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Fresh produce trade booms in Dubai

International trading of fresh fruit and vegetables grew to Dh6.4bn in the first half of 2013



Statistics issued by Dubai Customs have demonstrated that the Emirate boosted its position as a global trader of fresh produce through the opening six months of the year.

The figures, published by Gulf News, showed that Dubai's trade in fruit and vegetables came to Dh6.4n (€1.3bn) through the half, up 19 per cent from Dh5.4bn (€1.1bn) in the same period of 2012.

Fresh produce imports entering local markets reached Dh4.6bn (€928m), rising from Dh3.9bn (€786m) in the previous year, while exports and re-exports grew to Dh1.8bn (€363m) from Dh1.5bn (€302m) in 2012.

According to the report, the change reflected growing demand for fresh produce domestically, driven by a booming population, an emerging economy and Dubai's leading position as a regional re-exporter.

For fruit, the US was the leading exporter to Dubai with about 25 per cent of shipments into the Emirate, while Iran was the leading market for export or re-exports from Dubai with a 15 per cent share.

Meanwhile, for vegetables, Iran again led the export/re-export list with 24 per cent of the total, while India was the leading exporter to Dubai with a 15 per cent share.