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Costa Rica: On 1991 Banana Industry Performance

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On March 17, Jose Sandoval, general manager of the National Banana Corporation (CORBANA), told reporters that despite heavy losses incurred as a result of an earthquake and tropical storms, banana exports last year increased by 9%. Volume in 1991 totaled a record 81 million 18-kg. boxes. Revenue came to US\$400.5 million, equivalent to 20.7% of all export income. The US accounted for 50% of banana exports last year; and Germany, Belgium and Italy together, 48%. Costa Rica is the world's second-largest banana exporter. The industry employs about 22,000 people, and planted area totals 33,000 ha. (Basic data from Agencia Centroamericana de Noticias-Spanish news service EFE, 03/17/92)

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