



WORLD PROCESSING TOMATO COUNCIL

WPTC Crop update as of 30 January 2019

Southern Hemisphere

In **Argentina**, a total surface of 5,541 hectares was planted and the latest estimate is reduced to 400,000 tonnes. There were some rains in San Juan but yields are good at 100 to 120 t/ha on average. Harvest is starting in Mendoza. In the north-east of this region, about 400 hectares were affected by hail with different level of damage amongst farms. The situation is OK in Rio Negro and La Rioja. Temperatures are currently high with high humidity.

In **Chile**, last Friday one processor started harvesting fields that had been transplanted earlier than usual. The other processors will start during the first week of February. The hot and dry weather conditions are perfect for tomatoes, and a good colour is expected. The forecast remains 1,143,000 tonnes.

In **Peru**, the weather conditions are good, and the production forecast remains 100,000 tonnes.

Northern Hemisphere

In **China**, it is too early to have information on the 2019 planting area, but according to the current situation, the estimate is for around 4.5 million tonnes to be processed in 2019.

In **Iran**, the latest estimate is that 750,000 tonnes have been processed in 2018. With attention to the farms preparations that have been seen, the estimate is to process 1,500,000 tons tomatoes in 2019.

In **Turkey**, the forecast is still very unclear as negotiations are ongoing. The best forecast remains 1.9 million tonnes.

The Turkish Ministry of Commerce has published in the official gazette on 29/01/a notification about import quota for tomato paste with zero per cent (0%) custom duty. The total allowed volume is 25,000 tonnes and the due date for last physical import is 31/05/2019. Being a tomato processor is a must. The processors should apply within 10 days after publication date of this official statement by presenting the required documents such as capacity and operating reports and the processor's tomato paste production and export amounts in last 3 years. After acceptance of applications, the allowed importation amount of each single processor will be decided and published by authorities (see 2019 (<http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/main.aspx?home=http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2019/01/20190129.htm&main=http://www.resmigazete.gov.tr/eskiler/2019/01/20190129.htm>)).