



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Press Release(24)54
(English only)**

3 December 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 Ebriefing

US: Study finds no significant changes in youth obesity due to sugar tax in Philadelphia

A recent study has found no evidence of changes in pediatric weight two years after the implementation of a sugar tax on beverages in Philadelphia, according to Medical Xpress.

The study was conducted by researchers from the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, the University of Pennsylvania, Harvard Medical School and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

"These results show that 2 years after implementation, the Philadelphia beverage tax was not associated with changes in youth zBMI (standardized body mass index) or obesity prevalence. Though certain subgroups demonstrated small statistically significant changes in zBMI, they are of low clinical significance," according to the [study's conclusion](#).

FIJI: Minister says country seeks to reconnect with Tate & Lyle

Fiji's Sugar Industry minister, Charan Jeath Singh, has said Fiji is eager to reconnect with Tate & Lyle, provided that the benefits for sugarcane farmers and the terms and conditions align with sustainability goals, according to FBC News.

Singh met Tate & Lyle on the margins of the 33rd ISO Seminar in London, according to the news report.

Tate & Lyle was Fiji's largest sugar importer during the years of preferential pricing agreements with the European Union.

ROMANIA: Agrana announces starch production JV with Ingredion

Agrana Beteiligungs, one of the largest sugar producers in Central and Eastern Europe, announced on Dec. 2 that its subsidiary Agrana Stärke GmbH signed an agreement with Ingredion Germany GmbH to develop a joint venture in starch production in Romania, reports Sugaronline.

Ingredion Germany will acquire 49% of the shares in S.C. AGFD Țăndărei s.r.l. from Agrana Stärke GmbH.

"We want to drive our growth in Europe by entering into a joint venture and we believe Ingredion is the ideal partner for this. The collaboration combines our different expertises in starch production and fits perfectly with our group strategy 'Next Level'," Agrana chief executive officer

(CEO), Stephan Büttner, said in a statement on Dev. 2.

"We're implementing the strategy step by step, and strengthening our commodity and specialty business consistently, is a central aspect."

Agrana said that further details on the joint venture with Ingredion in Romania will be announced after the approval of the transaction by the competent competition and regulatory authorities.

INDIA: Sugar production down 35.4% so far in 2024/25 – NFCSF

Sugar production in India has reached 2.79 million metric tonnes so far in the 2024/25 season, which started on Oct. 1, down 35.4% from the same period last year, per data released by the National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories (NFCSF), according to Reuters.

The beginning of this year's cane crushing was delayed in the states of Maharashtra and Karnataka.

A total of 381 sugar mills in India had started crushing operations by the end of November, compared to 433 in the same period last year.

KENYA: Workers protest at Nzoia Sugar over delayed payment

Sugar workers on Nov. 29 protested at the Nzoia Sugar Factory over delays in paying their salaries, claiming they haven't received wages for the last nine months, according to the Citizen. The workers blamed the current leadership of the factory for the issue and called on the government to intervene. The factory management attributed the delay to the factory not operating normally due to a halt in cane crushing.

FoodNavigator.com

Front-of-pack labelling 'must be mandatory' urges sector head[Opens in new window](#)



Governments must work harder to push food and drink manufacturers to reduce sugar in their products and enforce front-of-pack labelling on the sector.

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2024/11/29/front-of-pack-labelling-must-be-mandatory-urges-sector-head/>

Battle of the trends 2025[Opens in new window](#)



Food and beverage trends are going head-to-head, as different attitudes to eating styles compete for supremacy. So, which will emerge victorious in 2025?

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2024/11/28/food-and-beverage-trends-competing-with-each-other/>

COP29: Was food sector progress made?Opens in new window



COP29 has drawn to a close. How significant was its progress towards making food more sustainable?

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2024/11/27/cop29-and-food-roundup/>

Red tape won't put UK businesses off EU food and drink importsOpens in new window



UK businesses dependent on EU food and drink imports will put up with additional Brexit red tape to ensure continued supplies, with many set to increase imports

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2024/11/29/uk-businesses-vow-to-continue-eu-food-and-drink-imports/>