

RASPBERRY TRADE AS A STRATEGIC EXPORT POTENTIAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA¹

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Abstract

International trade in agricultural products is gaining importance, and it happens under extremely restrictive conditions. Analysis of raspberry production shows that agro ecological conditions in Serbia are favorable for raspberry cultivation. Unpolluted land, favorable climate, enough sunlight, helps the raspberries to have better organoleptic and production characteristics, more intense aroma, color and taste compared to raspberries from other countries. The raspberry is a natural Serbian brand. The subject of the research shall be the analysis of international trade in raspberries, precisely because of the importance of exports of agricultural food products, especially the raspberries, in the total export of Serbia, with the aim to analyze the level of international competitiveness of the raspberries production and export. In this paper, we have dynamically observed the raspberries trade in the world: quantity, value, and unit price, and then according to the same methodology also the export from Serbia.

Key words: agricultural products, international raspberry trade, agricultural food products exports

Introduction

International trade in agricultural products represents an integral part of the global trade. International trade in agricultural products is influenced by very complex relations and significant differences in the degree of economic development of individual countries, but by also many other factors. According to Djordjevic (2011, 25), these activities are taking place in the global market. Đorđević (2011) points out, that the market is a big and automatic regulator between production and consumption in the commodity economy. By studying the market one analyzes the creation, the role, the types, the functioning of the market mechanism and market laws, the way of production, the way of directing and coordinating economic flows and conditions of material and social development (Trivić & Šagi, 2008). According to Grandov (2010) development of production resources is

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accompanied by the expansion of the spatial framework of trade and the gradual encompassing of branches of material production.

The significance of the market observation stems from the fact that in modern ways the economy of the population needs can be organized only through a market mechanism (Tričković & Hanić, 1992). Precisely from this fact arises the very important role of the market in the conditions of commodity production, and therefore due attention must be paid to it (Trivić & Šagi, 2008, 6). The export of agricultural products is the result of high and efficient domestic production. Many mechanisms influence the international trade of agricultural products, such as customs tariffs, premiums, licenses, special agreements and prohibitions, in particular the policy of parity prices and credit policy, with the aim of developing domestic agriculture and agro-industry and its' protection against foreign competition. The largest exporters are the developed countries, although the undeveloped ones are gaining importance. Ricardo's theory underlines that underdeveloped countries participate in trade, or trade with developed countries, except in cases where one country is more efficient in production than another country. This provides significant resources for the import of energy generating products, capital equipment and other industrial products.

The agrarian sector has a significant share in the structure of the total foreign trade, so the achieved results in this sector can influence the improvement of the foreign trade balance and the balance of the overall national economy.

Agricultural and food industry provide over 15 million workplaces in the EU, accounting for 8.3% of all employed citizens of the Union. This is the average size for the entire EU, which varies significantly from one country to another. In the so-called "old" EU member states (15 industrially developed countries of Western Europe) the average value is 4%, while in the "new" Member States (Romania, Bulgaria, Slovakia, Hungary) more than 12% of total workforce is engaged in agriculture and food industry. Agricultural production participates in the GDP of the European countries with 2-3%, but in countries such as Bulgaria and Romania it can amount to up to 10% of the national GDP (Vapa-Tankosić & Stojsavljević, 2014).

The low value added agricultural products are present in the international market, while the exported quantities are higher than imported ones (Cvijanović & Ignjatijević, 2017). In the international market there is a decrease in price-competitive products, which shows that cheaper agricultural products from Serbia hardly compete with suppliers from other countries.

The raspberry production has high marketability and represents a significant part in the export of Serbian agrarian products. It is consumed in fresh condition, or processed: in the form of juices, syrups, "kompot" (non-alcoholic sweet beverage consisting of mainly fruits, sugar, and water), sweet, natural liquor or in pharmaceutical and cosmetics industry. According to the estimates the raspberries in Serbia, has begun to be massively planted in the mid-fifties (Ignjatijević & Milojević, 2011). The raspberries are grown on the territory of around 12,000 hectares in Serbia. The absolute dominant producers of its production are represented by family households with a share of 99%, while agro-industrial enterprises have, practically, a negligible share in the production of this fruit.

The largest production, regionally observed, with a quarter of domestic production, is realized in the Zlatibor region: the municipalities of Arilje, Bajina Basta, Kosjerić, Nova Varoš, Požega, Priboj, Prijepolje, Sjenica, Užice and Čajetina (Kjajić, 2017; Vlahović, 2003a). The districts of Moravica, Kolubara, Mačva and Rasina, which jointly have a share of 87% in the domestic production of this fruit, are also important in the raspberry production. The supply of raspberries is done through two channels, through an organized purchase, which accounts for 90% of the total supply, and the market place and peasant's

exchange, which accounts for the rest 10% (Vlahović, 2003b). It is evident that organized purchase is a far more important channel than the marketplace. The future possibilities are reflected in the production of high quality assortment in order to increase efficiency and qualitative competitiveness on the world market. It is necessary to create new varieties to prolong the harvest in order to have a successful export of fresh raspberries. It is necessary to programmatically and economically define the development of raspberry production and its' processing in a wide range of products, with the increased exports in existing markets, also with the conquest of new markets.

The subject of the research shall be the analysis of international trade in raspberries, precisely because of the importance of exports of agricultural food products, especially the raspberries, in the total export of Serbia, with the aim to analyze the level of international competitiveness of the raspberries production and export. In this paper, we have dynamically observed the raspberries trade in the world: quantity, value, and unit price, and then according to the same methodology also the export from Serbia.

2. Results of the research

The results of the research, represented in Table 1, have shown that the average export and import prices of raspberries in the world do not have a certain trend of growth or decline, but that the fluctuations are present from year to year. The countries with the highest prices of exported raspberries are: Ireland, with an average price of 13350 \$/ton; France, with an average price of 10155 \$/ton; Portugal, with an average price of \$ 9778/ton. The countries with the lowest price of exported raspberries: Serbia, with an average price of 1628 \$/ton; Poland, with an average price of 1696 \$/ton; Canada, with an average price of \$ 2818/ton. Although Serbia exports raspberries price is lower than of other countries, it is very important that it is, in the raspberry export, still among the top 10 countries in the world. The prices of imported raspberries mostly have a trend of growth, and in the later period we see that in some countries the prices are falling. Japan has imported raspberries at the highest price in 2008, amounting to \$ 25130/ton. Poland is the country that has imported raspberries at the lowest price, which was 1161\$/ton in 2015. Japan is a country that not only imported raspberries at the highest prices in 2008, but is also the country that imports raspberries at the highest prices for the entire period from 2007 to 2016. Serbia is in the twentieth position and has imported raspberries at the lowest prices.

Table 2 shows the data on the quantity of world raspberry exports for the period from 2007 to 2015. Mexico has exported the largest quantity, in the year 2015, which equals to 70897 tons. Morocco has exported the lowest quantity in the year 2007, which equals 718 tons. The amount of raspberries produced is increasing over the years and this trend will probably continue in the future. Serbia is in the seventh place and that shows the potential of our country in the production of raspberries.

The quantity of imported raspberries on the world level for the period from 2007 until year 2015 is shown below. The amount of raspberry imports is constantly increasing. America is the country that has imported the largest quantity of raspberries in the analyzed period, while Serbia has imported the lowest quantity.

Table 1. Raspberry price in the world for the period 2007-2015 in dollars per ton

	Exporters	2007	Average price 2008-2011	Average price 2012-2015	Average price 2007-2015
	World	4,309	4,291.75	5,503.5	
1	United States of America	3,271	4,409.75	6,881.5	5,567
2	Portugal	10,352	10,032.75	9,723.75	9,778
3	Poland	1,749	1,503.75	1,855.75	1,696
4	France	10,050	9,940.25	10,616.75	10,155
5	South Africa	6,474	8,771.75	9,575.25	8,922
6	Serbia	1,638	1,660.75	1,663.25	1,628
7	Chile	6,754	7,870.25	4,422.5	5,734
8	Canada	1,856	3,740.75	2,197.5	2,818
9	United Kingdom	11,739	8,905.5	7,616.75	8,735
10	Ireland	8,548	11,455.5	16,305.5	13,350

	Importers	2007	Average price 2008-2011	Average price 2012-2015	Average price 2007-2015
	World	4,649	5,275.75	6,044.75	
1	United States of America	4,780	5,418.25	5,272.75	5,391
2	Canada	5,391	6,001.25	6,659.75	6,301
3	United Kingdom	8,748	8,400.00	8,136.75	8,312
4	France	7,442	6,968.25	6,696.5	6,670
5	Switzerland	10,024	10,886.25	12,881.75	11,727
6	Norway	18,514	18,429.25	15,879.75	16,975
7	Ireland	10,430	8,679.25	9,451.25	9,273
8	Japan	23,473	24,904.5	24,067.5	24,185
9	Denmark	8,054	7,536.5	8,799.75	8,314
10	Poland	5,627	4,949.5	3,954.5	4,484
11	Serbia	2,121	2,210.25	10,176.67	4,772

Source: ITC

Table 2. Quantity of exported and imported raspberries in the world for the period 2007-2015, expressed in tons

	Exporters	2007	Average price 2008-2011	Average price 2012-2015	Average price 2007-2015
	World	137,935	146,283.5	191,511.75	158,576.75
1	Mexico	33,527	37,421.75	58,889.5	43,279.42
2	United States of America	33,744	43,231.25	42,281	39,752.08
3	Spain	13,018	14,562.75	24,230.75	17,270.50
4	Poland	24,650	22,198.75	17,134	21,327.58
5	Netherlands	1,970	2,950.75	8,337.5	4,419.42
6	Portugal	887	1,988.5	6,845.25	3,240.25
7	Serbia	9,471	5,726.00	5,421.25	6,872.75
8	Morocco	718	1,801.5	4,752.25	2,423.92
9	Guatemala	2,947	3,376.00	6,247.25	4,190.08
10	Austria	3,181	2,267.25	2,172.75	2,540.33

	Importers	2007	Average price 2008-2011	Average price 2012-2015	Average price 2007-2015
	World	129,381	154,891.75	251,350.75	178,541.17
1	United States of America	37,206	49,369.50	108,181.50	64,919.00
2	Canada	18,045	27,302.50	39,119.25	28,155.58
3	Germany	15,291	17,754.50	22,207.00	18,417.50
4	United Kingdom	11,204	12,569.75	16,252.75	13,342.17
5	France	6,226	7,858.75	11,033.25	8,372.67
6	Netherlands	13,211	10,253.00	8,478.75	10,647.58
7	Austria	12,324	10,596.00	8,388.75	10,436.25
8	Spain	342	1,745.25	4,211.75	2,099.67
9	Italy	4,321	4,637.00	6,493.25	5,150.42
10	Belgium	4,068	3,548.50	6,051.00	4,555.83
94	Serbia	33	82.50	32.75	49.42

Source: ITC

Table 3 shows the value of exported and imported raspberries in a world in the period from 2007 to 2015, expressed in thousands of dollars. The results point out, taking into account to the value of exported raspberries, that Serbia is 11th in the world, and in regard to the value of the imported raspberries it is in the 73rd place. United States of America is in the first place, having achieved the total export of 2010898 thousand dollars, which accounts for, in a given period, almost one third of the value of total world exports. Although it occupies the last place among the above mentioned countries, it is highly significant that Serbia is one of the world's largest exporters and that it occupies a significant 11th position. It also shows how much has Serbia really developed in the production of raspberries.

Table 3. The value of exported and imported raspberries in the world for the period 2007-2015 expressed in thousands of dollars

	Exporters	2007	Average price 2008-2011	Average price 2012-2015	Average price 2007- 2015
	World	594,415	626,319	1,057,240.25	7,328,652
1	United States of America	110,376	184,247.50	290,883.00	2,010,898
2	Spain	109,447	133,884.50	220,973.25	1,528,878
3	Mexico	182,783	112,057.00	196,476.50	1,416,917
4	Netherlands	27,770	34,173.50	87,216.50	513,330
5	Portugal	9,182	19,951.25	65,583.00	351,319
6	Morocco	1,555	7,867.75	26,005.25	137,047
7	Poland	43,112	35,347.75	31,911.25	312,148
8	Belgium	14,966	15,972.00	27,809.75	190,093
9	France	15,970	13,646.00	18,781.25	145,679
10	Germany	2,870	6,848.25	14,112.25	86,712
11	Serbia	15,513	9,984.25	9,361.25	92,895

	Importers	2007	Average price 2008-2011	Average price 2012-2015	Average price 2007-2015
	World	601,482	818,311.50	1,519,743.25	9,953,701
1	United States of America	177,838	250,097.00	575,767.25	3,481,295
2	Canada	97,273	164,399.25	260,517.25	1,796,939
3	Germany	38,778	57,574.00	122,113.50	757,528
4	United Kingdom	98,015	105,177.75	131,727.25	1,045,635
5	Netherlands	29,931	32,586.25	63,844.00	415,652
6	France	46,331	54,682.50	70,033.75	545,196
7	Spain	2,332	8,259.00	22,058.25	123,601
8	Belgium	16,873	17,663.50	33,102.00	219,935
9	Switzerland	7,067	11,794.00	27,432.25	163,972
10	Austria	24,053	23,172.25	24,683.75	215,477
11	Serbia	70	185.50	56.75	1,039

Source: ITC

Table 4. Leading global raspberry exporting companies

	Company name	Number of product or service categories traded	Number of employees	Country	City	Website
1	A GARAU ET COMPAGNIE	25	19-20	France	LE HAVRE	
2	Ablasser Obstgarten GmbH	4	20-49	Germany	Grimma	http://www.obstland.de
3	Agraimpex Sp. z o.o.	69	20-49	Poland	Warszawa	http://www.agraimpex.com.pl
4	AGRANA FRUIT LUKA Ukrainian-Austrian JV, Ltd	5	50-99	Ukraine	Vinnitskyi Dist.	http://www.agrana.ua
5	AGROFRES Sp.j. Bożena i Jerzy Kurpiel	4	19-20	Poland	Jarosław	
6	Agroponiente, S.A.	17	100-249	Spain	Ejido, El	http://www.agroponiente.es
7	Agrotime OOD	10	250-499	Bulgaria	Ispirih	http://www.agrotime.com
8	Akord Sp. z o.o.	48	20-49	Poland	Lublin	
9	ALBANO CIRO COMPANY, Sas	14	0-9	Italy	TARANTO	http://www.albanocompany.com

Source: ITC

When analyzing the exporters of raspberries, the leader exporter is the company "A garau et compagnie" from France. It is interesting to note that in the top 10 raspberry exporting companies, there are 4 companies from Poland. The companies from Poland occupy 3, 5, 8 and 10th places and these are: Agraimpex Sp. the zoo, Agrofres Sp.j Akord Sp. the zoo. and Amar S.c.

Table 5. Leading global raspberry importing companies

	Company name	Number of product or service categories traded	Number of employees	Country	City	Website
1	abasto s.r.o.	121	50-99	Czech Republic	Řitka	http://www.abasto.cz
2	Agraimpex Sp. z o.o.	69	20-49	Poland	Warszawa	http://www.agraimpex.com.pl
3	AGRICO Bohemia s.r.o.	81	0-9	Czech Republic	Tábor	http://www.agricobohe mia.cz
4	Agroimpuls SRL	90	20-49	Moldova, Republic of	Chişinău	
5	ALBANO CIRO COMPANY, Sas	14	0-9	Italy	TARANTO	http://www.albanocompany.com

Company name		Number of product or service categories traded	Number of employees	Country	City	Website
6	Amplus Sp. z o.o.S.K.A.	53	20-49	Poland	Koniusza	http://www.amplusfoods.com
7	Anecoop Polska Sp. z o.o.	2	50-99	Poland	Swarzędz	http://www.anecoop.pl
8	Arofa, S.L.	15	100-249	Spain	Pamplona/Iruña	http://www.arofa.com
9	ASCOP-UKRAINE Ltd	21	100-249	Ukraine	Kyiv	
10	ATACRET SRL	45	0-9	Romania	ORADEA	

Source: ITC

The leading company in the import of raspberries is the company "Abasto s.r.o." from Czech Republic. In the second and third places we find companies from Poland and the Czech Republic. The company from Czech Republic "AgricoBohemia sro" is third in the world in raspberries import and belongs to a company with 0-9 employees, which is a very big success. In the import of raspberries, as well as in the export, in the top 10 companies are even three companies that are from Poland. They occupy 2nd, 3rd and 7th place. These are companies: Agraimpex Sp. the zoo, Ampuls Sp. the zoo., S.K.A, Anecoop Polska Sp. the zoo. We conclude that Agraimpex is among the leaders in the import and export of raspberries in the world.

Table 6. Exported unit value for Serbia in period 2007-2016 (US Dollar/Tons)

	Importers	2007	Average price 2008-2011	Average price 2012-2015	2016	Average price 2007-2016
	World	1,638	1,660.75	1,663.25	1,349	1,628
1	Austria	1,713	1,651.5	1,630.25	1,258	1,609
2	Germany	1,702	1,665.75	1,783.5	1,336	1,683
3	Italy	1,464	2,106	1,699.5	1,930	1,861
4	Russian Federation	-	1,329.5	1,369.75	1,672	1,385
5	France	-	5,250	5,818.75	5,214	5,569
6	Poland	-	851	1,626.67	525	1,184
7	Spain	1,080	1,089.5	1,332.75	569	1,133
8	Belgium	1,791	1,674	1,157	514	1,241
9	Netherlands	1,455	751.75	2,467	1,143	1,153
10	Montenegro	-	628.75	1,289	2,375	1,116

Source: ITC

The price of exported raspberries from Serbia, in the period from 2007 to 2016, has been shown in Table 7 and the values are expressed in dollars per ton of raspberries. Austria, Germany, Italy and Spain are countries that have imported raspberries from Serbia in each year of the analyzed period. As per the frequency of exports, Russia and Montenegro come in the second place, where export had not occurred only in the year 2007.

Price fluctuations are dynamic and have varied differently throughout the analyzed years. Serbia exported raspberries to France at the highest recorded price of \$8,000 per ton in 2013. The lowest export price was reached during export to Montenegro in 2008, at \$400 per ton. Generally speaking, the highest export raspberries prices from Serbia have been recorded during export to France, where the total average price for the analyzed period has been 5569 dollars per ton. Serbia has achieved the lowest export prices during export to Montenegro, and the average price for the analyzed period has been 1116 dollars per ton.

The import price of raspberries in Serbia in the period from 2007 to 2016 shows that Serbia has mostly imported raspberries from Germany, which is a very important foreign trade partner. From Germany, Serbia imports raspberries at prices that are on the level of average world prices. Serbia has imported raspberries from Mexico at the highest price of \$22,000 per ton in the year 2015. The lowest import price was from Germany \$660 per ton in the year 2014.

Table 7. The quantity of raspberry exports from Serbia for the period 2007-2016 expressed in tons

	Importers	2007	Average price 2008-2011	Average price 2012-2015	2016	Average price 2007-2016
	World	9,471	5,726	5,421.25	6,123	6,018.3
1	Austria	4,830	2,395	2,507.5	3,336	2,777.6
2	Germany	1,647	1,484.5	1,543.75	1,647	1,540.7
3	Italy	1,307	1,208.5	629.75	730	939
4	Russian Federation	0	20.75	59.25	122	44.2
5	Poland	0	78	384.5	99	194.9
6	Belgium	182	23.75	93	74	72.3
7	Spain	75	44.25	92.75	72	69.5
8	Netherlands	1,361	418	15	21	311.4
9	France	0	0.75	11.25	14	6.2
10	Montenegro	0	7	15.5	8	9.8

Source: ITC

The quantity of export of raspberries from Serbia in the period from 2007 to 2016 is shown in Table 7 and the data are expressed in tons. In the observed period Serbia has mostly exported, on average, to Austria. The partner countries that follow are Germany, Italy, and Russia. If we add up the quantities of exported raspberries from Serbia to Austria, Germany and Italy, we can see that this sum makes up almost 90% of the total quantity that Serbia has exported to the whole world in a given period. Austria, Germany and Italy are member states of the European Union, and we can also conclude that Serbia has agreements with the European Union for the export of agricultural products. From the Interim Agreement on

provisions on trade and trade-related matters stemming from the Stabilization and Association Agreement, the Republic of Serbia has taken significant measures to expand both regional trade and trade with the EU, in order to improve the level of economic cooperation (Vapa-Tankosić et al, 2015).

**Table 8. Raspberry export value for Serbia for the period 2007-2016
expressed in thousands of dollars**

	Importers	2007	Average price 2008- 2011	Average price 2012- 2015	2016	Average price 2007- 2016
	World	15,513	9,984.25	9,361.25	8,260	10,115.5
1	Austria	8,273	4,176	4,351.25	4,196	4,657.8
2	Germany	2,804	2,237.75	2,812.5	2,201	2,520.6
3	Italy	1,914	2,997	1,113.5	1,409	1,976.5
4	Russian Federation	0	28.75	81.75	204	64.6
5	France	0	4	67.75	73	36
6	Poland	0	64	613.5	52	276.2
7	Spain	81	42	112.5	41	74
8	Belgium	326	39.75	108.25	38	95.6
9	Netherlands	1,980	340.75	37	24	351.5
10	Montenegro	0	4	17	19	10.3

Source:ITC

The values of raspberries exported by Serbia in the period from 2007 to 2016 have been shown in Table 8. The values are expressed in thousands of dollars. Serbia has exported raspberries in a given period up to the value of 101,115 thousand dollars. In regard to the value of the exported raspberries, we once again come to a conclusion that Serbia has exported the most to Germany, Austria and Italy. It has achieved the lowest value in export with Montenegro. Serbia has exported higher values in the first couple of years, than these values dropped significantly, although in recent years they have a growth tendency.

High quality of frozen raspberries has been achieved thanks to the realized degree of raspberry production, which represents the backbone of the export of agricultural products. In order to obtain high quality fruit export products, it is necessary to achieve good quality of raw materials, to work further on selection and creation of new varieties, to modernize the processing capacities, to increase the level of equipment utilization and to increase the level of finalization of production. It is necessary for agricultural producers to increase productivity and cost-effectiveness in production, and to offer, besides traditional products, products from ecological production systems. Modern trends in demand on the market of developed countries require changes in the future development of the food industry, especially fruit-raspberries should be developed for the production of juices, alcoholic drinks from raspberries, syrups, concentrates, "kompots", gelatinized products, pasteurized, frozen, candied and dried products, and semi-finished products fruits (Ignjatijevic et al., 2012). In order to make the most efficient use of potentials for the development of

agriculture and the placement of agro-food products to the world market, it is necessary to establish an efficient food safety control system, increase competitiveness to improve the market chain and consolidate supply (eg. knowledge of potential export markets, introduction of standards – production must be tailored to the requirements of consumers (HACCP, ISO) and support programs aimed at achieving added value (integral, organic production, protection of products with geographical origin) (Vapa-Tankosić and Erdelji, 2016).

Conclusion

International trade in agricultural products is gaining importance, although it occurs under extremely restrictive conditions. Because of the presence of various barriers posed by economically developed countries the process of freeing up trade does not happen. The industrialized countries, in the increasingly fierce competition and struggle for markets, have not respected the agreed principles of free international trade and have increasingly applied restrictive measures.

In recent times developed countries have used trade preferences for their strategic economic goals. In addition to agrarian protectionism, there are many multinational companies operating on the market which influence the trade, and associations of countries with a goal of improving trade are also significant. The technical-technological and political factors also affect the volume of world trade. A large part of the foreign trade takes place under the direct effect of certain countries, that is, the Government, and it can be said that the situation on the world market is largely the result of state interventions, and to a lesser extent the result of the functioning of market laws.

The export of agricultural products is the result of high and efficient domestic production. Many mechanisms affect the international trade of agricultural products, such as customs tariffs, premiums, licenses, special agreements and prohibitions, in particular the policy of parity prices and credit policy with the aim of developing domestic agriculture and agro-industry and protection against foreign competition. The largest exporters are developed countries. Regionally-observed, the largest export region is Europe. The world's leading exporter is the United States.

The developed countries that are major exporters, at the same time, represent also large importers of agricultural products. This is due to the high incomes of the population, so they also import products, of which there are plenty in the domestic market, in order to supplement the assortment.

By observing the international raspberry trade on a global scale, we have concluded that the world's largest exporters are United States, Mexico, Spain and Poland. As for the world's largest raspberry importers, United States is in the first place, followed by Canada and Germany.

If we analyze the international raspberry trade within the European Union, we can come to the conclusion that the biggest exporters are Spain, Poland and Norway, while the largest importers within the European Union are Germany, the United Kingdom and France.

When analyzing Serbian import and export of raspberries, we came to a very positive conclusion that Serbia has great potential and possibilities for the production of raspberries. Serbia is on the list of world raspberry exporters on an enviable seventh place. Serbia exports its raspberries to the European Union, Germany, Austria and Italy. In addition to the countries of the European Union, Serbia also exports large quantities to Russia. When it comes to importing raspberries, Serbia imports very small quantities of raspberries, mostly from Austria and Germany. This is very good because in this way Serbia realizes a huge foreign trade surplus.

According to the available resources, the sector of agro-food products is very important sector of the economy of Serbia. The agriculture represents an opportunity for development, given the tendency of rising food prices on the world market. Its importance is reflected in the participation of agriculture in exports, gross domestic product, gross value added and total employment. Therefore, this sector can make a significant contribution to the stabilization of economic trends in the country.

Serbia's agrarian foreign trade, accounting for one-quarter of total exports, with very high coverage of imports by exports and a positive balance of around one-tenth of total exports, with a very dynamic increase in the value of exports of some important commodity groups, undoubtedly represents a serious potential for development, for adjustment of the balance of payments and the overall macroeconomic and social stability.

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