



AGRICULTURAL AND ECONOMIC IMPORTANCE OF THE MAIN FRUITS AND VEGETABLES PRODUCED IN MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

Mexico is one of the five countries with the highest biodiversity, additionally there are climatic conditions for the growth of various products including those of the horticultural sector. The aim of this study was to analyze the available public information about the importance of this sector in Mexico, the highlights are the following facts: In 2014 the main fruits and vegetables in terms of harvested area were orange, mango, lemon, avocado and banana, as well as chili pepper, potato, tomato, onion and tomatillo with respectively 321.68, 175.77, 154.80, 153.77 and 74.58, as well as with 143.47, 61.41, 50.95, 47.43 and 44.24 thousand ha, while orange, lemon, banana, avocado, mango and papaya, as well as tomato, chili pepper, potato, onion, watermelon and nopalito were the most important fruits and vegetables by annual production volume, with 4.53, 2.19, 2.15, 1.52, 1.45 and 0.84, respectively, as well as with 2.87, 2.73, 1.76, 1.36, 0.94 and 0.82 million t. In contrast, considering the annual production value, the most important fruits and vegetables were avocado, lemon, orange, banana, strawberry, blackberry and mango, as well as chili pepper, tomato, potato, asparagus and onion, with 1.56, 0.68, 0.51, 0.47, 0.41, 0.38 and 0.36, respectively, as well as with 1.35, 1.18, 0.90, 0.44 and 0.43 billion of USD. However, in relation to exports, avocado, lemon, mango and papaya, as well as tomato, chili pepper, cucumber, onion and asparagus were the most exported fruits and vegetables, with 512.13, 453, 273 and 115 respectively, as well as with 1 500, 900, 497, 380 and 120 thousand t. While, avocado, lemon, pecan walnut, mango, banana and orange, as well as tomato, broccoli, chili pepper, onion, asparagus, and lettuce, with 1 269, 286, 259, 230, 150 and 8 respectively, as well as, with 1 500, 350.2, 287.9, 196.9, 144.2, and 133.6 million of USD, were the most important fruits and vegetables by annual exports value. In conclusion, the Mexican horticultural sector is very important, but the order of importance of each fruit and vegetable varies according to the indicator. Orange stood out for harvested area and production volume, while chili pepper was highlighted by harvested area and production value. However, avocado resulted the most important fruit in terms of value of production and exports (volume and value), while tomato was the most important vegetable in terms of annual production volume and exports (volume and value).

Introduction

In general, the Mexican horticultural sector is very important, however, taking decisions in any field of this sector requires information, considering that the effect of these decisions is more successful when the information on which it is based is more current and accurate, the aim of this study was to analyze the current available public information about the importance of the main fruits and vegetables in Mexico, particularly in terms of harvested area, annual production volume and value, and annual exports and value.

Methodology

Data of the main horticultural products were consulted in the most recent available public information (the Mexican information service of the Agri-food and Fisheries sectors, (SIAP, 2014) and only those 5 or 6 fruits and vegetables that had the highest records in each importance aspect, criterion or indicator were taken into account. The importance criteria or indicators were harvested area, annual production volume, annual production value, annual exports and exports value.

Results

In 2014 the main fruits and vegetables in terms of harvested area were orange, mango, lemon, avocado and banana, as well as chili pepper, potato, tomato, onion and tomatillo (Table 1). Orange, lemon, banana, avocado, mango and papaya, as well as tomato, chili pepper, potato, onion, watermelon and nopalito were the most important fruits and vegetables by annual production volume (Table 2).

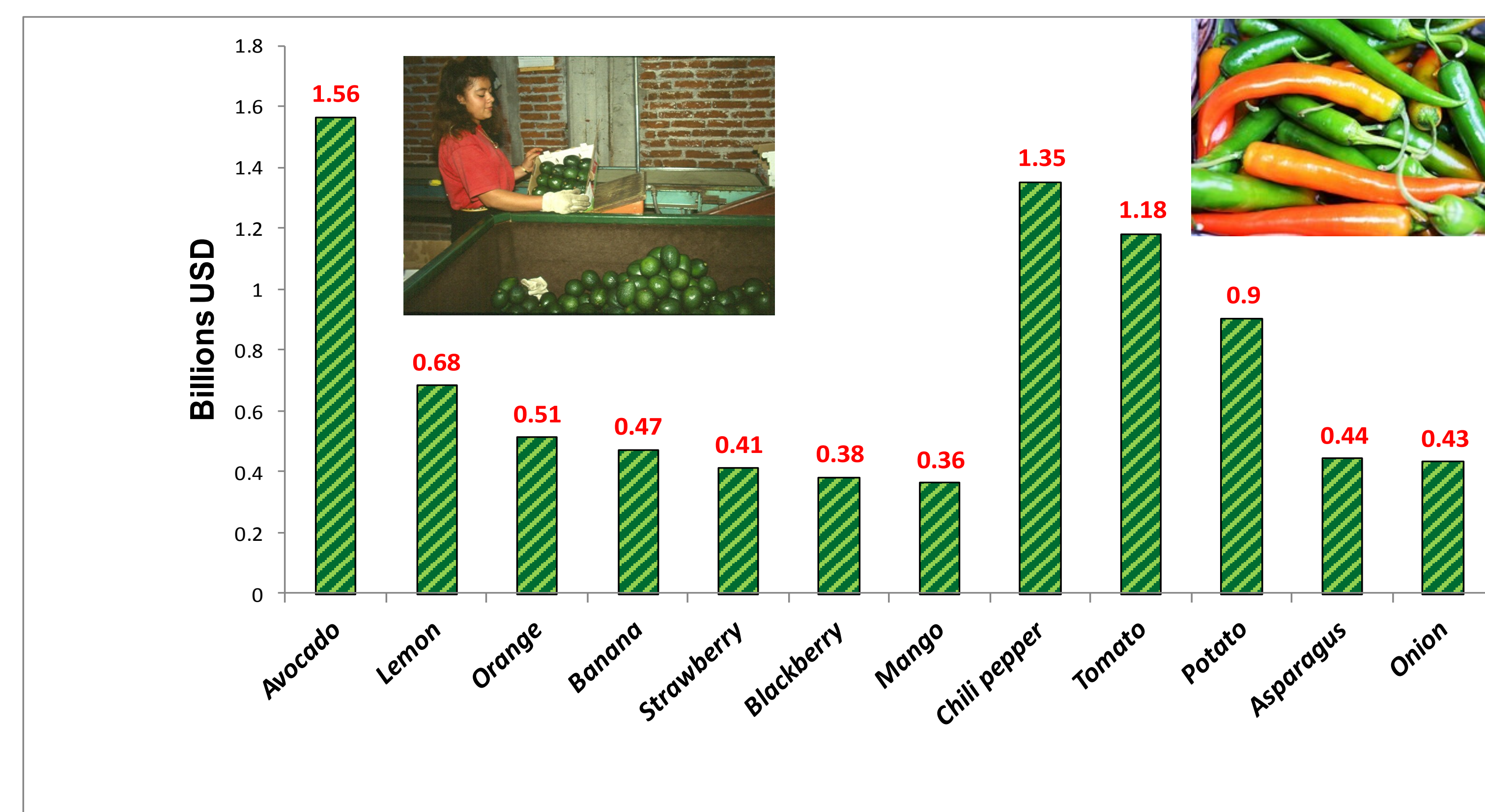


Table 3. Annual production value (Billions USD) of the main fruits and vegetables produced in Mexico in 2014. Source: SIAP (2015)

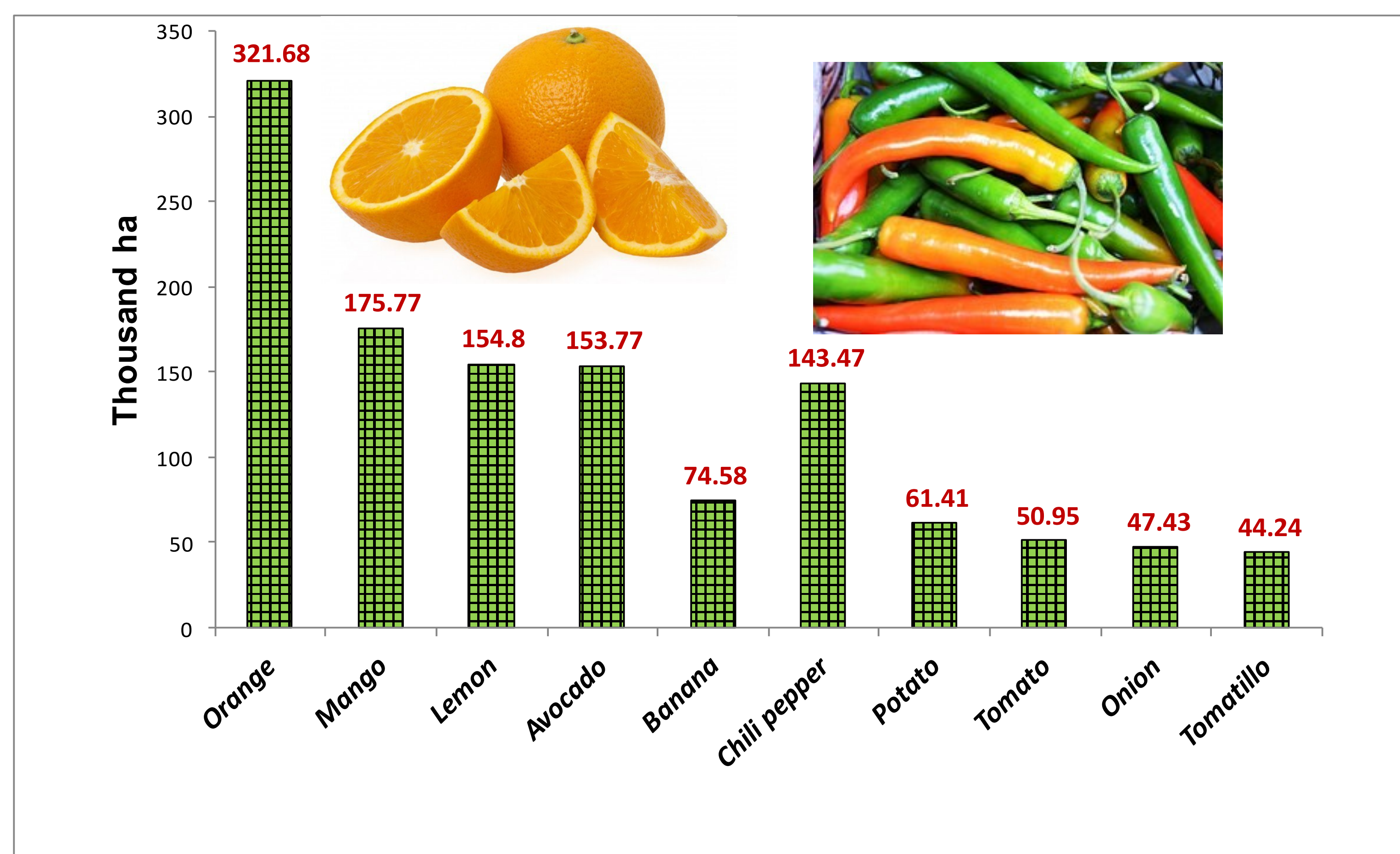


Table 1. Annual harvested area (thousand ha) of the main fruits and vegetables produced in Mexico in 2014. Source: SIAP (2015).

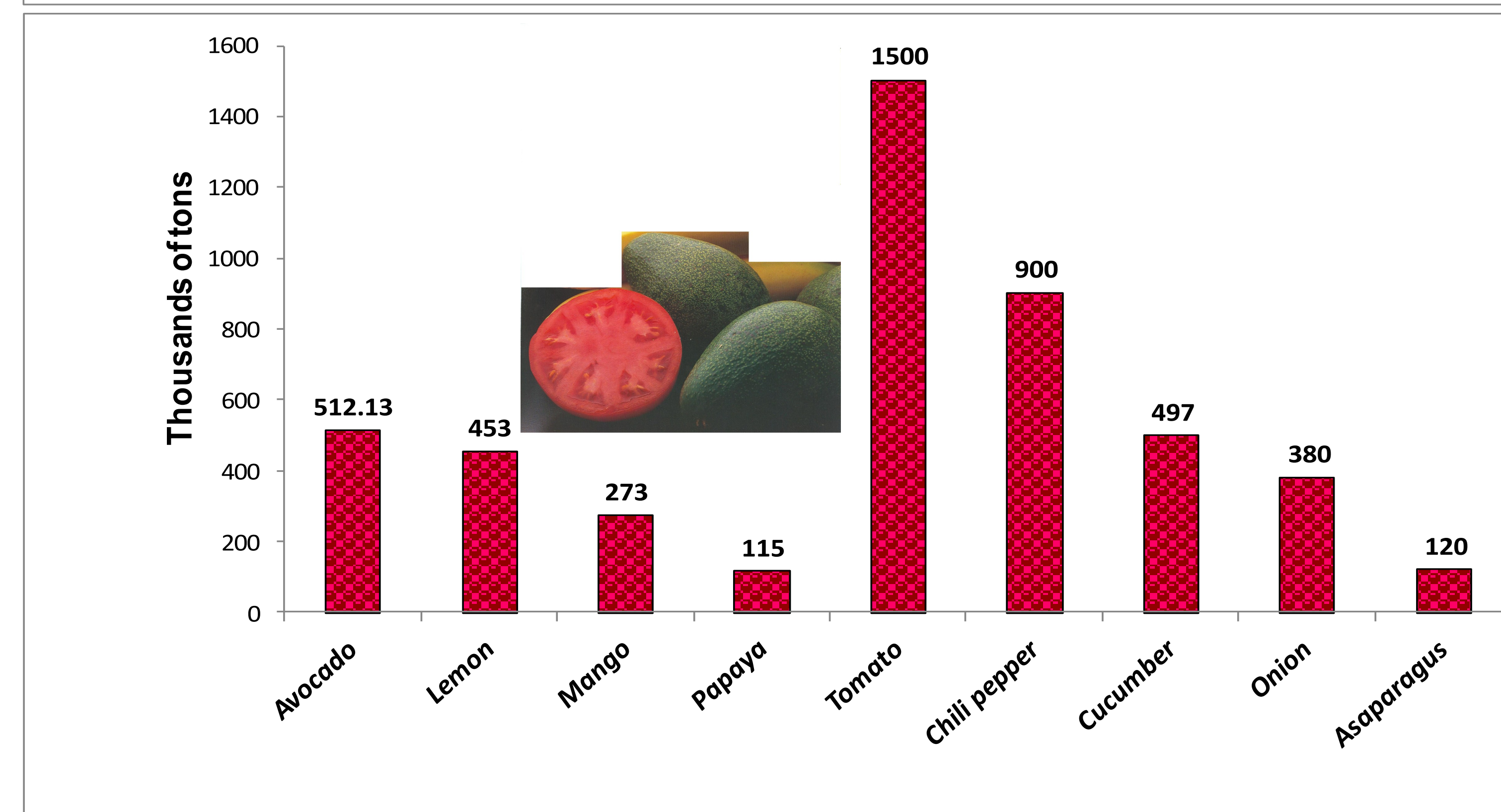


Table 4. Annual exports volume (Thousands of tons) of the main fruits and vegetables exported by Mexico in 2014. Source: SIAP, 2015

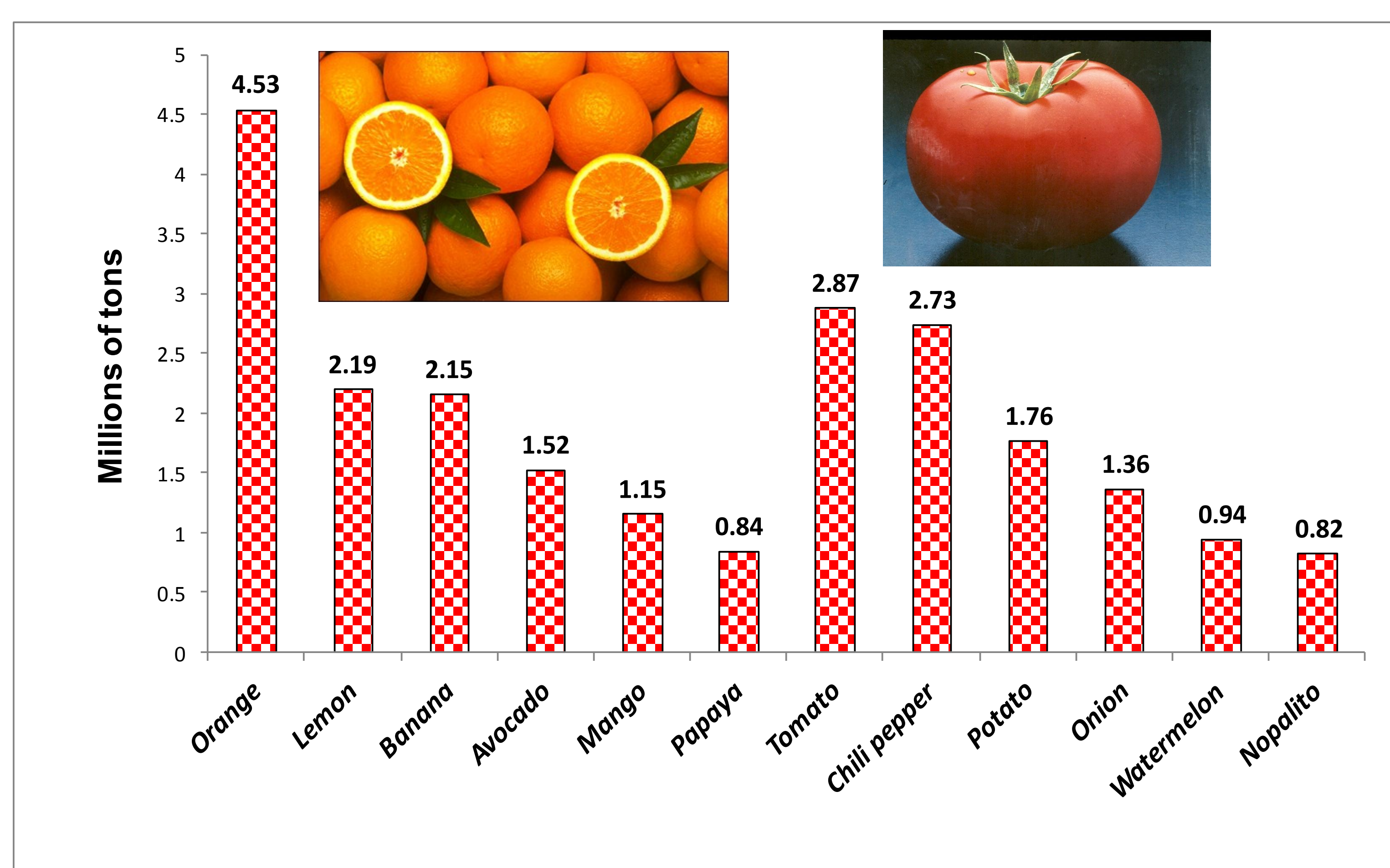


Table 2. Annual production volume (Million t) of the main fruits and vegetables produced in Mexico in 2014. Source: SIAP (2015)

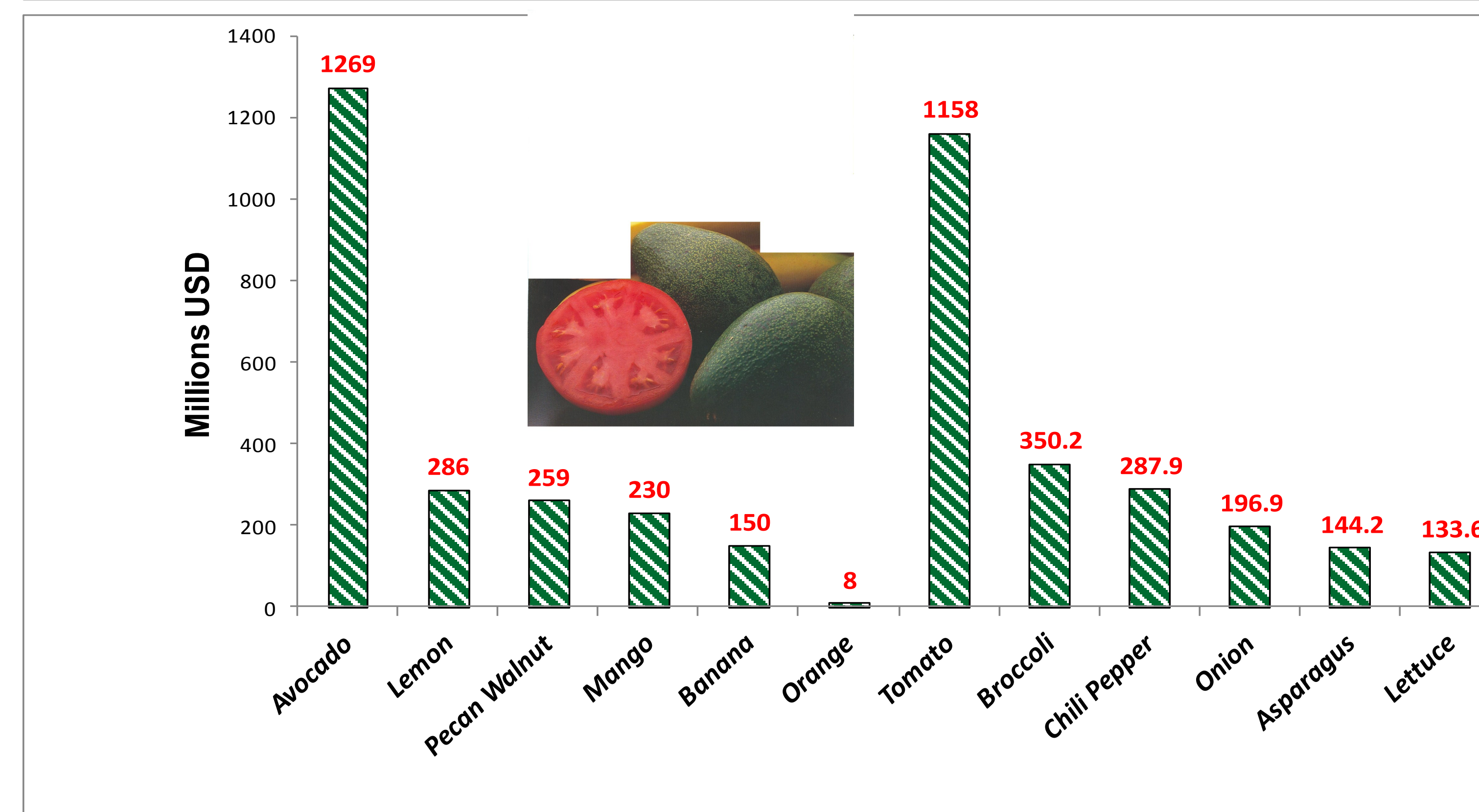


Table 5. Annual exports value (Millions USD) of the main fruits and vegetables exported by Mexico in 2013. Source: SIAP (2014). According to exchange rate on 17/08/15: \$16.36/1 USD

Conclusions

The Mexican horticultural sector is very important, but the order of importance of each fruit and vegetable varies according to the indicator. Orange stood out for harvested area and production volume, while chili pepper was highlighted by harvested area and production value. However, avocado resulted the most important fruit in terms of value of production and exports (volume and value), while tomato was the most important vegetable in terms of annual production volume and exports (volume and value).

Literature

- SIAP. 2014. Servicio de Información Agrícola y Pesquera – Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería, Pesca y Alimentación (SAGARPA) México. <http://www.siap.gob.mx/>
- SIAP, 2015. Servicio de Información Agrícola y Pesquera – Secretaría de Agricultura, Ganadería,



Considering the annual production value, the most important fruits and vegetables were avocado, lemon, orange, banana, strawberry, blackberry and mango, chili pepper, tomato, potato, asparagus and onion (Table 3). In relation to exports, avocado, lemon, mango and papaya, as well as tomato, chili pepper, cucumber, onion and asparagus were the most exported fruits and vegetables (Table 4). walnut, mango, banana and orange, as well as tomato, broccoli, chili pepper, onion, asparagus, and lettuce were the most important fruits and vegetables by annual exports value (Table 5).