

Title Quality control programme: the Parma (Italy) wholesale market programme for quality control on commercial and phyto-sanitary standards of fresh produce

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Abstract

CAAP Parma is a medium-size Italian fruit and vegetable wholesale market that is located in northern Italy. CAAP is currently implementing a comprehensive quality control programme in order to monitor hygienic and commercial features of fresh produce. The commercial quality of fresh produce is monitored through a number of crucial elements, including: packaging, labelling, size, sorting, and grading. The hygienic quality is monitored through a programme of multi-residual chemical analysis to assess the level of contamination of fresh produce that may be generated by pesticide residues. The report presents and discusses the major outcomes from both components of the quality control programme. Possible points of strength the fresh produce wholesale markets may rely on when improving quality of their supplies are identified and presented.