

**International Sugar Organization**1 Canada Square
Canary Wharf
London E14 5AA**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR****Press Release(24)18
(English only)****8 April 2024****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 E-Briefing**THAILAND: Sugar production at 8.75 million T in 2023/24**

Thailand's Office of the Cane and Sugar Board has released data showing that sugar production in the country rose to 8.75 million metric tonnes so far in the 2023/24 season, higher than a previous forecast of 7.5 million tonnes, according to a daily report released by analysis firm ING on April 4.

Production is still lower than the 11 million tonnes produced in 2022/23 due to dry weather conditions.

All millers in Thailand, except two, have completed sugarcane crushing this season.

US: CE+P to Partner with Booker Tate on Sugar Valley Energy sugarcane project

California Ethanol + Power (CE+P) said on April 3 that it had named international sugar and agribusiness consultant Booker Tate Ltd. to help guide sugarcane cultivation plans and ethanol production for its Sugar Valley Energy project, **reports Sugaronline.**

The Sugar Valley Energy project includes a US\$650 million 160-acre sugarcane ethanol refinery and bioenergy facility planned near Brawley in Imperial County, California.

UK-based Booker Tate will supply the Sugar Valley Energy project with management and engineering personnel to work in concert with the project's EPC contractor during the construction and operational startup phases.

Functional roles will include civil, electrical, mechanical and instrument engineers as well as agricultural managers and agronomists to review all aspects of local sugarcane production.

"As we proceed through the final financing phase of our project to our anticipated construction, CE+P is excited to partner with one of the world's most preeminent experts on sugarcane and ethanol production," said CE+P chief executive officer (CEO) Dave Rubenstein said in a statement.

Booker Tate's project director, Robert Hodgson, said the firm has been working closely with CE+P and the Sugar Valley Energy team from the original investigation of the project concept to the current financial phase.

"We will integrate and apply our scientific and commercial knowledge of renewable resources to create maximum value for CE+P and the Imperial Valley community in which it operates," he said.

The team has planted 100 acres of sugarcane to date and is developing schedules for planting an estimated 48,000 acres within the Imperial Valley. The project is in discussions with area farmers who will contract with the Sugar Valley Energy project to grow sugarcane feedstock for the plant.

PAKISTAN: Country faces 30% water shortage at the start of sowing season

Pakistan is facing a 30% water shortage at the start of the sowing season for crops including sugarcane, according to Dawn.

The Indus River System Authority (Irsa) said on April 3 that lower-than-normal winter snowfall in the northern areas affected catchment areas of the Indus and Jhelum Rivers, which are used for irrigation.

Sugarcane is among crops sown in April that require a warm climate with high levels of rainfall.

SOUTH AFRICA: SA Farmers Development Association formally joins sugar industry

Trade, Industry and Competition minister Ebrahim Patel has published a permanent regulation for the sugar industry including the SA Farmers Development Association (Safda) as a member, according to the Citizen.

Safda has welcomed the government's announcement. The executive chairperson for Safda Siyabonga Madlala said that if the Government Gazette had not been published before March 31, the association would have been forced to retrench or close down because operational costs, including salaries, come from the South African Sugar Association (SASA).

TANZANIA: Government plans to raise sugar production by 53.5% in 2 years

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa said during the presentation of budget estimates for 2024/25 that the government plans to increase the country's sugar production by 53.5% in two years, according to The Citizen.

He said in the Parliament that the plan is to increase sugar production from 460,048 metric tonnes in 2022/23 to 706,000 tonnes by the end of the 2025/26 fiscal year to alleviate sugar shortages in the country.

Sugar demand in Tanzania in the 2023/24 fiscal year is estimated at 807,000 tonnes, according to the PM.

FAO Sugar Price Index falls 5.4% in March

The FAO Sugar Price Index fell 5.4% in March from February to 133.1 points, after two consecutive monthly rises, but is still 4.8% above its value a year ago, reports Sugaronline.

"The March decline in international sugar price quotations was mainly driven by the upward revision to the 2023/24 sugar production forecast in India and the improved pace of sugar harvest in Thailand at the final stage of the season," FAO said in a statement on April 5.

Strong exports from Brazil also weighed on global sugar prices. However, persistent concerns over the Brazilian sugarcane crop, negatively affected by prolonged dry weather conditions, continued to exacerbate seasonal trends and limited the price decline.

"Likewise, higher international crude oil prices also contributed to containing the decrease in world sugar prices," according to FAO.

Food Navigator.com

Cocoa crisis hits chocolate: Which companies can weather the storm, financially?



Unsurprisingly, some chocolate makers are struggling to afford cocoa, which has risen in price by 400% in a year.

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2024/04/04/cocoa-crisis-hits-chocolate-which-companies-will-survive>

Increasing consumer engagement through social media



Whether you're a start-up or a long-established brand, continued consumer awareness and interest is fundamental to achieving success in the global marketplace. So how can you use social media to do this?

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2024/04/04/increasing-consumer-engagement-through-social-media>

Danone's Remix platform moves yogurt beyond breakfast to snacks, appeals to younger consumers



Danone wants to entice more Americans – especially young generations – to eat more yogurt, more often and across more dayparts with the launch of its Remix platform, which offers consumers the ability to “mix in” to yogurt crunchy, chewy, sweet and salty toppings that are sold in a dual compartment package.

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/article/2024/04/03/danone-s-remix-platform-moves-yogurt-beyond-breakfast-to-snacks-appeals-to-younger-consumers>

Food as medicine: Could a healthy diet improve diabetes?



Diabetes affects around 422 million people worldwide but could diet help to improve the condition and, if yes, how effective is it?

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2024/04/03/food-as-medicine-could-a-healthy-diet-improve-diabetes>

How is the food industry tackling salt reduction?



High levels of salt in food is becoming an increasing concern for healthcare professionals and consumers as the dangers of a high-salt diet becomes more widely understood. So how is the food industry tackling this issue?

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2024/04/02/how-is-the-food-industry-tackling-salt-reduction>