



# SAFFRON MARKET NEWS

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Our company provides a monthly professional analysis of the saffron market in Iran and the world, which is based on the information obtained from the official and government organizations of Iran as influential in the official market and influential actors who determine the price of saffron as a non-official market. The analysis is provided only by professional experts of Esir Company based on information sources.

Our company (Esir) is a Spanish company with practical logistics and supply facilities with a professional team of experts in the field of saffron export and import and active private label and provides the most accurate information from the saffron market analysis.

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The Vice Chairman of the National Saffron Council said: According to last year's statistics, Iran's saffron was exported to 67 countries, while in 2019, only 47 countries were the export targets.

In the first 3 months of this year, exports have decreased by 37% compared to the same period last year due to export obstacles such as the return of currency to the NIMA system. On the other hand, the cost of returning the currency to the country is 4-5%, all these factors have led to the boom in smuggling and the declining trend of exports.

### **Half of the produced saffron is smuggled out of the country**

A member of the Khorasan , Razavi Saffron Exporters Union, referring to the reduction of saffron harvesting from 400 tons to 200 tons, said: Half of the saffron produced is smuggled out of the country.

### **The by-laws for clearing foreign exchange obligations are a very big obstacle on the way of exports**

Resolving foreign exchange obligations is the biggest challenge facing exports. The exporter must return the resulting dollar to the Nimai system, and to return the currency to The Nimai system must buy dollars from the open market at a higher price in order to be able to settle accounts with this system.

### **The process of smuggling Iranian saffron to Afghanistan**

Another problem for saffron exporters is the progress of Afghanistan in this field. Some of Iran saffron is smuggled to Afghanistan and from there it is exported to the world under the brand of that country. On the other hand, the main and major buyers of saffron, such as China and India have reduced their customs tariff with Afghanistan to zero percent, while Iran's customs tariff with these target countries is 38 percent. Considering the upcoming trend and Afghanistan's serious investment in this field, the next 10 years, Afghanistan will be known as the country of saffron.