

The header features a green background with a white curved shape on the right containing the Zespri logo. On the left, there are images of kiwifruit: a whole green kiwifruit, a sliced green kiwifruit, and a sliced yellow kiwifruit. The text 'MAKE YOUR HEALTHY' is in white, and 'irresistible' is in a yellow script font.

MAKE YOUR HEALTHY
irresistible



2 October 2023

Zespri's Northern Hemisphere harvest to be the biggest yet

Zespri's kiwifruit harvest from the Northern Hemisphere is set to exceed previous sales volumes with the strong harvest supporting its efforts to deliver 12-month supply in key markets, maintain brand presence and shelf space and support New Zealand and offshore grower returns.

Zespri's Executive Officer - Northern Hemisphere Supply Nick Kirton says the Northern Hemisphere sales programme has just commenced with Zespri expecting to sell around 29 million trays, or just over 100,000 tonnes of kiwifruit from orchards throughout France, Italy, Greece, Korea, and Japan. This compares to 24 million trays or 88,000 tonnes last season.

"This season's harvest will be our biggest yet and we're looking forward to providing consumers with more high-quality and great-tasting kiwifruit as we transition from New Zealand-grown fruit to our Northern Hemisphere-grown fruit," Mr Kirton says.

"The increase in volume also reflects the growth phase we are in, enabled by our year-round investment in the brand and building demand ahead of supply."

Across the Northern Hemisphere supply regions - which include Italy, France, Greece, Japan and Korea, Zespri has formed partnerships over more than 20 years with around 1,500 Zespri growers and suppliers who play a key role in Zespri's global supply strategy which is working towards the ultimate goal of supplying premium Zespri Kiwifruit for all 12 months of the year.

This season's Green sales volumes are expected to remain steady compared with last year, while SunGold Kiwifruit sales are projected to increase by 25%, reflecting improved growing conditions, increased yields and new production.

Mr Kirton notes that this season's strong harvest was even more pleasing given the challenges faced by growers in both Europe and Asia last year. Mr Kirton says that following a season review, Zespri initiated action plans across all Northern Hemisphere regions to address the issues of last season and focus on outcomes that would lift returns for growers. This included on-orchard and supply chain improvements and working closely with market teams to achieve the best outcome for growers.

"Last year was a particularly tough season for our growers in Europe and Asia, with sustained extreme heat and weather events impacting fruit size, yield and quality.

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“It is fantastic to see the orchards rebound this year, with growers producing some great quality fruit that we will be able to deliver to our customers, helping support improved returns for growers.”

“Our Northern Hemisphere supply programme continues to grow and is expected to double in volume by 2030 providing strong returns to the local industry, and making positive contributions to our growing communities,” Mr Kirton says.

ENDS

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IMAGERY

Imagery of Zespri’s Northern Hemisphere operations can be found in the following link:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/652wt12wxi1becvzvoene/h?rlkey=nrs5sqzyuuytkax8vv6v229l&dl=0>

ABOUT ZESPRI

Zespri is 100 percent owned by current and former kiwifruit growers and has a global team of 850 based in Mount Maunganui and throughout Asia, Europe and the Americas. Our purpose is to help people, communities and the environment thrive through the goodness of kiwifruit, and we work with 2,800 growers in New Zealand and 1,500 growers offshore to provide consumers with fresh, healthy and great-tasting Zespri Green, RubyRed™ and SunGold Kiwifruit. In 2022/23, we supplied 183.5 million trays of kiwifruit to consumers in more than 50 markets, and recorded global operating revenue of NZ\$4.22 billion. Zespri is committed to sustainability, with areas of improvement identified right through the supply chain including our pledge that by 2025 we will use 100 percent reusable, recyclable or compostable packaging, do more to help the environment, and work with our partners to be carbon positive by 2035.

2023 SEASON SUNGOLD KIWIFRUIT NORTHERN HEMISPHERE

France

Number of growers = 100

Producing Hectares = 340

2023 Crop Volume = 33% increase on 2022

Italy

Number of growers = 1,000

Producing Hectares = 2,700 producing hectares

2023 Crop Volume = 22% increase on 2022

Korea

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Number of growers = 250
Producing Hectares = 175
2023 Crop Volume = 56% increase on 2022

Japan

Number of growers = 200
Producing Hectares = 100
2023 Crop Volume = 32% increase on 2022