

ANSWERS Banana Quiz. Fairtrade Fortnight 2021

1) Which is the best selling and most popular fruit in the world? (excluding tomatoes)

Answer **b) Bananas**

Over 100 billion bananas are eaten around the world every year, and around 51% of these are eaten at breakfast time. On average in the UK, we eat 12kg per year each (about 120 bananas)

2) Where did bananas come from originally?

Answer **a) Asia**

Southeast Asia, in the jungles of Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines, where many varieties of wild bananas still grow today. We have been eating bananas for 4,000 years; written references to bananas date back to 500BCE. There are over 1,000 banana varieties, the most commonly grown today is Cavendish. Belgium has the banana gene bank

3) Which country grows the most bananas in the world?

Answer **d) India**

India grows and consumes the most bananas, about 20% of total world production, but does not export them. In 2017 Caribbean and Latin American countries (excluding Mexico) accounted for the highest value of banana exports, \$7.2 billion or 58.5% of international sales. Uganda is ranked 3rd largest producer, 9.8 million tons, 7% of the world's total. Green cooking bananas are the country's staple food grown by 75% of farmers. The crop is mainly eaten locally but some is exported in the region.

The main exporter in 2017 was Ecuador, in South America, accounting for 24.6% of total banana exports

4) What is Black Sigatoka?

Answer **c) A disease of banana plants**

This fungus causes black spots on the foliage. It was first reported in 1963 but now is a widespread problem. The fungus disrupts photosynthesis in leaves and can cause up to 50% loss of the crop.

5) Where are Windward Islands (including St Vincent)?

Answer **c) In the Caribbean Sea near Jamaica**

The Caribbean is a very large sea. St Vincent is 1,123 miles away from Jamaica.

6) What are the benefits of Fairtrade to banana producers? (tick any you think are correct)

Answer **All of them**

- 1) Receive a fair price for their products
- 2) Safe working conditions
- 3) No child labour
- 4) Improves lives, by using the Fairtrade Premium to improve community schools, water supply and health clinics
- 5) Protection of the environment

7) What proportion of bananas bought in the UK is Fairtrade?

Answer **b) 33%**

In 2015, UK Fairtrade banana sales increased by 5%, 1 in 3 bananas are Fairtrade, and we eat 5 million Fairtrade bananas a day! These supermarkets sell ONLY Fairtrade bananas: Waitrose, Sainsbury's, Lidl and Coop.

8) What uses can you make of a banana? (tick any you think are correct)

Answer **All of them!**

- a. Rub the inside of skin to reduce inflammation of insect bite
- b. Clean shoes
- c. Make beer or a type of spirit
- d. Make flour from dried bananas for baking
- e. Make chips