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Report Highlights:

Fresh oranges continue to be a central part of Egypt's fruit and vegetable exports, accounting for over 20 percent of the sector's foreign currency earnings. Egypt also retains its position as the world's leading exporter of oranges. For marketing year 2025/26, FAS/Cairo projects that Egypt's fresh orange exports will increase due to increased production, successful expansion into new markets, and the implementation of a traceability system for farm production. European and Middle Eastern countries are expected to remain Egypt's primary export markets for fresh oranges. Meanwhile, the processing sector is projected to expand production to meet rising demand both domestically and regionally.

Planted Area

For marketing year (MY) 2025/26 (October-September), FAS/Cairo (Post) projects the total area planted for oranges to remain steady at 170,000 hectares (ha), the same as the previous year. However, the harvested area is expected to increase to 160,000 ha—an 8,000-hectare rise from last year. This growth is due to newer orchards planted several years ago which have now reached maturity and are producing fruit, as well as favorable weather conditions during the flowering period. Orange trees typically begin bearing fruit four years after planting and can live up to 50 years, though their productivity declines after 20 years.

Most of Egypt's orange production for export markets comes from commercial farms established on reclaimed desert land over the past 30 years. Oranges are Egypt's primary citrus crop, accounting for about 80 percent of the total citrus cultivation area and are grown throughout the country from north to south.

Production

In MY 2025/26, Post forecasts orange production to increase by around 15 percent, to reach 4 million metric tons (MMT). The increase in production is attributed to an increase in harvested areas and optimum weather conditions during the flowering of the trees, which increased fruit set and production. However, Post is decreasing its previous orange production estimate for MY 2024/25 by 5.4 percent due to higher temperatures for long periods at the beginning of the fruit set, which negatively impacted production.

Over the last decade, small growers and commercial farms have focused on producing high quality fruit to maintain high volumes in high-value export markets. The Government of Egypt has also focused on increasing market access for exports, which has led to the opening of many new markets. As a result, it has encouraged farmers to focus on increasing yields and improving quality to meet international standards.

Oranges dominate Egypt's citrus sector, accounting for 80 percent of all citrus production. It ranks among the world's top ten orange producers and exporters due to several advantages: drip irrigation, favorable climate and soil, abundant sunshine, low labor costs, an early harvest season, and proximity to key export markets.

A variety of oranges are grown across the country, especially in the Delta region and along the Nile. The harvest season typically begins in late November and can extend through September, depending on the variety. The main types include:

1. Baladi: seeded and seedless, mainly for juice
2. Valencia: a summer variety used for juice and fresh consumption
3. Blood: seedless and flavorful, mainly for juice
4. Navel: early and late maturing, with the late variety mainly exported
5. Khalily: good for juice
6. Sukkari: a sweet, seeded table orange

Among all varieties, Valencia oranges are the most widely produced, making up 85 percent of total orange output. The Egyptian Agriculture Export Council's (AEC) citrus committee and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development's (MALR) Central Administration of Plant Quarantine (CAPQ) jointly decide when the orange harvest for the export season should officially begin, using fruit ripening and color as key indicators. For MY 2025/26, the export season starts on December 15, 2025, and, with the use of cold storage, continues through August 2025.

Commercial orange farms in Egypt employ Integrated Pest Management (IPM), combining biological controls with other environmentally friendly methods to manage pests and diseases. The Plant Protection Institute (PPI), Horticultural Research Institute (HRI), and growers' associations provide essential guidance on pest management and best production practices. Recognizing the significance of oranges as a major export, the Egyptian government and industry stakeholders prioritize quality improvement to sustain export demand and maintain global competitiveness. The AEC and CAPQ oversee export-oriented orange farms, enforcing traceability systems that register and code farms to ensure quality throughout the production process.

Consumption

In MY 2025/26, Post forecasts that domestic consumption of fresh oranges increase slightly to 1.2 MMT, primarily due to a decrease in prices amid an increase in production during MY 2025/26.

While most Egyptian oranges are either consumed fresh or are exported, a substantial share is processed into juice, concentrates, and other by-products. For MY 2025/26, the volume of oranges used by the processing sector is expected to rise by more than 60 percent, compared to the previous year, due to an increase in capacity as multiple new factories are set to open in 2026. Typically, lower-grade fruit unsuitable for fresh export is directed to processing; however, varieties such as Baladi and Valencia are also suitable for processing due to their juice quality and flavor.

Most processed products are consumed within Egypt, though some juices and concentrates are exported, primarily to neighboring countries. During the last season, prices of concentrates peaked at \$9,000 per metric ton which led to an increase in processing. Although prices have dropped to \$2,500 per metric ton this season, processors have continued to meet the strong demand for juice and concentrate from the previous season, both locally and regionally.¹

Trade

For MY 2025/26, Post forecasts Egypt's orange exports to increase to 1.9 MMT. This growth is driven by higher yields per hectare, expanded access to new international markets, and the effective implementation of Egypt's traceability system for registering and monitoring farms. Increased global prices and strong consumer demand are also expected to boost export volumes.

¹ <https://www.freshplaza.com/north-america/article/9782167/egypt-exported-1-66-million-tonnes-of-oranges-in-2024-25/>

Throughout the export season, CAPQ monitors production, collects samples, and verifies compliance with export standards. CAPQ and the AEC work together to meet the phytosanitary requirements of importing countries, allowing Egyptian oranges to access a broad range of international markets. Only registered farms and packing houses that meet strict requirements are eligible to export, ensuring high quality and compliance with international standards.

Most orange exporters are producers who own government-approved packing facilities, though they may also purchase oranges from local farmers to fulfill export commitments. Some exporters own packing facilities but do not grow oranges themselves, relying entirely on local farmers and managing the transport of fruit to their facilities.

The export season typically begins with shipments to the Arabian Gulf, followed by Russia, Ukraine, the European Union (EU), and East Asia.

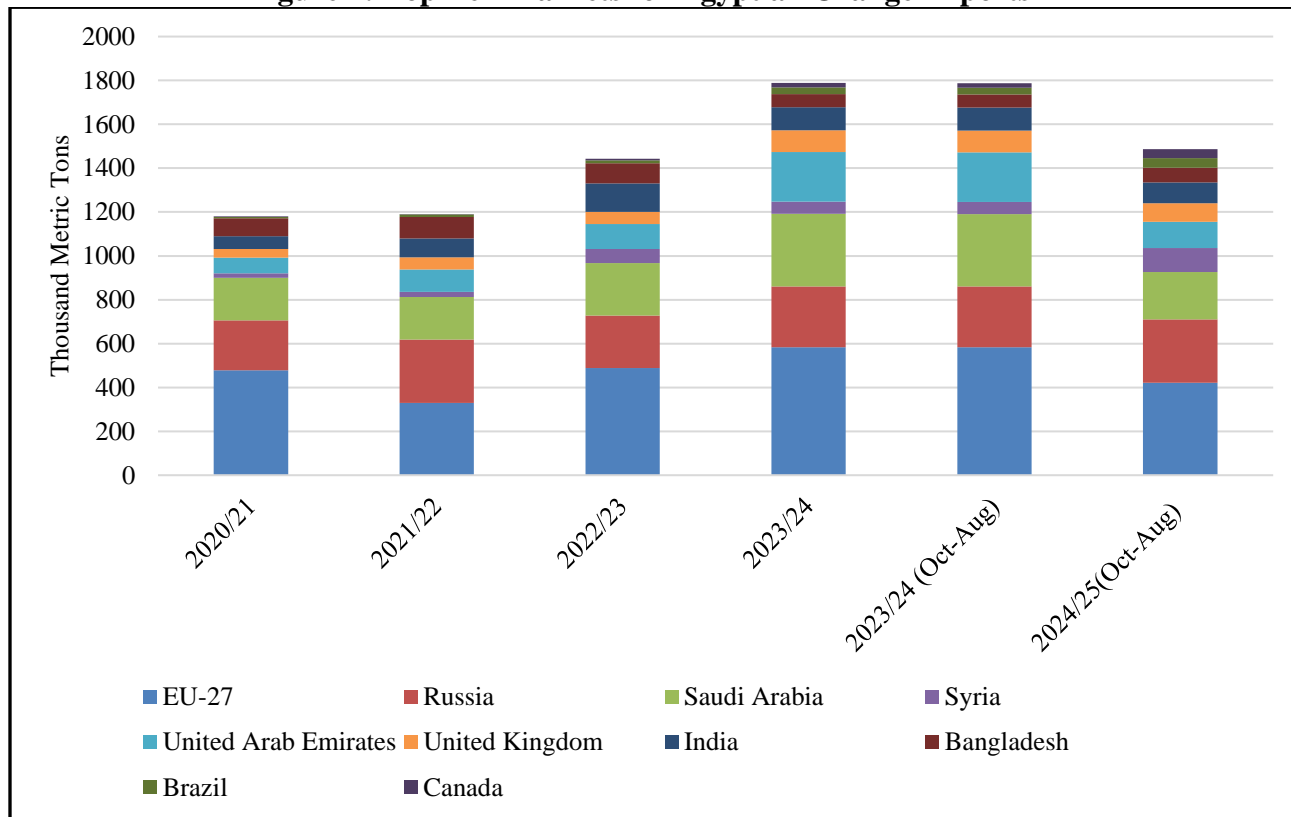
Top Ten Markets for Egypt's Fresh Orange Exports

In MY 2024/25, Egyptian orange exports reached 124 countries with the EU, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Syria, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), India and the United Kingdom (UK) among Egypt's top export destinations for oranges. For the first time, Canada and Brazil entered the top ten markets for MY 2024/45 for Egyptian oranges due to competitive pricing (see Figure 1).

The EU, Russia, Saudi Arabia and UAE have become the primary destinations for Egyptian oranges, primarily due to geographic proximity, large populations, established consumption patterns, and their roles as re-export hubs. However, overall exports to these top markets were slightly down during the previous marketing year due to higher prices because of an increased demand in the processing sector. However, overall exports are likely to rebound during MY 2025/26 due to an increase in production and a better distribution of a variety of sizes.

During MY 2023/24, disruptions in the Red Sea limited Egyptian orange exports to Asian markets, resulting in an oversupply in Europe. In response, exporters targeted new markets such as Brazil, Argentina, and Canada. These new destinations showed strong growth in MY 2024/25. Canada's imports of Egyptian oranges increased by nearly 89 percent, and Brazil's by almost 47 percent. Post forecasts that Brazil, and Canada will likely become key markets for Egyptian citrus exports under normal supply conditions.

Figure 1: Top Ten Markets for Egyptian Orange Exports

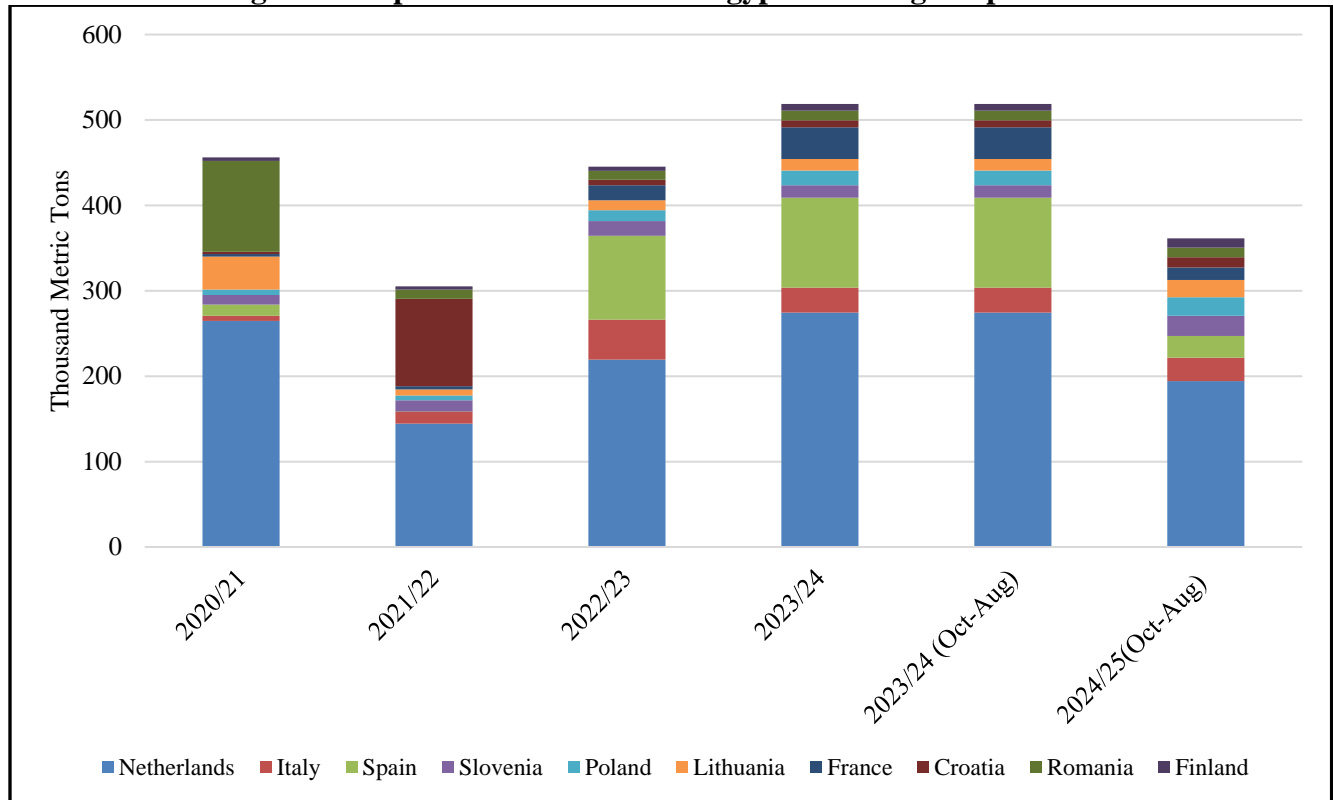


Source: Trade Data Monitor LLC

Orange Exports to the EU

During MY 2024/25, Egyptian orange exports to the EU and the Middle East—especially Saudi Arabia and the UAE—declined, mainly due to higher prices for Egyptian oranges. Within the EU, exports to Slovenia, Finland, Poland, and Lithuania increased. However, significant decreases in exports to Spain, the Netherlands, and France contributed to the overall decline in EU-bound shipments. Despite these reductions, these three countries remain the leading EU destinations for Egyptian oranges (see Figure 2).

Figure 2: Top Ten EU Markets for Egyptian Orange Exports

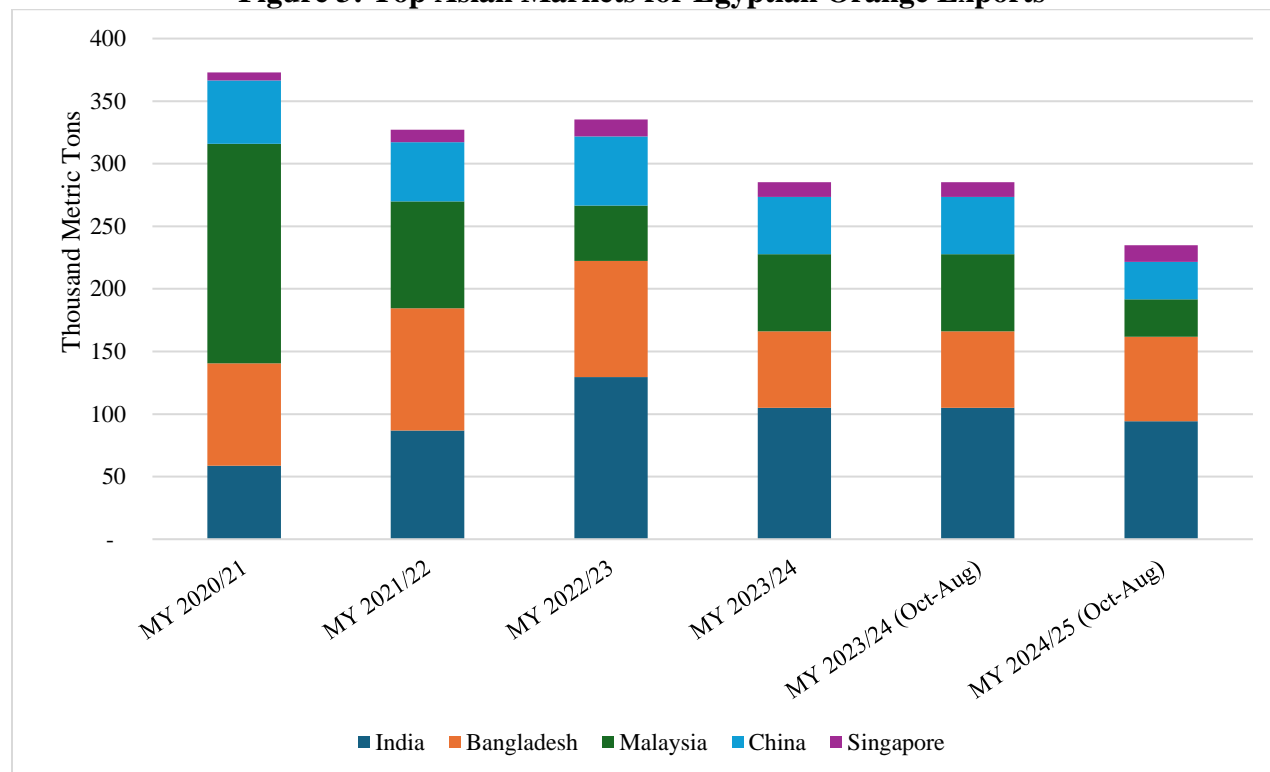


Source: Trade Data Monitor LLC

Egyptian Orange Exports to Asia Remain Low Despite Eased Red Sea Tensions

While Egyptian orange exports to Asia declined during the Red Sea crisis (primarily from November 2023-January 2025), a reduction in Houthi attacks on shipping vessels routing via the Red Sea has allowed more ships to pass through for trade headed to Asia. Although reduced Houthi attacks have improved shipping access through the Red Sea, exports to top Asian markets have not yet returned to pre-crisis levels, as many Asian importers continue sourcing oranges from neighboring countries. Egypt has seen some recovery to Asian markets such as India, Bangladesh and Singapore, but a full return to normal shipping routes through the Red Sea is needed for full market recovery (see Figure 3).

Figure 3: Top Asian Markets for Egyptian Orange Exports



Source: Trade Data Monitor LLC

Policy

Since 2022, CAPQ has secured new export markets for Egyptian oranges in 28 countries.² During MY 2024/25, Egypt exported fresh oranges to 124 countries.

EU Approves Egypt's Request to Reduce Inspection

The EU is a major market for Egyptian fresh oranges which have totaled 2.3 MMT from MY 2020/21 to MY 2024/25 (October-August). In late 2024, Egypt's CAPQ requested the EU to lower the citrus inspection/sampling rates from 30 percent to mitigate negative impacts on exporters and shipment delays. According to the Chairman of CAPQ, this request was approved by the EU to lower such additional inspections from 30 to 20 percent, with a review planned to consider permanently removing citrus fruits from these inspections altogether.³

Egypt Launches a New Export Rebate Program to Assist Exporters

The Egyptian government has nearly doubled its export support budget to 45 billion Egyptian pounds (approximately 950 million USD) for the 2025-2026 fiscal year, up from 23 billion

² <https://www.alborsaanews.com/2025/11/23/1931102>

³ <https://www.tafsela.net/15387>

pounds the previous year. This significant increase underscores the government's intention to expand the number of exporters and promote industries that deliver higher value.

The support program targets sectors with strong growth potential and international competitiveness. Eligibility for support will be determined by four main criteria: value addition, export growth, increased production capacity, and job creation.

Beyond direct financial support, the program offers additional incentives such as employee training and capacity-building, assistance with quality and sustainability certifications, upgrades to machinery and equipment, freight and air-freight subsidies, incentives for products with Egyptian branding, support for entering regional and global markets, and coverage of registration fees for global e-commerce platforms to help small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) access new markets.

Funds will be distributed among export councils using a comprehensive economic model, with allocations based on added value (50%), export growth rate (30%), production capacity (10%), and number of employees (10%).⁴ The agricultural export sector is expected to receive about 8-10 percent of the total budget allocated for export support. Details specific to the rebate shares for agricultural exports are likely to emerge during mid-2026.⁵

Oranges, Fresh Market Year Begins Egypt	2023/2024		2024/2025		2025/2026	
	Oct 2023		Oct 2024		Oct 2025	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Area Planted (HECTARES)	168000	168000	170000	170000	0	170000
Area Harvested (HECTARES)	151200	151200	152000	152000	0	160000
Bearing Trees (1000 TREES)	43200	43200	43430	43430	0	45715
Non-Bearing Trees (1000 TREES)	1000	1000	1000	1000	0	1000
Total No. Of Trees (1000 TREES)	44200	44200	44430	44430	0	46715
Production (1000 MT)	4200	4200	3700	3500	0	4000
Imports (1000 MT)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply (1000 MT)	4200	4200	3700	3500	0	4000
Exports (1000 MT)	2300	2300	1950	1800	0	1900
Fresh Dom. Consumption (1000 MT)	1600	1600	1150	1150	0	1200
For Processing (1000 MT)	300	300	600	550	0	900
Total Distribution (1000 MT)	4200	4200	3700	3500	0	4000
(HECTARES) ,(1000 TREES) ,(1000 MT)						
OFFICIAL DATA CAN BE ACCESSED AT: PSD Online Advanced Query						

⁴ مصر تضاعف ميزانية دعم الصادرات إلى 45 مليار جنيه عبر برنامج جديد

⁵ <https://www.dailynewsegypt.com/2025/06/03/egypt-unveils-comprehensive-new-export-rebate-programme/>

Attachments:

No Attachments