


International Sugar Organization

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Press Release(22)48
(English only)**

29 November 2022

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.

Sugaronline – Ebriefing
ETHIOPIA: Government extends date for submission of interest to sugar factories

Ethiopia's Ministry of Finance announced this week the extension of the deadline for expression of interest regarding state-owned sugar factories in the country to Jan. 4, 2023, from Nov. 30, according to Borkena.

The government said in a statement that it is preparing reforms in the sugar sector, aiming to increase private sector participation in the ownership and operation of sugar companies.

The government is inviting both international and domestic investors to participate in the tendering of eight state-owned sugar enterprises, including Omo Kuraz 1, Omo Kuraz 2, Omo Kuraz 3, Omo Kuraz 5, Arjo Dedessa, Kessem, Tana Beles, and Tendaho.

ARGENTINA: Government authorizes 5% rise in ethanol price

Argentina's Secretariat of Energy authorized a 5% rise in ethanol from sugarcane and corn mixed with gasoline to supply the domestic market, according to Econo Journal. The measure was authorized in a resolution published in the Oficial Bulletin on Nov. 24. Ethanol prices had already increased by up to 22% in the start of November.

The government said the rise considers information submitted by state-run oil company YPF regarding international fuel prices, which also impact ethanol pricing.

E D & F Man Research
Russia not planning to implement new quota on duty-free imports of sugar - Refinitive

- Russia does not plan to implement a new quota on duty-free imports of sugar, and will choose the existing one, Deputy Prime Minister Victoria Abramchenko told reporters on Thursday on the sidelines of the first annual Russian Wine Forum in Moscow. "We are not raising the issue of a new volume of cane sugar imports, and we are only extending the 120,000 tonnes [remaining for 2023]," Abramchenko said. The deputy prime minister recalled that the quota for duty-free imports of sugar to Russia is 300,000 tonnes, as calculated until December 31, 2022. "Thus far, it has not been selected. Today, we still have 120,000 tonnes remaining, and this will be enough for us until the next harvest," Abramchenko stressed. Abramchenko recalled that the decision on importing duty-free sugar was taken "when there was volatility with sugar prices, when there was hoarding, and sugar prices rose very sharply". A decision was taken at the level of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) "to import cane sugar at least for confectioners".

FoodNavigator.com

Fostering biodiversity together

Sustainability is a central aspect of Südzucker's DNA and as a leading supplier of the food industry the company is committed to contributing to a healthy and sustainable future.



'Fostering Biodiversity' combines the environmental as well as social dimension of the company's Sugar division's sustainability strategy and is being driven across several countries and activities. The close exchange and collaboration with its sugar beet farmers is a critical success factor and a clear enabler to jointly implement change.

By focusing on fostering biodiversity in and around sugar beet fields, the Südzucker Sugar Division aims to:

- Help farmers with the implementation on the field, based on scientific research and external experts.
- Increase regional biodiversity of animals and insects.
- Improve soil health and biodiversity in the soil.
- Move towards an even more responsible use of water.

One aspect of driving this topic are long-term collaborations that are researching the impact of near- and in-field biodiversity, for example with the Institute for Agroecology and Biodiversity in Mannheim, Germany. Many other initiatives at a local factory level are being driven forward in parallel.

The impact of flower strips on biodiversity

A collaboration with the Institute for Agroecology and Biodiversity, which researches the impact of flower strips on beneficial insects, pests and pollinators, as well as birds and other animals, in and around sugar beet fields, has been successfully ongoing since 2018.

The research team has been looking into the following questions:

- How do different flower mixtures compare in their effect on biodiversity?
- What is the effect on pollinators, beneficial insects and pests?
- How can these practices support a more sustainable future and higher biodiversity in sugar beet crop rotation?

Results have already been published in a [whitepaper in 2021](#) and updated results from the following year are being consolidated as well. Nevertheless, the goal is also to transfer the results of this research into practice on the farmers' fields. To push this topic further, Südzucker aims to extend activities by collaborating with partners.

Fostering biodiversity and measurement catalogue

The Südzucker Biodiversity Alliance is a cooperation, launched by the Südzucker Sugar Division, in order to foster biodiversity more strongly with farmers and partners along the value chain.

The Institute for Agroecology and Biodiversity has been commissioned to set up a scientifically based measurement catalogue on which basis farmers can select measures to implement within the Südzucker Biodiversity Alliance. During the creation of the catalogue and its requirements, the content has been founded with an initial group of farmers, involved in the pilot project. Every measure has a different level of points allocated, that in the end needs to sum up to the necessary

total. The weighting of the various measures is based on several aspects, including the measure's impact on biodiversity and the effort required to implement the measure.

Requirements for implementation

Every participating farmer needs to implement enough measures to reach 100% of the needed points, based on the size of their beet field (e.g. 10 hectare of beet field would require him to implement enough measures to reach 10 points).

- The catalogue of requirements describes specific measures that can be measured & audited (beyond the legally required minimum*).
- Each measure has specific requirements that need to be adhered to.
- Farmers report on the implementation of the measures with photo documentation and lists in a traceable system.

Pilot near factory in Offstein

The pilot project started in Autumn 2022 by a community of six farmers (Mainz/Bingen region, Udenheim) near the plant in Offstein and is set to run for the next three years. The first agreed scope for 2023 was the implementation of biodiversity measures on an area of 14 hectares and the farmers need to reach 60 pts (due to 60 hectare beet field). Due to the bilateral agreement, the implementing farmers receive a premium on top of the price for their sugar beet.

This pilot project will also provide many key learnings and is a basis for further finetuning of the measures, requirements, structure, organization among other elements. Needless to say, external factors and their influence is part of the evaluation of efficiency, too. This is just the first step for the Südzucker Biodiversity Alliance and one that is anticipated to be extended beyond the Offstein region to farmers from other regions in Germany.

For more information about the Südzucker Biodiversity Alliance visit [Suedzucker](https://www.suedzucker.com).

Consumers turn to mass, club as they seek lower grocery prices amid rising inflation



Consumers feeling pinched by rising inflation are shifting where they shop for food, what they buy and how many items they place in their carts – prompting retailers to rethink and often reduce their product mix, reveals IRI sales data crunched by 210 Analytics.

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/article/2022/11/21/consumers-turn-to-mass-club-as-they-look-for-lower-grocery-prices-amid-rising-inflation>

Sugar campaigner calls for clampdown on 'misleading' nutrition and health claims on baby and toddler food



Despite UK government guidance that no added sugars, including those from processed fruit, should be consumed by children up to the age of two years old, new research from Action on

Sugar (based at Queen Mary University of London) has revealed what it called the worrying levels of sugars added unnecessarily to breakfast foods intended for babies and toddlers, with some containing four teaspoons of sugar per pouch.

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2022/11/16/sugar-campaigner-calls-for-clampdown-on-misleading-nutrition-and-health-claims-on-baby-and-toddler-food>
