



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Press Release(25)03
(English only)**

16 January 2025

Various sugar related articles

The Executive Director would like to draw your attention to the articles below all of which are relevant to the sugar sector.

ED & F Man Daily Research

Pakistan sugar dominates exports to Afghanistan - The News - In the first half of the current fiscal year, Pakistan's sugar exports to Afghanistan reached \$218 million, significantly higher than last year. Overall exports to Afghanistan also saw substantial growth, with a 52% increase from July to December 2024 compared to the same period last year. The federal government allowed the export of 750,000 metric tons of sugar since June 2024, contributing to this rise.

Sugaronline Ebriefing

FRANCE: Ouvre halts sugar production operations

French sugar producer Ouvre has halted operations at its Souppes-sur-Loing plant, south of Paris, amid financial and technical problems, according to Reuters.

The company asked farmers to sell their sugarbeets to sugar producer Cristal Union.

Ouvre has a production capacity of about 60,000 metric tonnes of sugar per year, according to the news report, citing a letter on Jan. 10.

ARMENIA: Country plans to request EAEU for extension of benefits for raw sugar imports

Armenia's minister of Economy, Gevork Papoyan, said that the government plans to apply to the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) with a request to extend the benefits for the import of raw cane sugar, according to the Report.

Armenia benefited from the duty-free import of raw cane sugar upon joining the EAEU 10 years ago, and the government now wants to extend this benefit to support local sugar production.

Most of the raw materials used by the local sugar industry are imported from Brazil, according to the news report.

GERMANY: Suedzucker confirms outlook for 2024/25 after negative result in 3Q

Suedzucker on Jan. 14 confirmed its outlook for the entire 2024/25 financial year after reporting a negative operating result in the third quarter of the year, reports Sugaronline.

The group's operating result was negative at EUR33 million (US\$33.8 million) in the third quarter,

compared to a positive result of EUR268 million (US\$274.6 million) in the same period last year, due to a significant decline in the sugar, CropEnergies and starch segments, according to the [company's earnings report](#).

The sugar segment recorded an operating loss for the first time in the third quarter of -EUR95 million (US\$97.3 million), compared to a profit of EUR145 million (US\$148.6 million) in the same period last year.

In the first three quarters of the financial year (March-November), the sugar segment had an operating loss of EUR23 million (-US\$23.6 million), compared to an operating profit of EUR525 million (US\$537.9 million) in the same period last year.

"Inventories produced at high costs during the 2023 campaign were still being sold in the third quarter of 2024/25 at prices that had fallen significantly again at the beginning of the new sugar marketing year, which placed an above-average burden on the third quarter of 2024/25," Suedzucker said in a statement.

Suedzucker's beet cultivation experienced a wide range of weather conditions, and nearly all regions faced challenges due to Cercospora infestation, which resulted in low sugar content.

"The low sugar content syndrome (SBR) and the Stolbur disease also occurred again this year. Cicadas infect the plants with bacterial pathogens. Stolbur leads to so-called rubber beets: the sugar beet bodies become shriveled and take on a rubbery consistency," the company said.

Both diseases lead to considerable losses in yield and quality, and beet yield expectations showed considerable fluctuations over the course of the year and across different regions. "The overall sugar yield per hectare for the Südzucker Group will fall slightly short of the average," the company said.

Suedzucker confirmed its outlook for the 2024/25 fiscal year, expecting consolidated group revenues to be between EUR9.5-9.9 billion (US\$9.7-10.1 billion), compared to EUR10.3 billion (US\$10.5 billion) in 2023/24.

Group EBITDA is anticipated to range from EUR550-650 million (US\$563.5-666 million). The consolidated operating result is expected to be between EUR175-275 million (US\$179.3-281.8 million).

BRAZIL: Cofco to expand export capacity with new terminal in Santos Port

Cofco International plans to open the first phase of its export terminal in the Santos Port in March, expanding total export capacity, according to Globo Rural.

In 2025, Cofco plans to move 8 million metric tonnes of grains, sugar and soybean meal at the terminal.

From 2026 onwards, when the construction is fully complete, the movement should reach 14.5 million tonnes. The company currently exports around 4.5 million tonnes through Santos Port.

POLAND: Negotiations on trade with Ukraine should consider EU-Mercosur deal – minister

Poland's minister of Agriculture, Czesław Siekierski, has said that negotiations to extend liberalised trade in agricultural products with Ukraine should be linked to negotiations on the EU-Mercosur trade agreement, according to the European Pravda.

He said combining the negotiations would allow Poland to balance the impact of both agreements on local agricultural production.

The EU-Mercosur deal and trade benefits for Ukraine are expected to increase sugar and poultry flows to the European Union at zero tariffs.

The EU-Mercosur deal has been announced but still needs to be approved by the EU Parliament and member states.

INDIA: Sugar production down 13.6% by Jan. 15 – NFCSCF

India's sugar production reached 13.05 million metric tonnes so far this season, up to Jan. 15, down 13.6% from the 15.12 million tonnes produced in the same period in the previous season, according to the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories (NFCSCF).

The updated data was disclosed in [a post](#) on NFCSCF social media channels on Jan. 15.

JORDAN: Ministry intends to attract investors for sugar production

Jordan's government wants to attract investors to establish a sugar production and refining factory from sugarbeets in the Azraq and Wadi Araba areas, according to Jordan News.

The Ministry of Agriculture said interested investors should submit a complete economic feasibility study for the project at all stages by Jan. 30.

A technical committee will evaluate the proposals and select the most competent and economically viable.

Stabroek News

Cuban experts have had no impact on sugar industry



The company through whatever deliberations, sought to bring seven Cuban experts for the factories at an enormous cost to the company and who have to date made zero contribution. and I repeat zero contributions'

Former Technical Director of Operations (TDO) at the Guyana Sugar Corporation (GuySuCo), Dwarka Bahadur, says that the hiring of seven Cuban experts at a huge cost to help with factory operations here has yielded no tangible returns, and similar recruitments from India will likely produce the same result.

"The company through whatever deliberations, sought to bring seven Cuban experts for the factories at an enormous cost to the company and who have to date made zero contribution. and I repeat zero contributions. I defended this position in my interview with the Chronicle newspaper with the hope that it would change, a publicity stunt maybe, but I don't see that changing," Bahadur wrote in a letter to Minister of Agriculture, Zulfikar Mustapha, in December of last year, and which was seen by this newspaper.

<https://www.stabroeknews.com/2025/01/12/news/guyana/cuban-experts-have-had-no-impact-on-sugar-industry/>

FoodNavigator.com

Is Ozempic’s impact on food and beverage sales exaggerated?



Consumers who take GLP-1 drugs might switch what they eat, but they largely spend the same amount of money on CPG food and beverage after a year on the medication

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/Article/2025/01/10/glp-1-consumers-spend-mostly-the-same-on-cpg-a-year-later/>

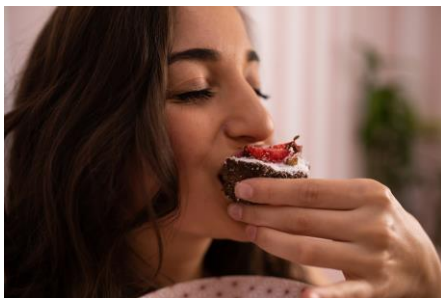
China tariff adjustments 2025: Dairy big winner but sugary products take major hit



China’s recently-announced adjustment to its import tariffs will see many dairy products benefit – but various sugary solutions are expected to take a major hit.

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/Article/2025/01/14/china-tariff-adjustments-2025-dairy-big-winner-but-sugary-products-take-major-hit/>

Breaking down clean label sugar reduction and sweet perception



Solutions driving clean label product formulations to reduce sugar and retain taste

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/Article/2025/01/13/sugar-reduction-solutions-to-reduce-sugar-and-retain-taste/>