

- ❖ South Australian apple growers are seeking Asian markets this season due to high-quality crop.
- ❖ Western Australian wholesalers are strengthening the domestic market of table grapes through imports from California.
- ❖ Lemon output expected to fall 20 per cent after the worst frost in 24 years during August 2013 in north-eastern Argentina.
- ❖ Chinese consumers are now able to pre-order cherries from the US using specified section of online marketplace websites operated by dominant Chinese e-commerce company Alibaba Group.
- ❖ A new assistance programme coordinated by The Netherland's Wageningen University and Research Centre is being launched to better equip the banana farmers in the Philippines to fight the infectious Panama disease.
- ❖ After more than two years, Indian researchers from IIHR have succeeded in standardizing the mushroom for domestic cultivation.
- ❖ Due to poor post-harvest practices and facilities, the Indian horticulture industry is facing losses estimated to about USD 32.7 billion per year. This leads to 30% of India's fresh produce rendered unfit for consumption.
- ❖ Researchers have identified a new species of tree with edible fruits with a spongy texture and sweet flavour from the Agasthyamalai hills of Western Ghats in India.
- ❖ Bananas have topped the list as the most-consumed fruit in South Korea over the last ten years. Korea Customs Service data shows that banana shipments reached 368,000 tonnes in 2012, comprising 48.7% of the nation's total fruit imports.
- ❖ The Philippines' government accepted imports of fresh table-stock potatoes from the US Philippines with a population of 100m residents, has become an attractive opportunity for the US potato industry.
- ❖ Projections show that agricultural exports will reach US\$140bn for the year, potentially setting a new benchmark.
- ❖ Australian importers receive long awaited confirmation regarding imports of US stonefruit. The stonefruit imports will be currently limited to peaches and nectarines.
- ❖ The US Department of Agriculture (USDA) is forecasting a harvest of 960m tonnes, of which the US is predicted to supply more than a third
- ❖ Tesco has confirmed it has agreed to sell a "substantive part" of its US Fresh & Easy business to investment fund Yucaipa.
- ❖ Ukrainian meat group MHP 's poultry production facilities, while working at full capacity during the first half of the year showed a significant increase in poultry sales and exports increasing by 18% to 190,180 tonnes
- ❖ Ukraine, one of the world's leading grain exporters, aims to boost shipments to Iran by 30% this year.
- ❖ Seed potatoes from Great Britain will be making their way to Vietnam due to a new protocol signed by the authorities in both countries.

