

Title Regional year-round supply of vegetables in North Vietnam
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Abstract

A discussion is presented about the patterns in the present year-round supply of vegetables to large cities in the Red River Delta in North Vietnam. Especially during the hot summer season, vegetables are supplied from Dalat in South Vietnam or from Kunming Province in China. Generally speaking, importing vegetables from far away areas or foreign countries adds considerable cost to the product, while extensive transportation decreases product quality or limits the number of products that can be supplied. Aiming for more attractive consumer pricing, an increase in product quality and year-round product availability, options are explored for the regional year-round supply of vegetables from North Vietnam itself. The discussion is based on the agro-ecology of vegetable crops, on market opportunities during the year and on environmental considerations. It is argued that most of the vegetables presently available in the Red River Delta can be supplied from areas in North Vietnam itself. Special attention is given to environmental considerations to ensure sustainable production.