,000
Uruguay		1	+2	1,581
USA	2	10	+33	14,316
Zambia			+2	1,025
Zimbabwe		19	+24	4,270
Total:	3,892	13,022	+5,452	724,247

* approx. number of growers of the Assured Produce Scheme