

## **ANSWERS Banana Quiz. Fairtrade Fortnight 2019.**

**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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**

- a) Receive a fair price for their products
- b) Safe working conditions
- c) No child labour
- d) Improves lives, by using the Fairtrade Premium to improve community schools, water supply and health clinics
- e) 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