


Honduras reached a new record for melon exports in the 2010-11 season with a shipment value of US\$50.6 million, website *Elheraldo.hn* reported. 

The statistics were released by the Honduras Central Bank (BCH) and the Agriculture and Livestock Secretary (SAG), attributing the rise to a slight increase in international prices, particularly in the European Union.

The industry has made big strides since its canteloupes were banned from the U.S. market due to a salmonella health scare in 2008 which forced growers to improve farming techniques.

The country exported 240 million kilograms (528lbs) during the 2010-11 season, representing a 3.6% increase on the previous season.

The story reported England, France, Germany, Italy and Spain showed the biggest increase in interest for Honduran melons, with canteloupe, honeydew and galia as the main varieties.

Photo: Fanatic Cook

www.freshfruitportal.com