

**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.

ECRUU Sugar News Monitor**WORLD - Market talk: Sugar prices still low but demand could be hit**

Dry conditions in CS Brazil and a heat wave in Thailand helped push up NY sugar prices to a 2-week high on April 29, according to Bar Chart. Overall, however, Czarnikow noted that prices were still at their lowest levels in over a year with the fund short position at its highest since mid-2022. Demand from buyers, meanwhile, seems to have subsided for now, Czarnikow added. In the US, Circana reported a 2% drop in chocolate sales in the Jan-Mar period, probably due to a 6% price hike. Investors expect that companies like Hershey and Mondelez will have to increase prices further to account for higher cocoa and sugar prices, which could hurt demand, according to analysts.

([Bar Chart](#) & [Reuters](#) & [Czapp](#))

ARGENTINA - Makes plans for bumper crop, demand rebounds

Government agencies signed a framework with sugarcane industry groups outlining plans to deal with a bumper cane crop in 2024, which could reach 2 million mt. The sector plans to focus on ethanol production first, then exports, to avoid an oversupply. In Jujuy, meanwhile, the drop in sugar demand caused by high inflation rates is starting to reverse, according to the Industrial Union. ([La Gaceta](#) & [La Gaceta](#) & [TodoJujuy](#))

INDONESIA - Creates task force to expand sugar sector

The government on April 19 created a task force for the Acceleration of Sugar and Bioethanol Self-Sufficiency, which will start by helping set up cane cultivation in the South Papua Province. ([Government](#))

UNITED STATES - Groups create SAF coalition

A group of 40 companies created the Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF) Coalition, including Gevo, LanzaJet, the RFA, and Summit Agricultural Group. Axios argued that the move could be a sign that industry groups are trying to protect the SAF program from a possible change in government after the November elections.

([AgWired](#) & [RFA](#) & [Axios](#))

SOUTH AFRICA - Making ethanol from paper waste

The Paper Manufacturers Association of South Africa (PAMSA) said it successfully produced cellulosic ethanol from pulp and paper mill waste, at a demonstration plant in KwaZulu-Natal.

([bizcommunity](#))

INDIA - US eyes Indian market as it struggles to meet ethanol mandate

India is likely to meet its 15% ethanol blending target by December, instead of October, and will struggle to reach 20% blending by 2025/26, the head of the National Federation of Sugar Cooperative Factories said. He added that the government would prioritise ethanol blending over sugar exports. A US official leading a delegation in India argued that India could import US ethanol to meet its mandate. India's National Sugar Institute (NSI), meanwhile, said it was working with a German company to develop ethanol from beet.

Looking forward, a former NSI official said the target should be for cane yields to reach 100mt/ha by 2030 and a 15% sugar content.

([Informist](#) & [KNN India](#) & [CNBC](#) & [Chini Mandi](#))

Sugaronline Ebriefing

BRAZIL: Minister defends increase of ethanol blend in gasoline

Brazil's minister of Mines and Energy, Alexandre Silveira, has defended the importance of gradually increasing ethanol blending in gasoline, according to a statement released by the Ministry, reports Sugaronline.

During an event to mark the start of the 2024/25 cane crushing season in Minas Gerais state last week, Silveira also welcomed the approval, at the lower house, of a bill that supports the production and consumption of renewable fuels in the country. The bill "Fuels of the Future" is now expected to be approved by the Senate.

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He also said sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) and green diesel create new markets for Brazil's sugarcane sector.

FRANCE: Sugarbeet industry urges government to allow acetamiprid

France's sugarbeet industry has requested the government to allow the use of acetamiprid, a neonicotinoid insecticide permitted in the European Union but banned in France, according to Euractiv.

The director of the Confédération Générale des Planteurs de Betteraves (CGB), Vincent Guillot, said that aphids and yellows pressure is very high on French beet crops, so the timing was perfect "for parliamentarians and European candidates to understand the issues and consequences" of the French ban on the neonicotinoid.

INDIA: Nestlé India says it is testing a zero-sugar variant for infant food

The chairman and managing director of Nestlé India Suresh Narayanan said on April 29 that the company is testing a zero-sugar variant for infant food in the country, according to CNBC TV18.

He said the company is compliant with local laws and has reduced added sugar in its products by 30% over the last two years.

Public Eye, a Swiss investigative organisation, reported on April 17 that Nestlé’s leading baby-food brands have high levels of added sugar in low-income countries.

FoodNavigator.com

Unilever’s food and beverage growth driven by price, not volume sales



Unilever’s first quarter sees growth in all of its categories, including nutrition and ice cream. However, growth in these two categories is driven by price, with volume sales falling.

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2024/04/26/unilever-food-and-beverage-sees-decline-in-volume-sales>

Sweet, savory snacks win in 2023, age influences purchase channel, Circana finds



Consumers are finding more ways to eat their favorite snacks, as younger shoppers increasingly turn to quick-service restaurants for a convenient option for in-between meal occasions, Circana shared in its annual snack report.

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2024/04/25/sweet-savory-snacks-win-in-2023-age-influences-purchase-channel-circana-finds>