

CURRENT SITUATION OF THE TABLEGRAPE VARIETIES CULTURES IN ROMANIA AND WORLDWIDE

Adriana Costescu *

*University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Bucharest
E-mail: cosadriana@yahoo.com

Abstract

The research of the present paper aimed at determining the position of the Romanian viticulture in relation to international viticulture, as regards the culture of grapevine varieties for tablegrapes. The data presented had been taken from OIV. The paper includes: the repartition of the tablegrape yields according to continents, the tablegrape yields in different countries, the main exporting countries of tablegrape varieties, the main importing countries of tablegrape varieties, the individual consumption of tablegrapes and the the culture of the tablegrape varieties in Romania.

Keywords: table grapes, individual consumption, viticulture

1. INTRODUCTION

In recent years there has been a significant increase in consumption of fresh grapes, due to the general trend to move towards a healthy diet, more rich in plant resources. Grapes are fruits - medicine, as have therapeutic virtues caliber, but also grapes and wine have properties of natural medicines.

Grapes are an important source for human food rich in sugars, organic acids and mineral salts, vitamins, amino acids, trace elements, etc. which once involved in metabolic processes exert a refreshing energy, reactivity and mineralizing very important, especially in recovery and increase work capacity of those who consume them.

Romania is ranked 5 in the world in areas planted with vines, or 180,200 hectares, after the Czech Republic, the U.S., Argentina and Chile, according to the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. According to the International Organization of Vine and Wine (OIV, <http://www.oiv.int>), approximately 30% of the grapes are grapes produced, the rest is for the production of raisins and wine.

2. MATERIAL AND METHOD

According to the International Organization of Vine and Wine (OIV, <http://www.oiv.int>), approximately 30% of the grapes were produced table grapes, the rest is for the production of raisins and wine. By 2008 the world production of table grapes was 20.9 million tonnes (Table 1).

There is a 20% increase compared to 2000. China is one of the largest producers of table grapes, recorded in 2008 a production of 7 million tons of grapes, which signifies more than three times the amount produced by Turkey, which ranked the second position in this chapter 1.9 million tons. Italy is positioned in third place with a total production of table grapes of 1.6 million tons.

Table 1. World production of table grape (kt)

No.	Country	Year								
		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
1.	China	3600	4479	5176	5675	5675	5794	6271	6700	7000
2.	Turkey	1650	1650	1750	1750	1750	2000	2060	1913	1945
3.	Italy	1628	1308	1308	1553	1465	1602	1506	1477	1550
4.	Chile	955	1002	1065	1075	1105	1190	1163	1185	1205
5.	USA	823	784	891	731	801	903	724	835	857

6.	Spain	351	342	327	321	302	312	318	305	320
7.	South Africa	346	338	387	329	378	435	264	270	272
8.	Greece	328	340	308	322	301	310	300	238	268
9.	Mexico	188	176	197	154	233	233	149	220	256
10.	Argentina	88	95	101	109	115	120	140	150	155
11.	Japan	225	232	221	206	220	217	215	225	215
12.	Other countries	7310	6434	5604	5607	6572	6381	6579	6011	6847
	SUM	17493	17180	17335	17831	18917	19499	19688	19882	20890

Source: OIV and FAS USDA

Global grape exports amounted to about 3.6 million tons in 2007, increasing by 21% compared to 2003. Among major exporter of table grapes are Chile, Italy, USA, South Africa, Mexico and Turkey (Table 2). Although not a major producer of grapes, Netherlands appears in the list because of its role as distributor exporters to the EU market for table grapes produced in South America, Africa and India. At the same time, it should be noted the rapid pace of increase in exports from Brazil, China, India and Egypt - these countries have managed over the last five years to triple exports.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Table 2. World table grape exports (kt)

No.	Country	Year				
		2003	2004	2008	2006	2007
1.	Chile	789	693	738	823	828
2.	Italy	521	458	504	456	447
3.	USA	366	391	446	372	387
4.	South Africa	198	237	230	285	287
5.	Mexico	167	120	190	112	177
6.	Olanda	123	136	172	165	166
7.	Turkey	99	159	156	146	167
8.	Spain	126	104	114	126	111
9.	Uzbekistan	31	90	109	142	111
10.	Brazil	37	28	51	62	79
11.	India	26	35	53	85	75
12.	Greece	68	65	90	88	69
13.	Argentina	39	47	51	72	58
14.	China	13	17	21	34	55
15.	Egypt	7	15	24	27	53
16.	Macedonia	16	22	38	31	46
17.	Other countries	308	368	422	430	445
	SUM	2932	2953	3388	3433	3509

Source: UN COMTRADE

Table 3. Importing world table grape (kt)

No.	Country	Year				
		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
1.	USA	561	531	611	603	589
2.	Russian federation	154	258	291	321	321
3.	Germany	323	336	393	352	307
4.	Netherlands	162	154	235	260	306
5.	Great British	202	225	245	273	253
6.	Canada	167	170	185	175	186
7.	France	153	150	154	141	144

8.	Poland	71	84	95	75	114
9.	Mexico	84	69	83	77	83
10.	Bulgaria	36	95	94	94	83
11.	Ukraine	-	-	22	55	66
12.	Other countries	705	782	880	899	868
	SUM	2932	2975	3388	3433	3509

Source: UN Comtrade

During the past six years the Romanian imports of table grapes increased five times, representing over 20 thousand tons in 2008. During this period, Italy became the main supplier, increasing its market share from 12% in 2003 to 44% in 2008. Greece maintained positions (27%) and Turkey reduced its presence from 49% in 2004 to only 13% in 2008. Of the main, suppliers, the only country that has reduced exports is Moldova, which virtually disappeared from the market (Table 4)

Table 4. Major exporters of table grapes in Romania (tons)

No.	Country	Year					
		2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
1.	Italy	482	1373	2256	5480	4937	9005
2.	Greece	1078	2098	5293	5106	4497	5475
3.	Turkey	1361	4366	8158	4916	3386	2646
4.	Netherlands	-	-	-	-	731	736
5.	Macedonia	189	131	698	1185	1592	747
6.	Moldavia	401	297	276	214	218	100
	SUM	4022	8905	17693	18576	17357	20436

Source: EU ComExt

The largest volumes are imported in the months from July to December, in season produce major suppliers (Italy and Greece). In January-June, the main source of supply is Netherlands (Southern Hemisphere grapes), so the average import price is higher.

Consumption of table grapes

The main producers of table grapes are the largest consumers. China and Turkey in terms of consumer retains and places respectively one and two, in the case of China about the whole quantity of grapes produced is consumed domestically. Third place among the most important consumers of table grapes in the world, is owned by the U.S. (1.1 million tons), which surpasses Italy (1 million tons) and Chile (0.4 million tons). Places 6-8 are occupied by countries where production of table grapes is not developed because of unsuitable climate and consumption is covered by imports mainly from Russia, Germany and the UK (each around 350 thousand tons).

*Table 5. Cultural situation vine vines for table grapes in Romania
(by Dejeu., 2010)*

Specification	Year			
	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total living on fruit for table grapes (ha)	12 813	12 578	11 523	10 732
Young vines (ha)	48	91	73	62
Total production of table grapes (t)	39 338	67 053	81 046	87 164
Table grape exports (t)	200	100	909	306
Importation of table grapes (t)	2 044	9 000	18 959	21 500
Average consumption of table grapes (kg / habitant/ year)	4,39	3,11	4,62	5,00

Romania before 1989 produced about 150 tons of table grapes, ranking 15 in the world. In 2010 in Romania 9175 ha cultivated with grapes, achieving a production of about 90 tons (Table 6). Largest area planted with table grapes (2010) has been in development region South - Eastern region (79.3%), other regions totaling 20.7%.

Table 6. Area planted with grape vines for table grapes (ha)

No.	Development Region	Area planted with grape vines for table grapes (ha)
1.	SUM	9 175
2.	Northeast	615
3.	Southeast	7 272
4.	South-Muntenia	638
5.	South West	189
6.	West	405
7.	Northwest	52
8.	Center	4
9.	Bucharest-Ilfov	-

Source: Institute of Statistics - press release no. 255/2010

4. CONCLUSIONS

1. In recent years there has been a significant increase in consumption of fresh grapes, due to the general trend to move towards a healthy diet, more rich in plant resources.
2. During the past six years the Romanian imports of table grapes increased five times, representing over 20 thousand tons in 2008. During this period, Italy became the main supplier.
3. The main producers of table grapes (China and Turkey) are the largest consumers. China and Turkey in terms of consumer retains and places respectively one and two, in the case of China about the whole quantity of grapes produced is consumed domestically.
4. Romania before 1989 produced about 150 tons of table grapes, ranking 15 in the world. Currently (2010) in Romania 9175 ha are cultivated with grapes, achieving a production of about 90 tons.
5. In Romania, areas planted with varieties of table grapes is increasing, the actions lately conversion of vineyards and winemaking.
6. With financial support from the state for the establishment of new plantations table grape varieties are encouraged small producers to cultivate local varieties that are suitable climatic conditions in Romania.

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The paper presents data from the Ph degree thesis in the frame POSDRU/107/1.5./S/76888, project financed from the European Social Fund through the Sectoral Operational Programme for Human Resources Development 2007-2013.

6. REFERENCES

- Dejeu L. (2011) Vinul si sanatatea, Ed Ceres, Bucuresti, 272 p;
Dejeu L. (2010) Viticultura, Editura Ceres, București, 480 p.
Messegue M. (1998) Strugurii, Editura Venus, București.
Petrescu E. (2002) Terapia cu struguri și vinuri medicinale, Editura Polirom, 152 p.
INS - Institutul National de Statistica - <http://www.ins.ro>
OIV - Organizatia Internationala a Viei si Vinului - <http://www.oiv.int>