

# THE REASONS OF RAPID TRANSFORMATION PROCESS IN AGRICULTURE OF TURKEY

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Turkey has 46 billion tonnes/year of horticulture (fruits and vegetables) production and 93,3 billion tonnes/year of field crops in 4 billion hectare of open field and 60.000 hectare of protected area so it is one of the world's major producer countries with its 139 billion tonnes crop production.

The rapid developments in the Turkish economy in recent years, Turkey has been brought to the state of the world 16<sup>th</sup> largest economy. According to World Bank data, Turkey is the world 16<sup>th</sup> largest economy with its gross domestic product (GDP), besides agricultural gross national product has seem (AGNP) is more affirmative. Agricultural gross national product with three-times increase has reached from 24 billion dollars to 62,5 billion dollars in the last 10 years. While Turkey was 11<sup>th</sup> place in 2002, it has been 7<sup>th</sup> place in 2012 in agricultural gross national product in the world order; as well as in Europe, Turkey has increased to 1<sup>st</sup> place through very important country for the agricultural economy like France, Italy, Spain, Russia. Turkey is closely located to continent-sized territory of countries such as China, India, USA, Indonesia and Brazil. Besides Turkey's government policy this rapid rise of Turkey has been through to increase its share of scientific research and the use of modern techniques in agriculture.

Turkey is the 1<sup>st</sup> rank in seven crops (nuts, apricot, fig, cherry, sour cherry, quince and poppy seeds), 2<sup>nd</sup> rank in six crops (watermelon, melon, strawberry, leek, honey and vetch), and 3<sup>rd</sup> rank in eight crops (lentil, apple, cucumber, green pepper, fresh bean, chestnut, pistachio and sheep's milk) in FAO list. In this state, Turkey is the third productive country for some crops after China and India. USA follows Turkey. More than 700 species are produced and thousands of agricultural products are exported in our country. According to international standards; Turkey is one of the most important agricultural countries in the world in terms of agricultural economics and agricultural production.

Rapid transformation process of Turkey agriculture will be discussed in this article. Reasons of this rapid rise of production, how modern techniques using in agriculture, how to accelerate in scientific studies, how is the change in marketing and export policies, and new approaches in relations between producers and consumers will be explained.