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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Press Release(23)56**  
**(English only)**

**29 September 2023**

**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.

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**Sugaronline Ebriefing**

**FIJI: FSC produces more than 100,000 T of sugar in the season**

Fiji Sugar Corporation (FSC) has produced 100,215 metric tonnes of sugar so far in the current season, as of Sept. 25, according to Fiji Village.

The company's Lautoka mill produced 32,743 tonnes, Rarawai mill produced 26,562 tonnes and Labasa mill produced 40,910 tonnes.

The crushing season continues at the three mills, with over half a million tonnes of cane left to be crushed.

**EU surveillance on ethanol imports poses barrier to Brazilian biofuel – UNICA**

Brazilian sugarcane industry association UNICA said on Sept. 27 that the European Union's decision to impose retrospective surveillance measures on bioethanol imports pose barriers to Brazilian ethanol, reports Sugaronline.

The European Commission announced last week [regulation determining surveillance measures](#) on renewable ethanol imports amid a rise in the share of imported ethanol in the European market.

"Applied unilaterally, the attempt to place barriers to the import of Brazilian biofuel into the European bloc is an exclusively market protectionist decision, which disregards the attributes of ethanol and could directly impact the tariff of the European Union's integrated system," UNICA said in a statement on Sept. 27.

"We believe Brazil is being penalized for its efficiency in making clean, renewable energy available to the world, produced sustainably throughout its value chain."

UNICA said that it has reached out to authorities in the EC, through its representatives in the EU, to better understand the impacts of the surveillance measures better and ensure ethanol competitiveness is not compromised by "an economic policy against the efficiency, sustainability and excellence of a product from the Brazilian sugar-energy sector."

### **US: Drought continues to impact Louisiana's cane crops**

Dry weather continued to impact Louisiana's sugarcane crop last week, with 36% of the crop considered in very poor to poor conditions, according to the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) latest data, reports Sugaronline.

Around 40% of the sugarcane crop in the state was considered in fair condition, 24% in good condition, 23% in poor and 13% in very poor conditions, according to the Louisiana Crop Progress and Condition report for the week ending Sept. 24.

The overall subsoil moisture supplies in the state were 46% very short, 39% short and 15% adequate.

Most of the sugarcane-producing parishes in Louisiana are located in areas affected [by extreme to exceptional drought](#), according to data from the National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS).

### **BELARUS: Minister says no problems expected with sugar supply**

Belarusian Antimonopoly Regulation and Trade minister Aleksei Bogdanov has said that there are no reasons to expect problems with sugar supply in Belarus, as the sugarbeet harvest is expected to be good, with high sugar content, according to BelTa.

Bogdanov said domestic demand was moderate and the average sugar price was stable. He said sugar prices in the country had not increased since April 2022.

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## **FoodNavigator.com**

### **SAI releases definition of and framework for regenerative agriculture**



Regenerative agriculture currently has no legal definition at an EU level. However, the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative (SAI) platform, a group of companies that includes Danone, PepsiCo, Nestlé, and Unilever, has released a definition of its own, in conjunction with a framework that aims to provide a clear direction to nascent regenerative agriculture programmes.

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/article/2023/09/27/sai-releases-definition-of-and-framework-for-regenerative-agriculture>

### **Challenging the vilification of ultra-processed foods**



The co-founder of Huel has taken issue with the current rhetoric that all ultra-processed foods (UPFs) are 'bad' saying this is an argument based on oversimplification and privilege.

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/article/2023/09/27/challenging-the-vilification-of-ultra-processed-foods>

### **Higher food prices can lower poverty and spur production growth, research states**



As the cost-of-living crisis sees sharp food price spikes squeeze household spend, a new study says increased food costs can reduce poverty and prompt agricultural action, spurring jobs and wage rises.

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2023/09/28/higher-food-prices-can-lower-poverty-and-spur-production-growth-research-states>

### **Private label products growing in popularity due to price, quality and sustainability, research shows**



Due to a wide range of factors, most notably the cost-of-living crisis but also concerns around sustainability, private label (supermarket own) products are growing in popularity across Europe. New research from global packaging producer Amcor shows the extent to which this trend has proliferated across the continent.

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2023/09/28/private-label-products-growing-in-popularity-due-to-price-quality-and-sustainability-research-shows>

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### **ED & F Man Research**

**India's Shree Renuka to Acquire Anamika Sugar for \$28.4 Million - Bloomberg** - Shree Renuka Sugars Ltd. said it has signed a binding agreement to acquire 100% equity in Anamika Sugar Mills Pvt. for 2.36 billion rupees in cash, according to a stock exchange filing Tuesday. Shree Renuka will make a primary infusion of INR1.1 billion for redemption of preference shares issued by Anamika Sugar. Post-acquisition will become a wholly owned subsidiary of Shree Renuka. Deal to help Shree Renuka establish presence in Uttar Pradesh, one of India's largest sugar-producing states, and cater to northern and eastern markets in the country.

**Ethanol production in the center-south falls in the 1st fortnight; sugar mix is the biggest of the harvest - Reuters** - Total ethanol production by plants in central-south Brazil fell 0.44% in the first half of September, with plants increasing the percentage of cane used for sugar production in the period in relation to same time last year, while biofuel sales jumped with greater competitiveness compared to gasoline, said the Sugarcane Industry Union (Unica) this Tuesday. Total ethanol sales by plants in the center-south totaled 1.30 billion liters in the first half of September, an increase of 12.2% compared to the same period in the previous cycle, according to data from Unica. The total sold of hydrated ethanol, including exports, totaled 833.24 million liters, an increase of 23.63%.

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**China to continue to hold further auctions of sugar reserves - Reuters** - China will continue to hold further auctions of its sugar reserves soon to ensure the stability of domestic price and supply, the state's reserve management centre said in a notice on Tuesday. China will hold an auction of its first sale of state sugar reserves since 2016 on Sept. 17 amid tightening supply and rocketing prices of the sweetener.

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