



# Argentine peanut complex is the world's leading exporter

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Peanut production is a key regional activity in the central province of Córdoba. The activity in this province includes primary production, industrial processing and exports. Córdoba is known for its peanuts quality worldwide, as for the cutting-edge technology applied to the production, the industrialization and the conditioning of peanuts. According the Argentine Chamber of Peanuts (CAM – Cámara Argentina de Maní), local peanut sector consist on 21 agro-export companies. Most of them are SMEs and national capital cooperatives, and there are only two foreign capital firms. Four large companies' exports make up 50% of the sector's total exports, nine medium-sized companies represent 39% and the remaining 11% correspond to eleven small companies. Peanuts sector employs, directly and indirectly, about 12,000 people in Córdoba and it is essential for the province's economic development. Peanut complex in Argentina stands out as an efficiently integrated sector, where primary producers cope with industries and exporters in a very effective way, forming a successful chain. Peanut producers are associated in cooperatives that own industrial plants and export operators, or have deals with industrial companies. This type of organization promotes a standardized-processes production that ensures a high quality product that meets international standards. Furthermore, through different processes applied wastes, such as peanut shells, it has been possible generate electrical energy and PAC. Therefore, the peanut sector does not only originate products with added value but it also reduces pollution and contributes to sustainable development. Production Peanut harvest in Argentina was strongly affected by the drought that also cut other coarse crops yields. According to CAM data, the production of peanut fell by 26% in 2017/18 if compared to the previous cycle. Yields fell by 29.4%, from 23.1 qq/ha to 16.3 qq/ha, in a cycle where planted area grew by 5.2%. The Argentine Chamber of Peanuts estimates a 16% reduction in peanut-planted area in the next cycle (from 423,000 hectares to 355,000). The poor results of 2017/18 crop, together with the introduction of further export duties, as well as the limited access to financing sources, explain peanuts current decrease according to the CAM. Exports In recent years, peanuts average national production was 1.05 million tons, 95% of which is exported, 50% to the European community and the other 50% to a hundred other countries. The large exportable balance responds to a low level of domestic consumption. Argentines consume only about 400 grams of peanut a year, well below the 5kg per capita consumption in traditional peanut-consuming countries such as the Netherlands.

## Peanut complex exports (tons)

Product	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	13/'17 Var.
Blanched and toasted peanuts - Penut butter	288.609,78	266.406,88	340.730,08	393.112,78	373.767,15	29,51%
Peanut seeds	26,00	26,00		78,00	52,00	100,00%
Peanuts without peel - Broken peanuts	189.029,13	162.893,52	258.997,91	297.648,54	182.401,12	-3,51%
Peanut pellets and expellers	13.666,41	18.503,10	11.106,23	14.945,61	8.909,08	-34,81%
<b>Total</b>	<b>491.331,32</b>	<b>447.829,50</b>	<b>610.834,21</b>	<b>705.784,92</b>	<b>565.129,35</b>	<b>15,02%</b>
Crude peanut oil	40.780,06	82.551,70	66.444,61	80.791,36	82.981,11	103,48%
Peanut refied oil	23,53	43,10	72,75	43,60	22,00	-6,48%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>532.134,91</b>	<b>530.424,31</b>	<b>677.351,57</b>	<b>786.619,88</b>	<b>648.132,46</b>	<b>21,80%</b>

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Argentina has consolidated itself as the world's leading exporter of quality peanuts, being snacks industry the primary destination of national peanuts. Since 2007, Cordoba's peanut products have been exported under "Maní de Córdoba" merchandise mark, which guaranties premium quality. In addition to China, other peanut producing countries such as the US, India, South Africa, Mexico, Turkey, Brazil, Egypt and Australia are increasingly demanding Argentine peanuts for their



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gourmet niches. Peanut by-products were the seventh most relevant products among Argentine Food and Beverages exports (in US\$), representing 1.8% of the total.

### 2017/18 main peanut exporters (October to September)

Peanut and by-products			Peanut oil			Peanut meal and pellets		
Country	Thousand tons	Share	Country	Thousand tons	Share	Country	Thousand tons	Share
India	520	19,73%	Argentina	84	32,31%	Sudan	65	53,72%
US	500	18,98%	Brazil	54	20,77%	Argentina	14	11,57%
Argentina	480	18,22%	Senegal	22	8,46%	Nicaragua	11	9,09%
China	430	16,32%	Nicaragua	17	6,54%	India	9	7,44%
Brazil	185	7,02%	India	12	4,62%	Senegal	4	3,31%
Senegal	120	4,55%	China	8	3,08%	US	2	1,65%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2635</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>100,00%</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>100%</b>

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