



**Argentina 2024 Dry Bean Crop Monitoring Report**  
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**April, 2024**



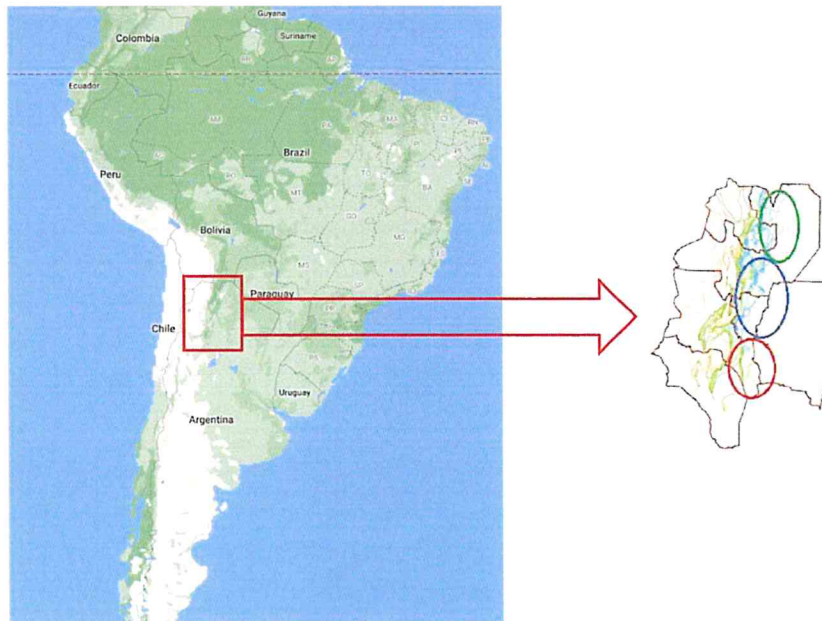
*Juxtaposition of a black bean field in the central growing area, where crops rate very good, and a bean field in the northern growing area, where rainfall has been spotty since February 24.*

**Executive Summary**

- At the time of this writing, the seeding of Argentina's 2024 dry bean crop has pretty much concluded, although there is a slim chance some growers in the north may risk seeding well past the close of the planting window if moisture materializes in mid-April.
- Bean crops in the central and southern growing area (where most of the black bean production is concentrated) rate very good.
- Bean crops in the northern growing area, however, are at elevated risk of crop failure due to dry conditions. The northern region traditionally encompasses 90% of the area seeded to alubia beans, 80% of the area seeded to cranberry beans, 50-60% of the area seeded to LRKBs and 30-35% of the area seeded to DRKBs.

### Crop Condition

Argentina's dry bean production is mainly concentrated in the country's northwest region, with most of it taking place in three distinct subregions: the southern subregion (where mostly black beans are grown as well as some DRKBs, LRKBs and mung beans); the central subregion (where mostly black beans are grown as well as DRKBs and LRKBs); and the northern subregion (where mostly alubia beans are grown as well as cranberry beans, mung beans, DRKBs and LRKBs). Planting commences in the southern subregion (planting window is from Jan. 5 – Feb. 20) and progresses northward (the planting window in the north runs from Feb. 10 to Mar. 20).



*Argentina's three bean growing subregions: south (red circle), central (blue circle) and north (green circle).*

	<b>Southern</b>	<b>Central</b>	<b>Northern</b>
<b>Planting window</b>	Jan. 5 – Feb. 20	Jan. 15 – Feb. 25	Feb. 10 – Mar. 20
<b>Share of planted area</b>	30%	30%	40%
<b>Main bean classes</b>	Mostly blacks, and also DRKB, LRKB and mung beans	Mostly blacks, and also DRKB and LRKB	Mostly alubia, and also cranberry, mung, DRKB and LRKB

#### Southern and Central Subregions

In the southern and central subregions, much of the crop was planted towards the end of the planting window or beyond due to dry conditions from mid-January through mid-February. Since then, however, the weather conditions have been favorable and bean crops there rate very good across the board. However, insect and disease pressures are high and some plants show signs of bacteriosis. This is the consequence of the lack of investment in seed genetics. Most growers in Argentina do not use certified

seed but rather either set aside some of their crop to use as seed the following growing season or brown-bag seed.



*DRKBs and LRKBs in the central growing region near the town of Rosario de la Frontera. Seeded February 15-17. Photo taken April 8.*



*Black bean field. Seeded February 20-22.*

### Northern Subregion

In the Northern subregion, temperatures have been elevated and rains have been spotty since February 24. Consequently, many key growing areas are dry. In some areas, it has not rained for more than a month; growers hold out hope that rains will arrive and prevent a total loss, but even so yields will be impacted. One area that is especially dry is the Route 5 corridor in Salta Province, a key alubia bean growing area. Along the corridor, a good part of the crop had yet to be seeded as of April 9 and some areas needed to be reseeded; however, given the lack of soil moisture and the late date, some growers decided not to plant. The planting window already closed and planting at such a late date would result in low yield potential and put the crop at a very high risk of frost. Further north in the area of Tartagal, a good number of bean crops were lost and some lots went unseeded. A number of fields had to be reseeded. Much of the bean plants in the area are short and have already entered the flowering stage.

The impact of these climate conditions on Argentina's 2024 dry bean crop will be significant, especially for some of the country's major bean classes. The northern subregion traditionally encompasses 90% of the alubia bean area, 80% of the cranberry bean area, 50-60% of the LRKB area and 30-35% of the DRKB area.

On the flip side, the mung bean crop seeded in the north is currently being harvested and, because of the dry conditions, the quality of the beans is very good.



*Bean field in the northern subregion. These beans were seeded March 27.*



*What a difference a year makes. These images are of the same bean field near Tartagal, Salta Province, 35 days after planting in 2023 (left) and 2024 (right).*



*Bean field with crop development 35 days after seeding.*

#### **Planted Area Estimates**

In our first Argentina crop monitoring report of the year (available [here](#)), we provided estimated seeding intention figures for 2024. Sources indicate those numbers still reflect the seeding plans of bean growers at the start of the season, but some will need to be adjusted downward to reflect the lots that were lost

or went unseeded in the north. It is still too early to assess the losses in the north, and therefore the chart below once again presents our estimates of seeding intentions and highlights in red the bean classes that are likely to see a significant reduction in area in future reports.

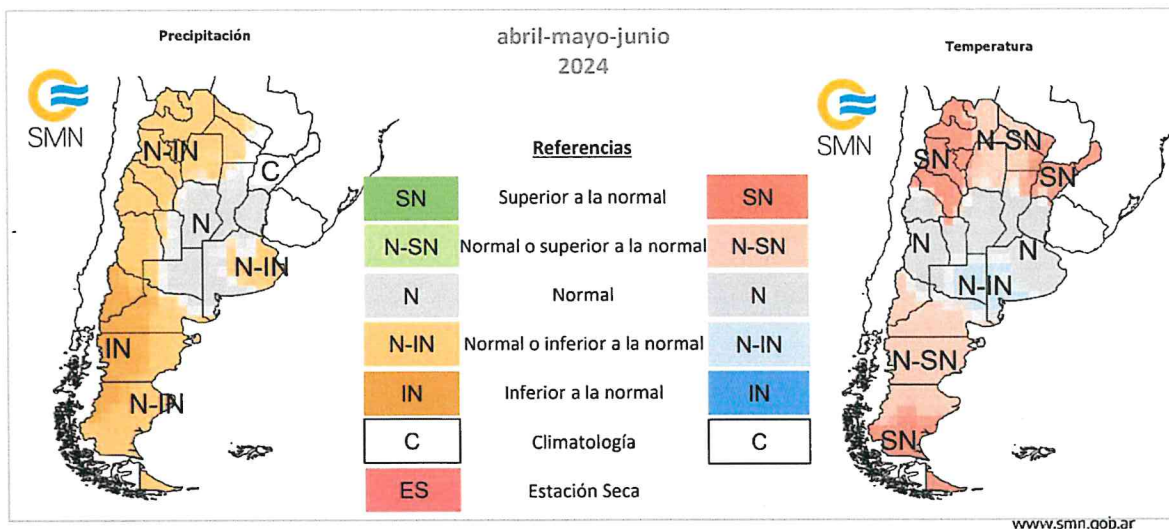
### Argentina's Dry Bean Area (2019 – 2024)

Bean Class	Planted Area (Hectare)							
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2023/24 % change	2024/5-year avg % change
Black	147,000	147,000	160,000	185,000	185,000	195,000	5%	18%
Alubia	170,000	175,000	183,750	170,000	142,000	170,000	20%	1%
Cranberry	25,500	18,000	28,000	37,000	40,000	40,000	0%	35%
DRK	21,000	22,000	35,000	45,000	45,000	55,000	22%	64%
LRK	8,000	9,000	11,000	15,000	17,000	20,000	18%	67%
Mung	50,000	50,000	55,000	60,000	70,000	70,000	0%	23%
<b>Total</b>	<b>421,500</b>	<b>421,000</b>	<b>472,750</b>	<b>512,000</b>	<b>499,000</b>	<b>550,000</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>18%</b>

Source: USDBC

### Three-Month Weather Forecast (April-May-June)

For the months of April, May and June, Argentina's [National Meteorological Service](#) forecasts normal to below normal precipitation and above normal temperatures for the bean growing region.

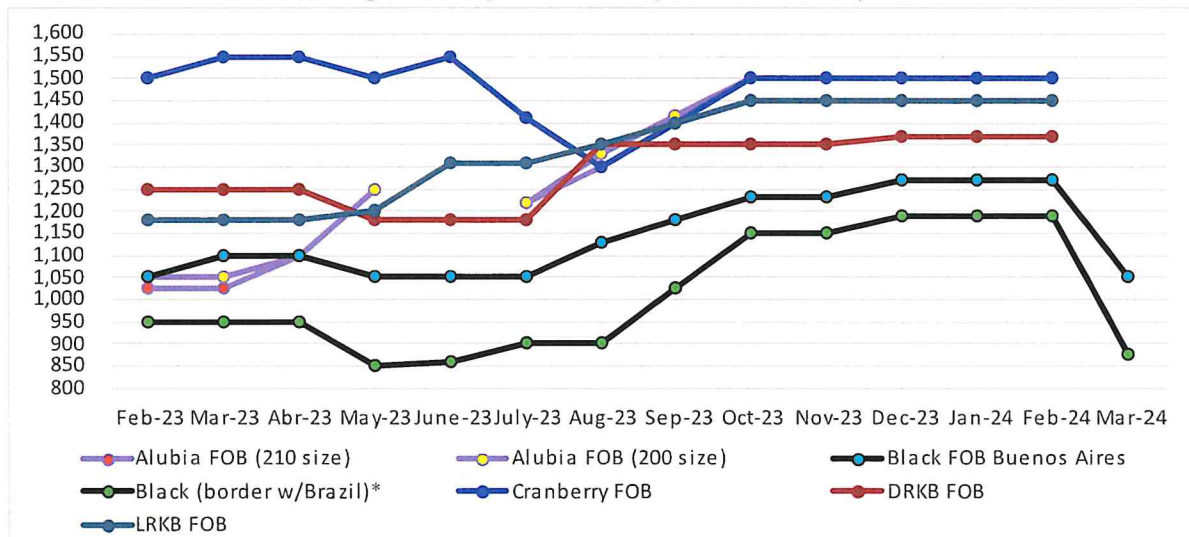


Source: Argentina's [National Meteorological Service](#)

### Bean Prices

Starting with this report, all prices are for forward contracted 2024 crop. Black bean prices at the border with Brazil (Puerto Iguazu) are at \$875 per MT and the FOB price Buenos Aires is \$1,050 per MT. Prices for alubia, DRKB, LRKB and cranberry beans are unavailable. Producers of these bean classes facing poor growing conditions are looking to assure seed for the 2025 planting season and those who are having a good crop are holding onto their beans in the expectation of higher prices. For this reason, prices for alubia beans, cranberry beans, DRKBs and LRKBs are not shown on the chart below.

**Argentina Dry Bean Prices (Feb. 23 – Mar. 23)**



### Political Context

Argentina’s agriculture sector is generally pleased with the policy changes being pursued by the administration of President Javier Milei. In an unscientific poll, 90% of [Agrositio](#) readers rated the President’s performance fair to very good (9% fair, 36% good, 45% very good). One measure looked on favorably is the Milei administration’s success in narrowing the gap between the official exchange rate and the unofficial rate (commonly referred to as the blue rate) to about 10%. Additionally, the government recently announced special financing for the ag sector and the elimination of a tariff on urea and herbicides.

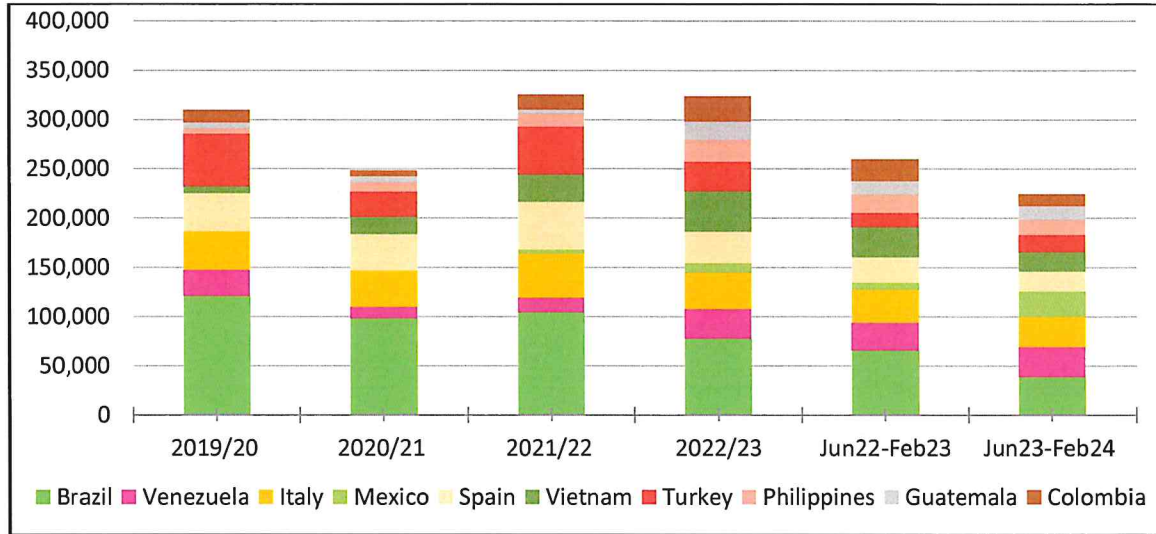
(Sources: [Agrositio](#), [Bichos del campo](#))

### Exports

Argentina’s marketing year runs from June to May. Thus far in MY 2023/24, from June 2023 through February 2024, Argentina exported 328,829 MT of dry beans, a 19% decrease compared to the same period the previous MY (407,289 MT). The top destinations for Argentine dry beans were Brazil (38,316 MT), Venezuela (31,130 MT), Italy (30,641 MT), Mexico (25,826 MT), Spain (20,345 MT), Vietnam (18,961 MT), Turkey (17,736 MT), the Philippines (15,846 MT), Guatemala (13,407 MT) and Colombia (12,570 MT). Based on exports through February and the USD BC’s production estimates (see USD BC Argentina bean crop monitoring and trip reports in the following Google Drive folder: [Argentine 2023 Dry Bean Crop Monitoring Reports](#)), Argentina had the following remaining stocks as of March 1<sup>st</sup>: alubia

beans (38,012 MT); black beans (14,204 MT); mung beans (30,181 MT); DRKB (11,185 MT); cranberry beans (5,495 MT); and LRKB (8,346 MT).

**Argentina's Top 10 Dry Bean Export Destinations (MY Jun-May, in MT)**

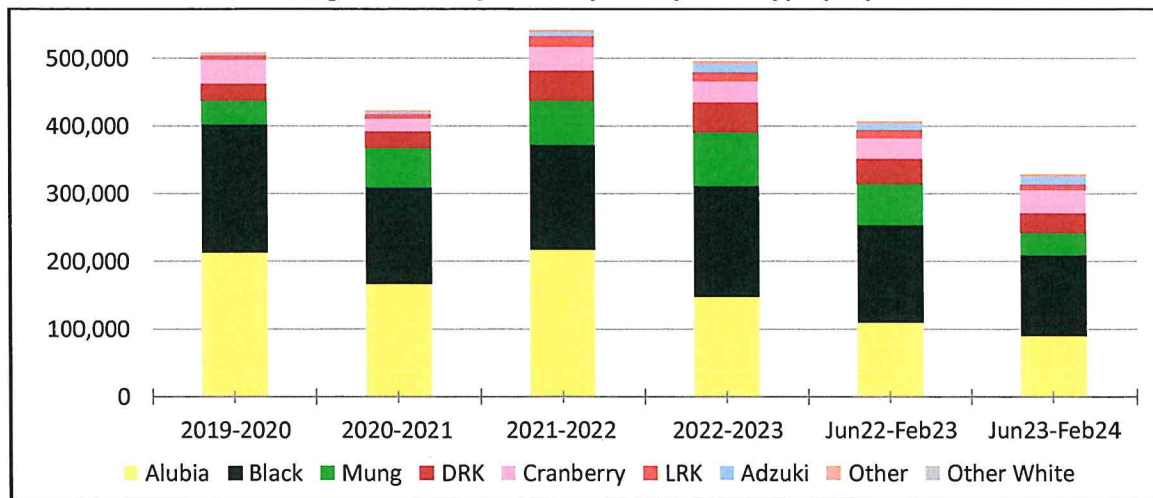


Source: Trade Data Monitor & Softrade

In terms of bean classes, these exports included:

- 118,996 MT of black beans
- 89,788 MT of alubia beans
- 34,105 MT of cranberry beans
- 32,819 MT of mung beans
- 29,315 MT of DRKBs
- 8,484 MT of LRKBs

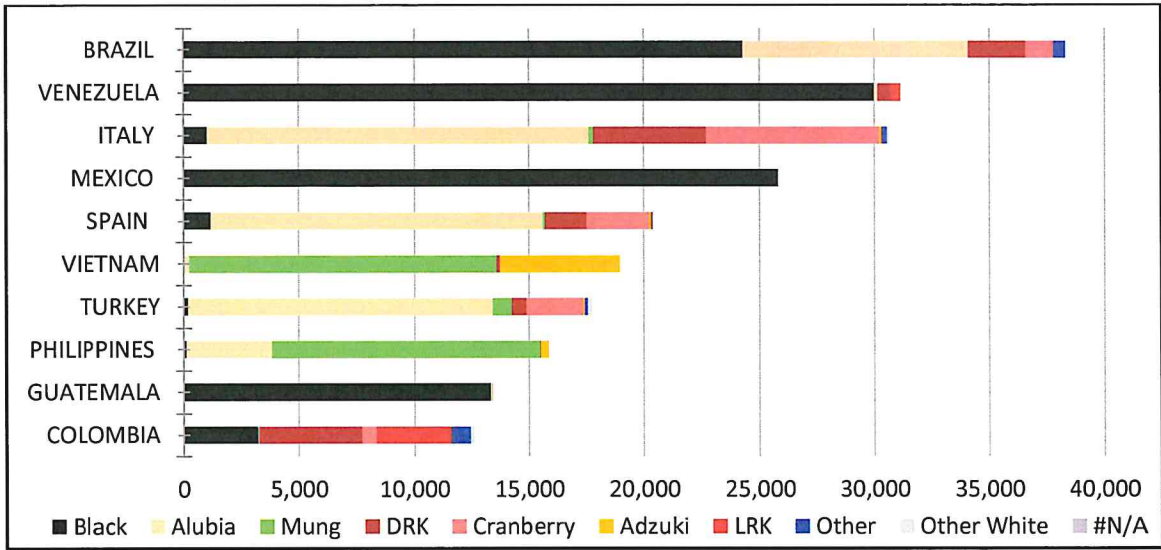
**Argentina's Dry Bean Exports by Bean Type (MT)**



Source: Softrade

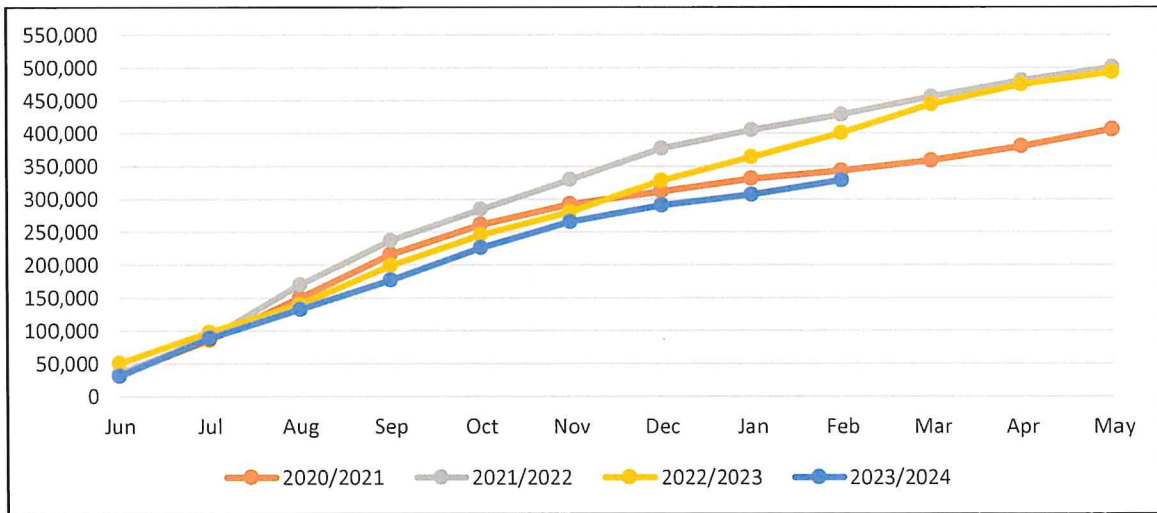


**Argentina's Top 10 Export Destinations by Bean Type (Jun23 – Feb24)**



Source: Softrade

**Pace of Argentine Dry Bean Exports, June-May Marketing Year (in MT)**



Source: Trade Data Monitor and Softrade

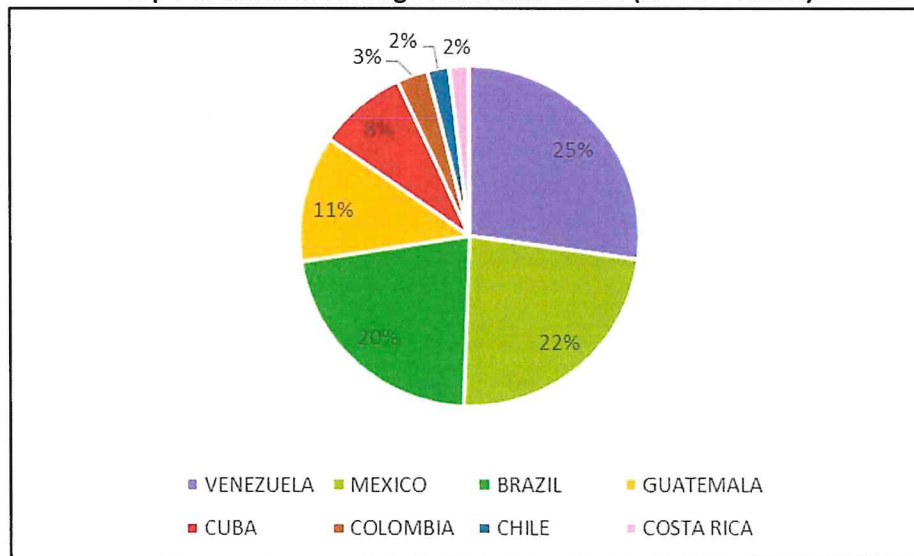
**Argentina´s Theoretical Dry Bean Stocks as of March 1<sup>st</sup> (in MT)**

BEAN CLASS	2023/24 Est. Exportable Supply	Jun23-Feb24 Exports	Estimated Remaining Stocks through March 1, 2024
Black	133,200	118,996	14,204
Alubia	127,800	89,788	38,012
Cranberry	39,600	34,105	5,495
DRK	40,500	29,315	11,185
LRK	16,830	8,484	8,346
Mung	63,000	32,819	30,181

*Source: USDBC*

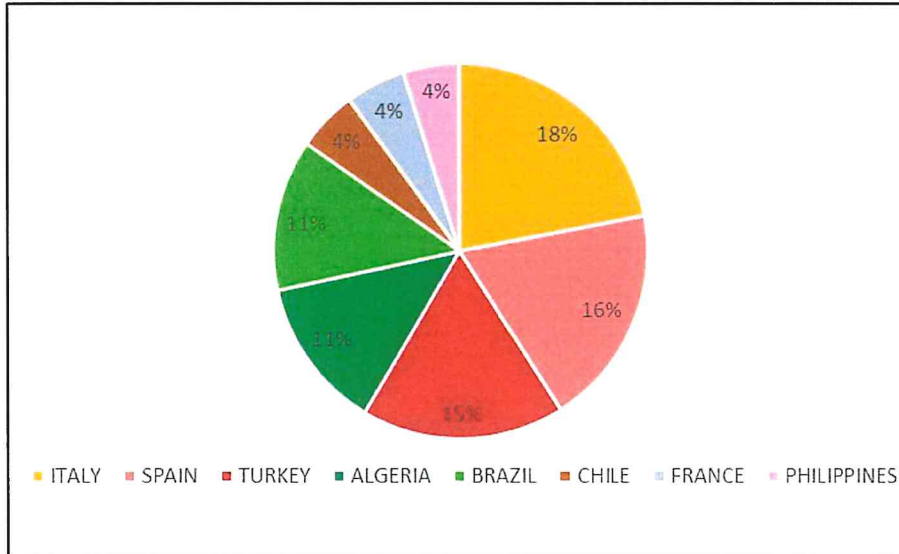
The top destinations for Argentine black beans were Venezuela (29,996 MT), Mexico (25,776 MT), Brazil (24,231 MT), Guatemala (13,319 MT), Cuba (9,293 MT), Colombia (3,223 MT), Chile (2,283 MT) and Costa Rica (2,128 MT).

**Top Destinations for Argentine Black Beans (Jun23 – Feb24)**



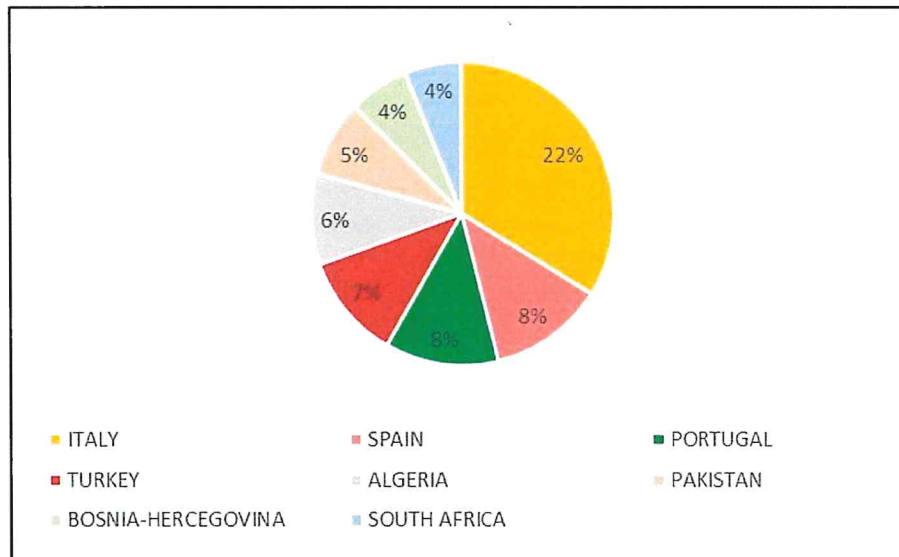
The top destinations for Argentine alubia beans were Italy (16,580 MT), Spain (14,401 MT), Turkey (13,209 MT), Algeria (9,920 MT), Brazil (9,849 MT) Chile (3,957 MT), France (3,901 MT) and the Philippines (3,693 MT).

**Top Destinations for Argentine Alubia Beans (Jun23 – Feb24)**



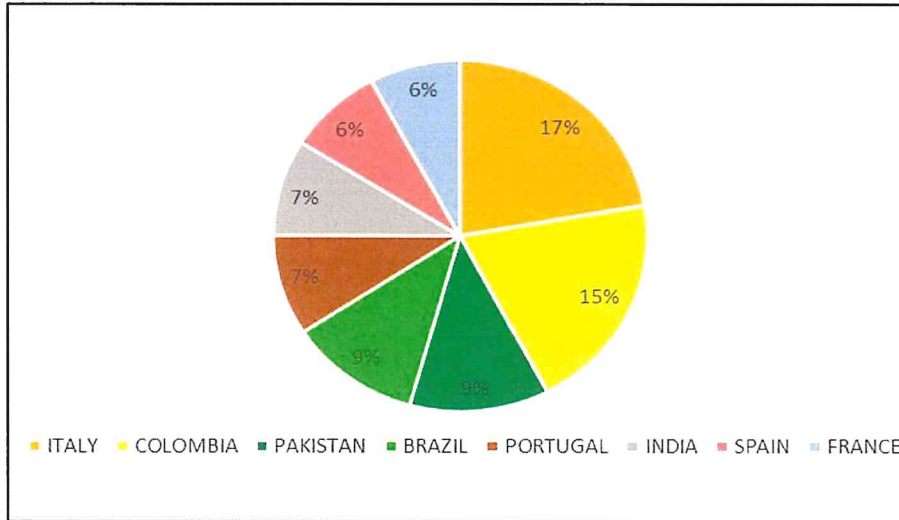
The top destinations for Argentine cranberry beans were Italy (7,543 MT), Spain (2,732 MT), Portugal (2,719 MT), Turkey (2,490 MT), Algeria (2,153 MT), Pakistan (1,818 MT), Bosnia-Hercegovina (1,438 MT) and South Africa (1,368 MT).

**Top Destinations for Argentine Cranberry Beans (Jun22 – Feb24)**



The top destinations for Argentine DRKBs were Italy (4,863 MT), Colombia (4,417 MT), Pakistan (2,630 MT), Brazil (2,503 MT), Portugal (2,033 MT), India (1,937 MT), Spain (1,816 MT) and France (1,717 MT).

**Top Destinations for Argentine DRKBs (Jun22 – Feb24)**



The top destinations for Argentine LRKBs were Colombia (3,229 MT), the UAE (3,114 MT), Portugal (787 MT), Venezuela (422 MT), France (153 MT), Saudi Arabia (140 MT), the U.S. (127 MT) and Trinidad and Tobago (115 MT).

**Top Destinations for Argentine LRKBs (Jun22 – Feb24)**

