

## Taiwan cuts reliance on China's fruit market

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Taiwan has cut its reliance on the Chinese market for its fruit exports to 3 per cent, according to the Council of Agriculture (COA).

Over the past year, China restricted the import of products including pineapple and other fruits, beer and beverages, fish and seafood. As a result, the share of Taiwan fruit exports to China has dropped from 80 per cent five years ago to 3 per cent now, COA Minister Chen Chi-Chung said.

After Taiwan and China joined the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2002, and even more, after they concluded the Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA) in 2011, Taiwan's fruit exports became reliant on one major market.

Chen accused China of discrimination, saying it had never taken similar measures against products from other countries. As a result, it was necessary for Taiwan to drastically cut its reliance on this unfriendly market and develop alternatives, the minister said.

According to Chen, the government's policy has been successful. In 2022, the United States had become the prime destination for agricultural produce from Taiwan, followed by Japan.