



International Sugar Organization

1 Canada Square
Canary Wharf
London E14 5AA

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Press Release(21)13
(English only)

8 March 2021

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.

FoodNavigator.com

UK supermarket giant Tesco commits to health targets following shareholder pressure

In a move said to illustrate rising investor concerns with companies' health impacts, the UK's largest supermarket Tesco has announced it aims to increase the proportion of sales from healthier products to 65% by 2025.

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2021/03/05/uk-supermarket-giant-tesco-commits-to-health-targets-following-shareholder-pressure>

Sugaronline – Ebriefing

FAO Sugar Price Index up 6.4% in February

Global sugar prices increased by 6.4% in February from January, the second consecutive monthly increase and the highest level since April 2017, according to the Sugar Price Index of UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), **reports Sugaronline.**

"The latest hike in international sugar price quotations was prompted by continued concerns over tighter global supplies in 2020/21, following production declines in key producing countries and a strong import demand from Asia," FAO said in a statement on March 4.

" Logistical constraints hampering shipments from India and the rally in crude oil prices, which may divert more sugarcane crushing to ethanol production in Brazil, the world's largest sugar exporter, contributed to support the higher prices."

FAO said that potentially larger monthly price gains were contained by expectations of a production recovery in Thailand and a bumper crop in India in 2021/22.

Sugar is one of the five commodities considered to calculate the FAO Food Price Index, which increased by 2.4% in February, to 116 points, the ninth month of the consecutive rise and its highest level since July 2014.

BARBADOS: Sugar millers start cane crushing season

Sugar mills in Barbados are officially starting the 2021 sugarcane crushing season this week, according to Barbados Advocate.

The deputy Operations Manager at the Portvale Sugar Factory, Marlon Munroe, said that grinding was expected to start before the end of this week and completed around the first or second week of June 2021.

The Minister of Agriculture and Food Security, Indar Weir, forecasts higher yields this year due to favorable rainfall, with sugarcane production reaching 107,000 metric tonnes.

Sugar output is expected to decrease from 7,200 tonnes, last year, to 5,200 in 2021. Molasses output will rise from 5,000 tonnes to 13,000 tonnes to supply to the local rum industry.

TURKEY: Minister reports sugar beet production record

An all-time record for beet and sugar beet production was hit in the 2020/21 season, the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry Dr. Bekir Pakdemirli has announced, according to Raily News.

“While our beet yield per acre was 3.5 tonnes before 2002, it was 6.85 tonnes with an increase of 96% in the marketing year 2020/2021.”

Some 1.6 million tonnes of sugar was produced in 2002, but approximately 3.1 million tonnes in 2020/21, an increase of 94% in the marketing year.

In addition, 47,000 thousand tonnes of sugar will be exported directly or indirectly with a value of US\$150 million dollars in 2021.

TANZANIA: Production set to rise 33% by 2024/25

Sugar production in Tanzania is expected to rise by about 33% in four years following the approval of six new sugarcane varieties in January, according to The Citizen.

This is the first time Tanzania has approved its own sugarcane varieties and director of crop development in the Ministry of Agriculture, Nyasebwa Chimagu said that following the approval, new sugarcane farming projects were being implemented in Ruvuma and Kigoma regions.

The country currently produces about 470,000 tonnes of sugar annually, but the government wants this to jump to 700,000 tonnes by the 2024/25 season.

The government also expects that the sharp rise in sugarcane production will go hand in hand with increased investment in processing capacity. Sugar factories at Kagera, Bagamoyo, Kilombero, Mukulazi I and II are undergoing expansion.