

totalled US\$262.54 billion, representing a month-on-month decline of 14.7 percent.

Export turnover was estimated at US\$136.17 billion, down 11.6 percent



against the same period last year.

In the reviewed period, 23 commodities earned over US\$1 billion in export turnover each, accounting for 87.4 percent of the total export turnover.

In May, import turnover was estimated at US\$ 26.81 billion, representing a month-on-month increase of 6.4 percent.

In the first five months, import turnover was estimated at US\$126.37 billion, down 17.9 percent against the same period last year including US\$ 43.95 billion made by domestic sector and US\$ 82.42 billion made by the FDI sector. Up to 24 import items valued over US\$1 billion each, making up 81.2 percent of the total export turnover.

In the January-May period, the U.S. was the largest importer of Vietnamese products with US\$ 37.2 billion, followed by China with US\$ 43.4 billion. Especially, Viet Nam gained a trade surplus of US\$ 31.2 billion with the U.S., US\$12.6 billion with the EU, and US\$ 521 million with Japan.

Meanwhile, the Southeast Asian country suffered from a trade deficit of US\$23.6 billion with China, US\$10.8 billion with South Korea, and US\$3.4 billion with ASEAN./.

(Source: Baochinhphu)

VIETNAMESE DURIAN SELLING WELL IN CHINESE MARKET

While the export of many key Vietnamese items remains in the doldrums, durian has emerged as a hard currency earner for the agricultural sector.

Durian is one of the 11 Vietnamese fruits licensed to officially enter the Chinese market

As of May 30, customs officers at Huu Nghi International Border Gate had made customs clearance for more than 1,600 shipments of durian, amounting to nearly 60,000 tonnes, to enter the Chinese market. May alone saw more than 17,500 tonnes of the fruit shipped to the northern neighbour via the international border gate.

Since September 2022, Vietnamese durian has been officially licensed by China to enter its market, opening up fresh opportunities for local growers and businesses.

The Ministry of Industry and Trade reported that Vietnamese durian export turnover increased by more than 8.3 times during the first quarter of the year to US\$153.5 million. Of the total value, China accounted for 87% of the market share, equivalent to US\$133.6 million.

Since 2019, fresh Vietnamese durian has been exported to 22 countries and territories around the globe, with the average annual export output hovering around between 10,000 and 15,000 tonnes. After China officially allowed Vietnamese durian to enter its market last year, the amount of fresh durian exports reached over 46,000 tonnes.

Dang Phuc Nguyen, general secretary of the Vietnam Fruit and Vegetables Association (Vinafruit), said that Vietnamese durian has an abundant output and can be harvested all year round. In addition, it boasts a competitive advantage compared to Thailand's as it