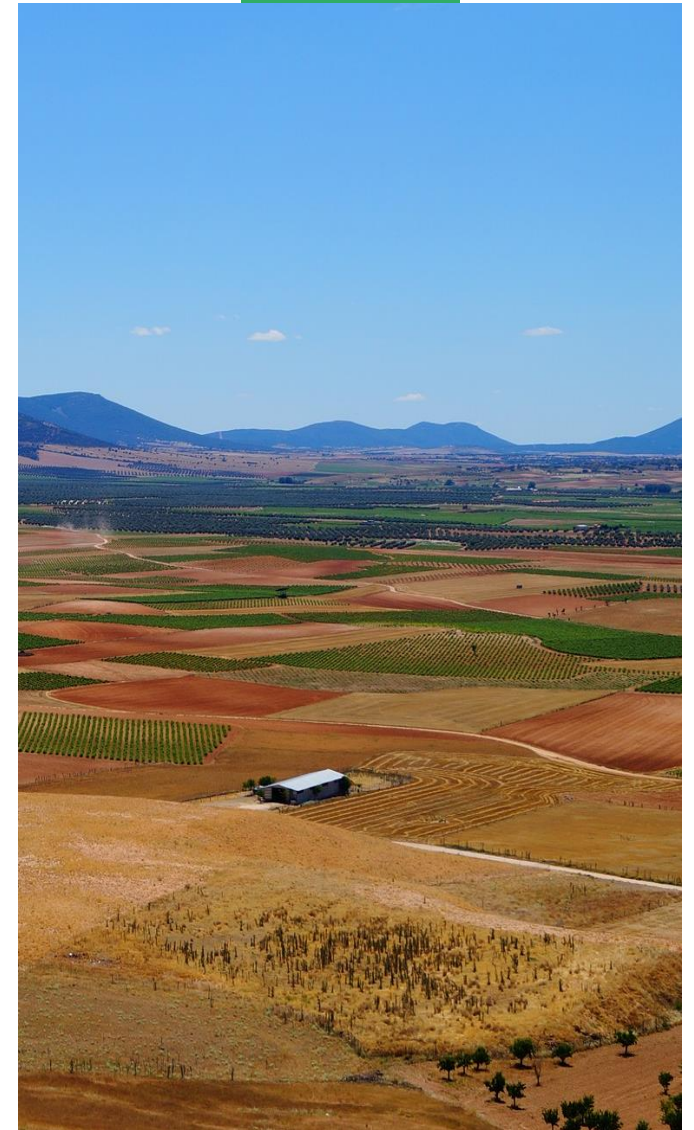




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Cut-off lower-pressure storm in Spain

November 7, 2024



What happened?

- Valencia and the surrounding areas, including Almería and other parts of Andalucía, are responsible for mass production of fresh produce, including more than 60 per cent of the country's citrus fruits.
- Huge areas of farmland under water, there is concern that this could gravely affect the harvest for coming months.
- AVA-ASAJA (Valencian Agricultural Producers' Association) already confirmed in the Grocer "significant damage" to the region's crops and operations. The AVA-ASAJA also asserted that they were anticipating thousands of hectares of citrus, persimmons, vegetables, vines, and other crops to have been lost.
- Like the multiple complicated clean-up and recovery operations currently underway across Valencia's urban areas afflicted by flooding, it is equally complicated for farmers to fully access their land to assess the full scale of the damage. Floods have created significant obstacles to rural roads and agricultural infrastructure including greenhouses, machinery, and packing plants.
- Most affected by damage to agricultural land - La Ribera Alta and Baja, L'Horta, Hoya de Buñol, Utiel-Requena, Camp de Túria, and Los Serranos.
- "We are facing a catastrophe ... the losses will be in the millions (of euros)," said Ricardo Bayo, secretary of the Union of Small Producers (UPA) in Valencia.



What happened?

- The rainfall, which was accompanied by strong winds and tornadoes, was caused by a meteorological phenomenon known as an Cu-off low (DANA) that has affected a large area in the south and east of Spain. Valencia area was the main impacted area but damages and personal losses happened also in Albacete (Letur), Cuenca (Mira), Malaga, Almeria.
- In some places over 500 liters per square meter were recorded.
- In a few hours, the equivalent of a year's worth of rain fell in some areas, causing huge floods that swept away entire towns, trapping thousands of people.
- Over 222 people were among those who died and dozens are still missing due to severe floods that mainly affected the region of Valencia, in eastern Spain.



Weather events in Valencia

Affected towns	65
Affected population	845.371
Affected workers	345.000
Affected companies	48.722

Source: Valencia Chamber of Commerce. Telecinco



Source: Europa Press



Source: elmundo.es



Source: La Sexta



Source: El País

The death caused by the cut-off low in the Valencian Community amounts to over 215 people, according to the latest update. The total figure, counting the deceased in Castilla-La Mancha and Andalusia, rises to 222. (expected to increase)

Weather events in Almeria

Heavy rains and hail storms have caused severe damage to vegetable greenhouses and citrus and persimmon production. In Almería, the Andalusian Regional Government estimates that the cut-off low has damaged 4,200 (current data provided by growers is 11,500 hectares) of wintering area in El Ejido and Dalías.

Source: ABC España



Source: UPA Andalucía. Agrodiario.com



Source: Revista Mercados



Source: Diario de Almería



Source: Fresh Plaza



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Next steps

Would a further call be helpful? **Yes, we will do it. Next steps will be shared soon**

How can companies sourcing from the region best support growers at this difficult time.

Supporting in different ways to be defined during next joint calls to follow up and/or contacting suppliers in the area and asking them

- Some ideas and steps forward were shared. Mainly:
 - Prepare a list of initiatives and local civil society organizations that are having positive and real impact with their support.
 - Immediate needs are mainly volunteers and machinery to clean mud, wastes, and furniture from streets now. This machinery could be used to clean fields in the future.
 - Providing kids a decent place and materials for their education is urgent so they are safe and go back as soon as possible to a “normal” life.
 - Work on transportation of workers and improvement of paths & roads may be needed in short-medium term (many have lost their vehicles and have difficulties to go to work)
 - In the long term, massive psychological help will be needed for the local population



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Thanks



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