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Popular Article

Import & Export of Major Vegetables in Nepal

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Abstract

In Nepal many populations depend on agriculture for living their life also they are generating a good income from agriculture. There are three reasons (Terai, Hills, and Himalayas) and the people who are living in Terai depend upon agriculture. Approximately 90% of farmers are from the Terai region but vegetables like, tomatoes, onions, cabbage, carrots, cucumber, pumpkins, potatoes, etc are imported from India to fulfill the requirements of the population. These imported vegetables are also inexpensive from the farmer's vegetables. Tomatoes, Onions, and Cucumbers are imported in maximum quantity. To export of vegetables from Nepal is much less in quantity as compared to import.

Keywords: - Import, Export, Vegetables, India and Nepal

Introduction:

Nepal is a landlocked country having an area of 147,181 sq. km. with a population of 2,91,92,420 and also geographically divided into three geo-ecological zones mountains (4,877m – 8,848 m above the mean sea level), Hills (610 m – 4,877m), and Terai (59 m – 610m). Mainly terai regions are used for growing vegetable.

And it is also low flat land and is an extension of the Gangetic plains of India. About 40 % area are used for agriculture and 53.66 % of the total population are belongs to Terai regions. Several peaks, fertile valleys, basins, 'Mahabharat Range', is the largest hill range that passes through the Hill region and occupies 42 % of the country's land area.

Vegetables and their outcome (like salads, fermented and non-fermented pickles, prepared sauces, and conserved, frozen, marinated, and dried vegetables) are a good source of energy. The food industry is determined by the importance of vegetables. The complex chemical content that is important to the human body like carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, and organic acids are found in the vegetables. The high content of minerals (like Ca, P, Fe, K, Mg, S, Cl, Zn, and Cu), and a high content of vitamins (like A, B complex, C, E, F, K, P, and PP) are also found in the vegetables. Vegetables synthesize the basic compounds that are necessary for their survival (carbohydrates, lipids, and proteins) from the sun. Vegetables are sources of nutrients but are also 75–95 % water. The dry matter of vegetables consists of biomolecules like



lipids, proteins and carbohydrates minerals, vitamins.

Import and Export data of 2.5 years of Nepal are shown in the table and also in the pie chart. In Nepal mainly the export of vegetables is more as compared to import. Because imported vegetables are cheaper and also minimize the income of Nepal farmers. Farmers are selling their products in the market as compared to imported vegetables therefore they cannot get their affordable price in the market.

Table No:- 1. Based on Annual data (Shrawan-Asar) of FY 2079/80 (Mid July 2022 to Mid July 2023) Import data of major vegetables.

S. N.	HS CODE	IMPORT VEGETABLES	QUANTITY (KG)
1	702000	Tomatoes fresh or chilled	42105604
2	703100	Onions and shallots, fresh or chilled	180190241
3	707000	Cucumbers and gherkins, fresh or chilled	4255996
4	709930	Pumpkins, squash and gourds (Cucurbita spp), fresh or chilled	3240101
5	710100	Potatoes, frozen	4400405
6	713101	Dried peas, in shelled	304535
7	704100	Cauliflowers and broccoli	34765
8	706100	Carrots and turnips, fresh or chilled	391953
9	709510	Mushrooms of the genus agaricus, fresh or chilled	317933
10	712200	Dried onions	1328611
11	713350	Cow peas (Vigna unguiculata)	360970

Department of Custom, Nepal.

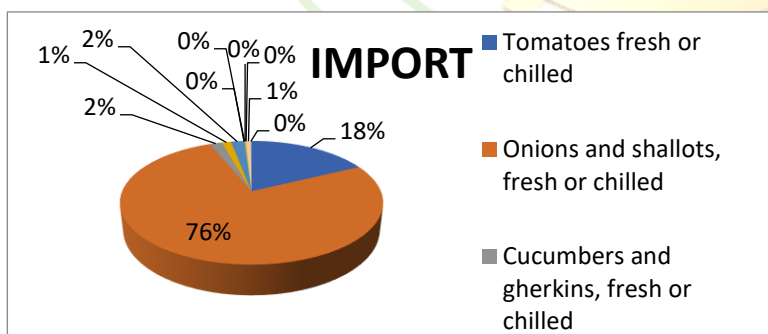


Fig No:- 1. Major imported vegetables of FY 2079/80 are shown in percentage.

Table No:- 2. Based on Annual data (Shrawan-Asar) of FY 2079/80 (Mid July 2022 to Mid July 2023) Export data of major vegetables.

S.N.	HS CODE	EXPORT VEGETABLES	QUANTITY (KG)
1	702000	Tomatoes fresh or chilled	1094005
2	706100	Carrots and turnips, fresh or chilled	10596
3	709510	Mushrooms of the genus agaricus, fresh or chilled	6121
4	712200	Dried onions	28100
5	703100	Onions and shallots, fresh or chilled	4146
6	708900	Leguminous vegetables, fresh or chilled, nes	584
7	709930	Pumpkins, squash and gourds (Cucurbita spp)	53000
8	713101	Dried peas, in shelled	11256
9	704100	Cauliflowers and broccoli, fresh or chilled	5645

Department of Custom, Nepal.

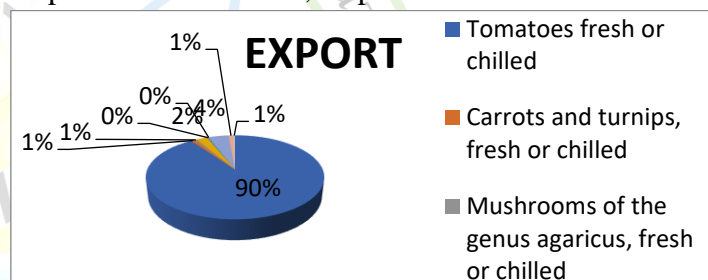


Fig No:- 2. Major exported vegetables of FY 2079/80 are shown in percentage.

Tables No. 1 & 2 are the data of imported and exported vegetables in an annual that is mid-July 2022 to mid-July 2023. In this one year onions were imported at approximately 76% as compared to other vegetables and also tomatoes 18% and cucumber 2% which are shown in Fig No. 1. And Nepal exported approximately 90% tomatoes and 4% onion, carrots 1% and mushrooms 1% which is given in Fig No. 2.

Table No:- 3. Based on Annual data of FY 2078/079 (Mid July 2021 to Mid July 2022) Import & data of major vegetables.



		IMPORT	Department of Custom, Nepal.
S.N.	HS CODE	VEGETABLES	QUANTITY (KG)
2	7031000	Onions and shallots, fresh or chilled	
3	7041000	Cauliflowers and headed broccoli, fresh or chilled	
4	7061000	Carrots and turnips, fresh or chilled	
5	7070000	Cucumbers and gherkins, fresh or chilled	
6	7082000	Beans, fresh or chilled	
7	7089000	Leguminous vegetables, fresh or chilled, nes	
8	7095100	Mushrooms of the genus agaricus, fresh or chilled	
9	7097000	Spinach, fresh or chilled	
10	7099300	Pumpkins, squash and gourds (Cucurbita spp)	
11	7101000	Potatoes, frozen	
12	7122000	Dried onions	

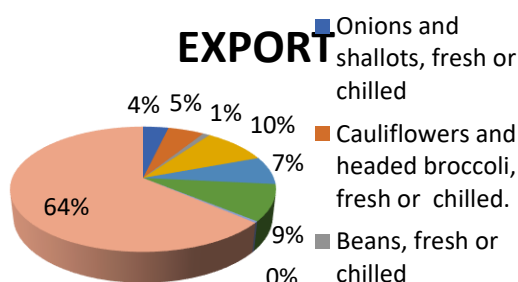
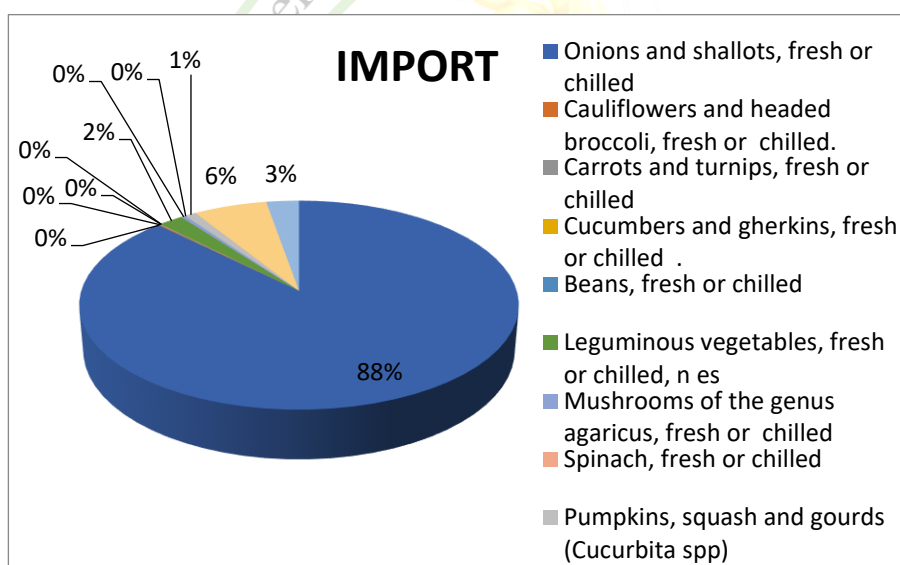


Fig No:- 4. Major exported vegetables of FY 2078/79 are shown in percentage.



Department of Custom, Nepal.

Fig No:- 3. Major imported vegetables of FY 2078/79 are shown in percentage

Table No:- 4. Based on Annual data of FY 2078/079 (Mid July 2021 to Mid July 2022) Export data of major vegetables

		EXPORT	
S. N.	HS CODE	VEGETABLES	QUANTITY (KG)
2	7031000	Onions and shallots, fresh or chilled	1972
3	7041000	Cauliflowers and headed broccoli, fresh or chilled.	2800
4	7082000	Beans, fresh or chilled	525
5	7089000	Leguminous vegetables, fresh or chilled, nes	5021
6	7095100	Mushrooms of the genus agaricus, fresh or chilled	3876
7	7099300	Pumpkins, squash and gourds (Cucurbita spp)	5000
8	7101000	Potatoes, frozen	205

Tables No. 3 & 4 are the data of imported and exported vegetables in a year that is mid-July 2021 to mid-July 2022. In this one year, onions were imported at approximately 88% as compared to other vegetables and also beans 3% and cucumber 6%, cauliflower 2% which are shown in Fig No. 3. And Nepal exported approximately 64% dried onions and 10% leguminous vegetables, pumpkin 9% and mushrooms 7%, onion 4%, beans 1%, cauliflower 5% which is given in Fig No. 4.

Conclusions: -

Out of the total 1,47,181 square kilometers land area of Nepal, agricultural land is 28 percent (of which 21 percent is cultivated and 7 percent uncultivated); forest area is about 40 percent and pasture covers 12 percent (CBS, 2013). Out of the total arable land in Nepal, Terai and Hill occupy around 56 percent and 36 percent respectively (CBS, 2013). But Nepal imported vegetables from other country to



fulfill the requirement of the population. Mainly dried onions, cucumber and tomatoes are imported. In respect to export Nepal generally export tomatoes, cauliflower and pumpkin but the amount export is very less as compare to import. Growing of vegetables can fulfill the requirement and generate the income for country.

References: -

CBS. (2013). Statistical Year Book of Nepal-2013. Government of Nepal, National Planning Commission Secretariat. Central Bureau of Statistics, Kathmandu.

