

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Voluntary - Public

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## Chile

**Post:** Santiago

### Promising future for Chilean Hazelnut Growers

**Report Categories:**

Tree Nuts

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**Report Highlights:**

A planting rate of growth of over 1,000 hectares a year, close to 3,000 MT exported last year and a reported continuous fall in production in Turkey, the largest world producer, are the main factors that are making hazelnut planting, production and exports booming.



### General Information:

Ten years ago Chile had less than one thousand hectares planted with hazelnut trees. Today there are already more than 13,000 hectares planted by an estimated 200 farmers/producers between Region VII (Talca) and Region IX (Temuco). With the high current planting rate and the potential for increased production, industry sources have indicated that Chile could easily become the third largest producer of hazelnuts in year 2020. By then, over 20,000 hectares are expected to be planted with a yearly production of over 25 thousand Metric Tons.

The Chilean Hazelnut harvest starts in early April in Region IX (Temuco) and peaks during March in Region VII (Talca). This year, due to excellent weather conditions, analysts predict a rather large increase in production. An increase of 10 to 20 percent of the price for hazelnuts are expected due to favorable market conditions, as was indicated by industry sources.

Industry sources have indicated that Turkey, the world largest hazelnut producer with an estimated yearly production of 560,000 MT is likely to reduce production of as much as 30 percent during the next 10 years. This is most likely because if Turkey joins the European Union, Turkey will have to reduce subsidies in the agricultural sector. As a result the Turkish government already has announced changes in policies that support hazelnut production.

(Volume in Kgs. Value in US dollar, FOB)

Year	In Shell		Shelled	
	Volume	Value	Volume	Value
2000	1,040	1,040	4,803	23,460
2001	5,497	1,847	11,400	55,217
2002	7,469	7,469	13,045	43,594
2003	85,473	124,162	9,325	32,078
2004	145,868	325,654	11,490	57,879
2005	263,963	721,854	5,905	53,678
2006	187,025	684,283	3,871	30,095
2007	982,251	2,307,741	2,872	20,914
2008	1,922,997	7,121,146	6,188	58,634
2009	2,670,979	6,371,894	44,234	248,719
2010	2,203,131	6,422,475	47,651	315,722

Source: Ministry of Agriculture

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Chile		
Commodity	Hazelnuts, In Shell		
Time Period	Jan-Dec	Units:	M.T.
<b>Exports for:</b>	2009		2010
U.S.	0		0
others		others	
Italy	2,597	Italy	1,960
Brazil	36	Luxembourg	154
Germany	20	Brazil	71
Spain	12	Argentina	19
Argentina	5		
<b>Total of others</b>	2,670		2,204
Others not listed	-		-
<b>Grand Total</b>	2,670		2,204

Export Trade Matrix			
Country	Chile		
Commodity	Hazelnuts, Shelled		
Time Period	Jan-Dec	Units:	M.T.
<b>Exports for:</b>	2009		2010
U.S.	0		0
others		others	
Argentina	22.5	Argentina	23.7
Brazil	16.0	Brazil	20.0
Uruguay	4.5	Uruguay	3.0

Australia	1.2	Ecuador	0.5
		China	0.2
		Colombia	0.2
<b>Total of others</b>	43.0		47.6
Others not listed	-		-
<b>Grand Total</b>	44.0		47.6