

# *US Blockade Cost Cuban Agriculture over 260 Million Dollars in One Year*

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Havana, September 28 (RHC-ACN)-- Damage caused by the U.S. blockade policy to the Cuban agricultural sector between April 2016 to March this year, alone, surpasses 260 million dollars.

Juan José León, a foreign relations expert with the Cuban Ministry of Agriculture (Minag), told a news conference in Havana that the Cigar Business Group Tabacuba and Labiofam - a Cuban research entity devoted to the development and production of medicines- were the hardest hit, representing 90 percent of the overall damage to the sector.

The Cuban official underscored that the blockade policy affects not only the Cuban people, but the U.S. people as well. In the case of Tabacuba and Labiofam, he added that Cuban cigars –considered amongst the world's best-- are in high demand in the U.S., but blockade regulations prohibit their commercialization there. Also in the case of Labiofam, again U.S. patients are denied access to Cuban medication –some of them unique in the world- like Heberprot P for the treatment of diabetic foot ulcers and Vidatox 30CH – a therapeutic drug for patients with advanced tumors.

Next November 1st, Cuba will once again submit a draft resolution before the UN General Assembly on the need to put an end to Washington's coercive policy against the Caribbean state.

First submitted in 1992, the initiative –a non-binding resolution presented annually at the UN General Assembly- has received the support of most UN member states, which attests to the broad rejection of the U.S. policy by the vast majority of the international community.

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