
A NEW ERA IN THE EXPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS

O. O. Ibragimov ¹

Doctor of Agricultural Sciences, Professor,
1Fergana State Technical University

I. X. Domuladjanov¹

Candidate of Technical Sciences, Associate Professor,
1Fergana State Technical University

B. F. Shamsuddinov ¹

Candidate of Technical Sciences, Associate Professor,
1Fergana State Technical University

Sh. I. Domuladjanova ¹

Senior Lecturer, 1Fergana State Technical University

B.O. Ibragimov ²

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), Specialist
²Ministry of Agriculture, Republic of Uzbekistan

E-mail: domuladjanovi@mail.ru, i.x.domuladjanov@fdtu.uz, tel. +998905823221

Abstract

The article provides information on the export of agricultural products to different countries. Currently, we are faced with the task of abandoning the monopoly on cotton and introducing a new approach to its use.

These are the issues discussed in the article, the complete processing of raw cotton before receiving finished cotton products in textile production in the so-called clusters and selling it for export.

This increases the importance and importance of agricultural exports in our country. Along with this, attention is paid to the process of growing grain, fruits and vegetables, grapes, which are well exported both to the CIS countries and abroad.

We have agreed with Russia and other countries to implement a project to create an Agro-Express for the transportation of agricultural products. An increase of 5% is planned in this area.

Keywords: Agriculture, cotton, wheat, legumes, fruits, vegetables, products, management, grapes, production, export, clusters, textile production.

Introduction

It should be recognized that our country has adopted a strategy for the development of agriculture for 2020-2030, and as a result of the large-scale economic reforms carried

out by our president, positive changes have occurred in the agricultural sector, and this process continues.

In particular, the cotton monopoly was ended after many years of hard work. We have achieved certain results in the field of grain cultivation, and we are slowly waiting for the dependence on imports. When the cluster system is put into practice, the classical management method is giving way to free market relations.

This process is creating a great opportunity for increasing export potential in the agricultural sector, including an increase in the number of processing industries in the agricultural sector that export finished products, not raw materials, abroad.

Export of agricultural products is an important component of the global economy. Today, the agricultural sector is reaching a new level by ensuring food security, responding to market demands, and introducing innovative solutions. In Uzbekistan, the development of agricultural products on foreign markets has become one of the priorities, and large-scale reforms are being implemented to increase export volumes and bring product quality into line with international standards.

In the context of increasing competition in the world market, it is important to increase the export potential of local products by applying effective marketing strategies, improving product delivery systems and using advanced agro-technologies. Additionally, the growing demand for environmentally friendly and organic products is creating new export opportunities and opening new market doors for local producers [1-6].

This study analyzes new trends, opportunities, and challenges in agricultural exports and explores promising directions in this regard.

Methods

Cotton production in Uzbekistan has long been one of the mainstays of the country's economy. However, in recent years, the Uzbek government has abandoned its monopoly on cotton production and pursued a policy of diversifying agriculture. This process is aimed at developing the cultivation of grains, fruits and vegetables, grapes and other products.

Since 2017, Uzbekistan has abandoned the state's monopoly on cotton purchases and created opportunities for farmers to sell their products on free markets. In addition, solving environmental problems by reducing cotton production and efficient use of agricultural land are highlighted as priorities. This creates ample opportunities for the development of other agricultural products with high added value due to the increase of cotton areas.

If we focus on grape exports alone, we see that Uzbekistan's grape exports to the US began to develop rapidly starting in 2023. In October of this year, the country exported its first batch of grapes to the United States, selling them through the NetCost supermarket chain. This batch, which included 1.7 tons of grapes, was delivered to the US market and received positive reviews among American ethnic communities and consumers interested in Uzbek products. Following this success, Uzbekistan plans to

export 3-4 tons of grapes per week to the US, including traditional varieties such as "Lady's Finger," "Kish-Mish," and "Husayni." These exports are being made after passing US food safety and phytosanitary inspections.

Uzbekistan is also focusing on logistics and technological development to further expand its grape production and export capabilities. This helps to further expand the country's grapes' presence on the international market. These data show a growing trend in the volume of Uzbek grapes supplied to the US market (Table 1).

Table 1 Growth trend in the volume of grapes supplied by Uzbekistan to the US market

Serial number	Year	Month	Export, tons
1.	2023	October	1,7
2.	2023	November	3,5
3.	2023	December	4,0
4.	2024	January	4,2
5.	2024	February	4,5
6.	2024	March	4,8
7.	2024	April	5,0
8.	2024	May	5,3
9.	2024	June	5,6
10.	2024	July	6,0

The schedule is tentative and shows the growth plan for the following months after the initial export in October 2023.

Results

Another of the most important agricultural products is undoubtedly rice. There were no elite rice centers that met international standards, no legally allocated land for breeding high-quality seeds, and no practical implementation of procedures for cleaning, sorting, and packaging seed rice. This situation led to a decrease in the competitiveness of local rice varieties.

The resolution specifically addresses the issues of introducing a continuous and efficient system of rice production, storage, and processing in our republic, ensuring the stable supply of rice to the domestic consumer market, and for this purpose, expanding scientific research in the field, especially foreign cooperation. In particular, it was decided that starting September 1, 2024, loans will be allocated to farmers, peasant farms, and others to finance the costs of growing and purchasing rice.

In 2025-2026, 20 percent of the cost of new seed drills and transplanting equipment purchased by agricultural enterprises for rice planting and manufactured no more than one year ago will be covered by subsidies from the state budget.

Uzbekistan is paying great attention to increasing its agricultural exports. Uzbek fruits and vegetables are in high demand around the world, with agricultural exports estimated to reach \$2.2 billion in 2022. Uzbek fruits and vegetables are in particularly high demand in Russia, China, Kazakhstan, and European countries.

The country's agricultural sector is also seeing the processing of products and creating added value as a priority. Uzbekistan plans to reduce its dependence on raw material exports by increasing exports of finished products.

Also, the process of selling agricultural products grown through hard labor and high costs, delivering them to the population on time, in good quality, and at affordable prices, exporting the surplus abroad, and generating income from it has not been fully formed as a separate mechanism. Moreover, given that business continuity is one of the main forces driving the economy, we can clearly estimate the limits of our possibilities. Foreigners buy almost all fruits grown in our country [7-9].

Table 2 Export of finished products in Uzbekistan

Year	Export volume (billion US dollars)	Growth rate (%)	Number of countries exported	Number of types of exported products
2017	12.55	-	108	1 219
2023	24.43	23.8	122	2 874
2024	31.8	-	186	-

These ecologically clean, naturally grown, vitamin-rich fruits can be shipped not only as fruits, but also processed, packaged, and sold as finished products (juice, jam, jam, etc.) labeled "Made in Uzbekistan."

Every quality product will certainly find a buyer. Farmers and farm managers, entrepreneurs should pay attention to this aspect of the issue today. Today, we had good intentions, saying that we would bring the export potential of our country to a new level. We must understand and act on the fact that Uzbekistan will no longer be a country that sells only raw materials abroad, but also produces high-quality, finished, recognized products and exports what exceeds its needs.

At the meeting, the head of state noted that it is possible to easily increase the added value by 3-4 times through deep processing of fruits and vegetables. Orders were given to organize specialized food industrial parks in Mirzaabad, Denov, Parkent, Orta Chirchik, Urganch and Kuva districts. Today, our country has sufficient food reserves. Control over prices has been strengthened, and comprehensive measures are being taken to produce products. It is also true that due to the complex situation in the world, international experts, social scientists, and analysts are making various assumptions about food security, or rather, shortages. It is emphasized that the price of agricultural products is expected to increase in the world, and in such a situation, first of all, it is necessary to make full use of the export opportunity to meet the demand of the population.

Of course, we are required to analyze foreign experience and define our strategy accordingly. It is necessary to justify our trust in food safety from a sanitary and epidemiological point of view, ensure that the quality of food products entering and leaving our country is high, and that it does not pose a threat to people's health. Another

problem we have is the lack of special accredited laboratories. There are very few food safety expertise laboratories. There are almost no specialized laboratories that can accurately test the chemical composition of food products [10-11].

Discussions

The importance of agricultural exports in Uzbekistan is growing year by year and is an important part of the country's economy. Agriculture accounts for approximately 25 percent of the country's gross domestic product, and fruit and vegetable exports are leading in this sector. Among the exported products, in addition to cotton and wheat, the production of high-yielding fruits and vegetables is increasing. This development is bringing significant benefits to the country and creating an opportunity to increase export revenues in the agricultural sector. In 2022, agricultural exports accounted for 8.4 percent of total revenues. At the same time, bringing product quality up to international standards plays an important role in expanding export markets. Therefore, the government is taking steps to encourage the production of products that meet international trade standards. In addition, the introduction of modern technologies in agriculture, for example, the AgroExpress project, serves as an important tool for ensuring the rapid delivery of products. These factors, together with joint research and international cooperation programs, are driving the effective increase and sustainable development of agricultural exports. This improvement can be further developed by opening new laboratories and educational research facilities.

According to the data, exports in 2020 amounted to \$1,034 million, and in subsequent years, annual growth rates have been high. For example, in 2021, growth was 33.2%, in 2022 - 19.7%, and in 2023 - 16.4%. During January-August 2024, exports showed a growth of 21%.

The Uzbek government's implementation of agricultural development strategies and its focus on the production of high-value products are having a positive impact on export growth. These include cotton, fruits and vegetables, and the introduction of innovative technologies that help increase export volumes. Table 2 shows the volume of agricultural exports.

Table 3 Indicators of the growth of agricultural exports in our republic

Ordinal number	Year	Volume of agricultural exports	Growth image, %
1.	2020	1,034	-
2.	2021	1,377	33,2
3.	2022	1,650	19,7
4.	2023	1,920	16,4
5.	2024 (January-August)	1,022	21

Modern technologies are playing an important role in Uzbekistan's agriculture. Irrigation technologies, solar energy, and monitoring systems using drones are being introduced in agriculture.

Many farmers in Uzbekistan are currently increasing their crop yields by implementing new agricultural technologies. In particular, the use of drip irrigation systems and high-yielding seeds is an important step in introducing new methods in the agricultural sector.

The introduction of technologies also facilitates export processes. Here, areas such as logistics, storage and transport technologies, and the delivery of frozen products are of great importance.

The introduction of new technologies in the storage and transportation of products during export in Uzbekistan will help maintain product quality and open up opportunities for long-distance exports.

We can organize laboratories for the region at the university. Then entrepreneurs will not have to take their products to Tashkent or other distant regions for testing. These laboratories are where students, masters, and researchers conduct their scientific work. Products are tested and certified based on standards. Entrepreneurs can take their products anywhere, and the important thing is that modern preventive and therapeutic solutions in the field play an important role in ensuring food security and producing high-quality, environmentally friendly products. The work carried out by the university and its partner scientists and researchers serves to positively address this global issue. The popularization of advanced practices and joint resolution of issues in collaboration with foreign universities is a very necessary and desirable process today, when global food security problems are increasing.

In recent years, the economic difficulties that have arisen as a result of the negative consequences of the pandemic, the disruption of the production and supply chains of products and goods, and geopolitical processes that have caused a sharp change in the system of international relations, another solution to the problem is for each state to begin developing new international coordinated efforts based on its economic competence.

Because recognizing the existence of a problem is the first and foremost step towards eliminating it. sells, exports.

Uzbekistan's textile industry has experienced rapid growth in recent years. From 2020 to 2023, total exports in this sector almost doubled, from \$1.9 billion in 2020 to \$3.5 billion in 2023. The main factor in this was the increase in exports of yarn and finished textile products. The growth trend continues in the first months of 2024, and exports are expected to reach even higher levels according to annual forecasts.

The processing of cotton and the production of textile products (maherli products) LLC II "Rus U`zbekteks" is located in the M. Topvoldiev MFY, Rishton district, Fergana region (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Advanced production equipment of the Rus U`zbekteks enterprise

Cotton processing and textile products (maherli - products) are produced by OOO II "Rus U`zbekteks", this production is located in the M. Topvoldiev Industrial Complex, Rishton district, Fergana region.

Uzbekistan's textile industry export data for 2020 to 2024 is presented in Table 3. This table shows the main products such as yarn, finished fabrics, and knitted fabrics.

Table 4 **Textile industry export data**

Year	Total textile exports (million USD)	Silk export, (million USD)	Ready-made textiles (million USD)	Knitted fabric (million USD)	Hosiery products (million USD)
2020	1,915	880	712	178,3	30,5
2021	2,282	1,024	809	205,6	34,8
2022	3,110	1,280	1,154	320,8	40,9
2023	3,576	1,445	1,288	350,9	46,7
2024	1,000 (January-August)	473,6	377	94,6	14,2

Conclusion

In summary, Uzbekistan's export performance in recent years has shown significant growth in the agricultural and textile sectors. Textile industry: From 2020 to 2024, the export volume of textile products almost doubled, and demand for yarn and finished fabrics, among the main products, continued to grow. Our country's exports are

expected to reach \$1 billion in the first four months of 2024 and grow again by the end of the year. Agriculture: Exports have also increased due to the government's agricultural development strategies and market reforms. Uzbekistan exports products such as fruits, vegetables, and cotton, and is implementing express transportation projects such as Agro-Express with Russia and other countries. The average annual growth in this sector is expected to be 5%.

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