

PRESS RELEASE

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Food and Agricultural Product Markets Monitoring and Evaluation Committee Convened

The Food and Agricultural Product Markets Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (the Committee) met under the presidency of Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Şimşek. Main topics discussed at the meeting were the livestock feed costs, livestock support programs and licensed warehouse utilization models as well as the structural issues regarding the fresh fruit-vegetable supply chain.

A summary of the agenda and the decisions made are given below.

- Measures towards minimizing the loss rates along the fresh fruit-vegetable supply chain, which have reached an average of 25-30 percent and thus led to a significant financial loss, and increasing the overall quality of logistics processes were discussed. In this framework, new standards were set concerning the packaging of products after harvest in single-use and reusable packages conforming to international norms, the transportation of products in refrigerated vehicles to improve the transport processes, and the display of products in refrigerated shelves in retail stores. Decisions were made regarding the transition to the mandatory implementation of these standards and the management of this transition process.
- The progress made in the work for the modernization of wholesale markets was evaluated and the Committee was informed about the steps planned to be taken. The Committee decided to discuss this topic as the main agenda item in the next Committee meeting and settle the critical issues.

- The Committee decided to introduce an adjustment in customs duties on various feedstuffs to reduce the livestock feed costs that account for approximately 60 percent of meat production costs.
- Suggestions for measures to increase the effectiveness of livestock incentives and subsidies were discussed.
- Issues regarding licensed warehousing practices and various warehouse utilization models were discussed.
- The agenda and the work schedule of the Committee were reviewed.

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