



International Sugar Organization

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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(English only)**

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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

Could a 'junk food' diet cause long-term damage to the brain?



Junk food has been linked to a number of health issues, including obesity, type two diabetes and cardiovascular disease, but could it also cause long-term damage to the brain?

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2024/04/23/could-a-junk-food-diet-cause-long-term-damage-to-the-brain>

PepsiCo struggles with slower US volumes in Q1 2024, challenges persist in beverage business



PepsiCo is sticking with its fiscal 2024 guidance, after releasing its first-quarter results yesterday, which showed fresh challenges for the food and beverage giant as volumes decreased across its core US businesses amid fierce competition and ongoing recalls.

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/article/2024/04/24/pepsico-struggles-with-slower-us-volumes-in-q1-2024-challenges-persist-in-beverage-business>

Researchers look at coffee genome to find key to climate-resilient coffee



While some 70% of the world's coffee production is Arabica, the species has a low tolerance to rising temperatures and disease. Nestlé has developed a high quality Arabica reference genome – which is now a publicly available database – as part of the mission to find more climate-resilient plants.

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2024/04/23/researchers-turn-to-coffee-genome-to-find-key-to-climate-resilient-coffee>

Shoppers believe government policies are responsible for price increases, study finds



As shoppers continue facing high grocery prices on shelves, they look to government policies as the most responsible for these increases, while believing retailers should communicate price increases more clearly, according to recent data from The Feedback Group.

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/article/2024/04/22/shoppers-believe-government-policies-are-responsible-for-price-increases-study-finds>

Skepticism of sustainability claims pushes companies to be more transparent about progress, lean on certifications



As consumers become more interested in sustainable food production and packaging, they are becoming increasingly sophisticated and skeptical in their assessment of green claims – pushing for more specificity, traceability, transparency and veracity, according to research by Innova Market Insights.

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/article/2024/04/25/skepticism-of-sustainability-claims-pushes-companies-to-be-more-transparent-about-progress-lean-on-certifications>

Nestlé rejects resolution to scale back on 'unhealthy' products



Nestlé shareholders rejected a resolution at its annual general meeting (AGM) on Thursday (19 April) demanding the KitKat maker reduce its reliance on unhealthy products.

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/article/2024/04/19/nestle-rejects-resolution-to-scale-back-on-unhealthy-products>

ED & F Man Daily

First full-size sugar vessel reaches Baltimore Refinery after accident - Reuters - A full-size vessel carrying raw sugar was able to navigate through the 20-foot deep temporary channel at the U.S. Patapsco River on Wednesday and reach the Port of Baltimore for the first time since an accident blocked access to the port almost a month ago. The vessel The Jonathan carried supplies for the large sugar refinery operated by the ASR Group - the company that makes Domino Sugar - located at Port of Baltimore. The plant, which is one of the largest sugar refineries in the United States, has faced hurdles to keep operations at normal levels since the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge on March 26 that killed six people.

Sugaronline Ebriefing

INDIA: Sugar consumption may set new record in 2024

India's sugar consumption is expected to set a new record this year amid increased demand during the peak of the summer, according to Reuters.

From April to June, local sugar consumption could rise 5% from one year earlier to 7.5 million metric tonnes, according to the report, citing a Mumbai-based dealer with a global trade house.

Sugar demand in India is above average this year boosted by heat waves and election rallies.

BRAZIL: Sugar exports from Santos port expected at 23.5 million T in 2024

Sugar exports from Brazil's Santos port are expected to reach 23.5 million metric tonnes this year, according to the Santos Port Authority (APS) in a statement on April 23, reports Sugaronline.

In 2023, sugar exports from Santos port totaled 22.97 million tonnes, up 12.2% from 2022.

The president of the Santos Port Authority Anderson Pomini said soybean exports from Santos port should reach 31.9 million tonnes in 2024, and corn shipments are expected at 20.2 million tonnes.

In the first quarter of 2024, sugar exports from Brazil's Santos port increased 97.8% to 6.1 million metric tonnes, contributing to a record volume of cargo handled at the port in the period.

In March, sugar exports from the port increased 95.6% from the same month last year to 1.9 million tonnes.

Total cargo exports from Santos Port reached 12.3 million tonnes in March, up 5.5% year on year, and 31.1 million tonnes in the first quarter of the year, 17.6% more than one year earlier.

TURKEY: Sugar production expected to grow to 3.2 million T in 2024/25

Turkey is expected to produce 3.2 million metric tonnes of sugar in 2024/25, up from 3.1 million tonnes in 2023/24, according to the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) post in Ankara, reports Sugaronline.

"The sugarbeet area harvested is expected to slightly expand year-to-year as farmers switch to growing more beets in hopes of capturing higher returns compared to sunflowers and corn," the FAS post in Ankara said in the [Sugar Annual report](#).

The beet sugar production quota for 2024/25 is expected to be close to last year's amount of about 3 million tonnes. Any amount produced in excess of the quota will either be exported or used in a food or beverage product for export.

Sugar consumption in 2024/25 is projected to be slightly higher than the previous year at about 3.4 million tonnes, assuming continued strong demand from the food and beverage industry and stable household demand.

ECUADOR: Sugar production to recover to 530,000 T in 2024/25

Ecuador's sugar production is forecast to recover to 530,000 metric tonnes in 2024/25, in line with the 2022/23 output, due to a rebound in harvested area after El Nino weather impacted production in the second half of 2023, according to the USDA's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) post in Quito, reports Sugaronline.

In 2023/24, Ecuador's sugar production is estimated at 420,000 tonnes, down 21%.

Domestic consumption is forecast to remain stable at 550,000 tonnes, with gradual increases expected in the coming years.

"Ethanol production is not expected to increase in the near to mid-term but an official increase in the ethanol blend rate to 10% across Ecuador would increase demand for imported ethanol," the FAS post in Quito said in the [Sugar Annual](#).

US: New nutrition standards limit added sugars in school meals

The US Department of Agriculture announced on April 24 new nutrition standards for school meals, limiting added sugars from 2025 and gradually reducing sodium, reports Sugaronline.

Currently, there are no added sugar limits in the school meal programs, and schools may choose to serve some menu items and meals that are high in added sugars, provided they meet weekly calorie limits, according to the USDA's Food and Nutrition Service.

The newly approved rules set [product-based limits](#) to be implemented by the school year 2025/26 (beginning July 1, 2025). Breakfast cereals may have no more than 6 grams of added sugars per dry ounce and yogurts may have no more than 12 grams of added sugars per 6 ounces (2 grams of added sugars per ounce).

Flavored milk may have no more than 10 grams of added sugars per 8 fluid ounces or, for flavored milk sold as a competitive food for middle and high schools, 15 grams of added sugars per 12 fluid ounces.

From 2027/28, added sugars will have to be limited to less than 10% of calories across the week in school meals.

"The new standards build on the great progress that school meals have made already and address remaining challenges – including reducing sugar in school breakfasts. These updates also make it easier for schools to access locally sourced products, benefiting both schools and the local economy," said USDA's Food and Nutrition Service Administrator, Cindy Long, in a statement.

EUROPE: EU Parliament approves review of agricultural policy

The European Parliament on April 24 approved the review of the bloc's common agriculture policy (CAP), to ease the administrative burden for EU farmers, reports Sugaronline.

The CAP review changes the rules for three environmental conditionalities farmers must adhere to in order to receive funding.

It also provides more flexibility for EU countries to grant exemptions from CAP standards if there are problems with applying them and in case of issues caused by extreme weather.

Small farms under 10 hectares would be exempt from controls and penalties for non-compliance with some CAP rules, according to a statement released by the European farmers.

The regulation now has to be approved by Council.

European farmers represented by Copa and Cogeca welcomed the approval of the CAP simplification.

"Copa and Cogeca now urge Member States to apply the revised rules and come up with the implementing legislation as soon as possible so that these changes can be applied at farm level this year still," they said in a statement.

They also urged the European Commission to continue this simplification exercise by following up on their proposals with additional ones as part of the simplification package that was presented on Feb. 22.

"We also call on Member States to use all existing possibilities to simplify the existing national implementing rules to minimise and ease the administrative burden on farmers."

