



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Press Release(25)27
(English only)**

16 June 2025

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

THAILAND: Sugar production expected to increase after 17.6% annual rise – news report

Thailand's sugar output is estimated to increase further after a 17.6% annual increase from the previous season, according to Reuters, citing a senior official.

Strong sugarcane prices and favorable rainfall are expected to contribute to increased output this season, after the country produced 10.03 million metric tonnes in the 2024/25 cycle.

EUROPE: EU to subsidise airline purchases of SAF – news report

More than 200 million litres of sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) purchases by airline companies could be subsidised by the European Union, according to Reuters.

The EU has offered to subsidise this volume of SAF purchases, which is equivalent to around 15% of the current global SAF production, according to Reuters calculations considering European Commission data.

INDIA: Government notifies WTO about sugar export curb – news report

India's government has notified about its export curbs on sugar and wheat, adding that they are temporary measures to prevent a critical shortage in the domestic market and stabilise prices, according to The Hindu's Business line, citing a source tracking the matter.

The government didn't indicate a timeframe to remove the curbs and said they would continue for as long as the conditions that led to them persist, according to the news report published on June 12.

EUROPE: CEFS announces new president

The European Association of Sugar Manufacturers (CEFS) has announced the election of Giovanni Tamburini as the new president, according to a [statement](#) released by the group on June 12, reports Sugaronline.

Tamburini, who is the vice president of Italy's only remaining beet sugar producer Italia Zuccheri - COPROB, takes over as president of CEFS after the conclusion of the 7-year mandate of Paul Mesters.

"Giovanni brings strong experience from Italia Zuccheri - COPROB s.c.a. and is the longest-serving member of the CEFS Praesidium. He takes over from Paul Mesters, outgoing CEO of Cosun Beet Company, who has led CEFS with energy, commitment, and a great sense of humour since 2018," CEFS said in a post on [Linkedin](#).

"The end of quota system in 2017 and the European Green Deal have taken the European sugar sector into uncharted territory. Over the last 10 years, the sector and its fundamentals have changed dramatically," Tamburini said in a statement.

"Stability and profitability must be prioritised. We face challenging years and we must work with the European Commission to ensure that the regulatory framework is fit for purpose for EU sugar manufacturing and beet cultivation."

SOUTH AFRICA: SA Canegrowers group warns that sugar imports may cost jobs

The chairman of the South African sugarcane growers association SA Canegrowers has warned that sugar imports have been causing losses to local producers and could cost jobs in the sector, reports Sugaronline.

"Local canegrowers need greater protection from unfair sugar dumping and subsidised cheap imports," Higgins Mdluli, re-elected chairman of SA Canegrowers this week, said in [a statement](#) on June 12.

"We call on all social partners, government, industry players, and commercial end-users and consumers, to stand with South African sugarcane growers. Our growers contribute to a thriving, inclusive agricultural economy, but to continue to do so we need to be able to compete on a level playing field."

SA Canegrowers claims that foreign sugar is entering South Africa at prices below the local production costs and global sugar prices due to some foreign governments subsidizing their industries or countries dumping their excess sugar at a loss.

The association said local producers cannot compete with subsidised imports, while the industry faces other challenges, including unpredictable weather patterns, mill closures, and the sugar tax.

"For every tonne of imported sugar, local sugarcane growers lose SAR6,000 in income and jobs are imperilled," the group said.

SA Canegrowers said South Africa's sugar industry produces enough sugar to service the full demand of SADC countries, leaving a surplus that is exported according to the global sugar price.

NIGERIA: Aliko Dangote retires as chairman of Dangote Sugar Refinery

Dangote Sugar Refinery announced on June 11 that Aliko Dangote will retire as chairman of the company's Board of Directors after 20 years, reports Sugaronline.

Aliko Dangote, the founder of Nigerian conglomerate Dangote Group, will be succeeded by Arnold Ekpe, an independent non-executive director, who will take over as new chairman of Dangote Sugar Refinery from June 16.

Ekpe has held senior leadership roles in the banking sector and other industries.

"His strategic acumen, deep understanding of corporate governance, and commitment to stakeholder value make him well-positioned to lead the Board as we continue to build on our strong foundations and pursue sustainable growth," Dangote Sugar Refinery said in a [statement](#) filed with the Nigerian stock exchange (NGX).

FAO projects global sugar deficit of 2.2 million T in 2024/25

The global sugar production in 2024/25 is expected to decline, resulting in a global sugar deficit of 2.2 million metric tonnes, according to the United Nations' Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO), reports Sugaronline.

FAO has reduced its estimate for global sugar production in 2024/25 to 175.6 million tonnes, from [180.3 million](#) projected in November last year, primarily due to lower production in Brazil and India.

"The anticipated declines in these countries will likely outweigh a significant production recovery in Thailand and larger outputs in China and the European Union," FAO said in its [biannual Food Outlook report](#) released June 12.

Global sugar consumption in 2024/25 is now forecast to reach 177.8 million tonnes, also below the previous estimate of 178.1 million tonnes and up 1.1% from 2023/24.

"The modest increase largely reflects the slower-than-anticipated global economic activity in 2025, which may constrain consumption growth, particularly in the beverage and food processing industries," according to the FAO report.

International trade in sugar in 2024/25 is expected to decline by 6% from 2023/24 to 63.3 million tonnes. The latest estimate for 2024/25 is slightly below the previous forecast in November of 63.9 million tonnes.

Lower exportable supplies in Brazil and India are expected to more than offset larger shipments from Thailand. Reduced purchases from countries in Africa and Asia should impact trade as well.

INDONESIA: Minister confirms sugar self-sufficiency targets

Indonesia's minister of Agriculture Andi Amran Sulaiman reaffirmed on June 11 that Indonesia is targeting self-sufficiency in consumer sugar by 2028 and in industrial sugar and bioethanol production by 2030, according to Xinhua.

He said the end of the country's reliance on imports is a realistic target and added that the government will boost extensification and intensification measures to raise sugar production.

Sulaiman also said that East Java is a key driver of the national sugar self-sufficiency effort.

US: Arkansas, Idaho and Utah ban use of food stamps to buy sugary drinks

Arkansas, Idaho, and Utah have joined three other US states in restricting items that food stamp recipients can purchase, targeting sugary drinks, reports Sugaronline.

US Secretary of Agriculture Brooke L. Rollins signed on June 10 three waivers to amend the statutory definition of food for purchase for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Programs (SNAP) in Arkansas, Idaho, and Utah, starting in 2026.

According to a [statement](#) released by the US Department of Agriculture, the Arkansas' waiver excludes soda, low and no-calorie soda, fruit and vegetable drinks with less than 50% natural juice, "other unhealthy drinks" and candy.

In Idaho, the waiver excludes soda and candy. In Utah, the waiver bans soft drinks.

Secretary Rollins has previously signed waivers for [Nebraska](#), [Iowa](#) and [Indiana](#).

ED & F Man Daily

Food companies slash sugar and salt by a third, reveals new report - Reuters - A new report shows food and drink companies have slashed sugar and salt by nearly a third and cut a quarter of calories in their products compared to a decade ago. The figures are revealed in a document from the FDF, shared exclusively with The Grocer. Based on Kantar Worldpanel sales figures, it shows FDF member products contain 31% less salt, 30% less sugar and 24% fewer calories than they did 10 years ago. The federation also revealed that in 2024 food and drink manufacturers invested £180m in healthier product innovation. It said this included modifying recipes to reduce sugar, calories and salt, developing new healthier products and changing portion sizes. The full report, called Shaping a Healthier Future through Food and Drink, is due to be published on Monday. The federation said it highlighted the great progress made by the industry, but also called for the government to support further progress by ensuring a consistent approach to health policy across the entire food system.

Farewell to the Mérida sugar mill: Extremadura closes the door on the major Dubai project as the environmental license expires – El Economista - The Mérida sugar mill project, which was to be developed by the Dubai-based multinational Al Khaleej Sugar, has lost the validity of the environmental impact statement signed in 2017 to develop a sugar beet processing plant for the production of refined sugar at ExpacioMérida, due to the project not having begun before the expiration date. This was the ruling issued by the Official Gazette of Extremadura on Thursday, June 5, effectively closing the door on a project that had been on the horizon since 2017 and was to involve a total investment of nearly €500 million, with a surface area of almost 600,000 square meters, and expected to create 300 direct jobs and 4,000 indirect jobs. They had reserved almost twice as much land to develop other projects, but the purchase option was neither renewed nor formalized, so the company lost the rights to the land in 2019. However, the environmental permits remained valid, and they signed an agreement with the Regional Government of Extremadura to begin construction, something that never happened, and these permits expired this Thursday.

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Food commodity trends: What's up and what's down in crops, meat and dairy?



Despite global pressures, most food commodities will increase, however moderately, in output <https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2025/06/13/meat-fish-crop-production-expected-to-increase/>

How important is mouthfeel in reformulation?

Cost and health targets have pushed reformulation to the forefront of food and beverage. But what impact does a change in mouthfeel have on consumer perceptions?

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2025/06/10/mouthfeel-matters-in-food-and-beverage-reformulation/>

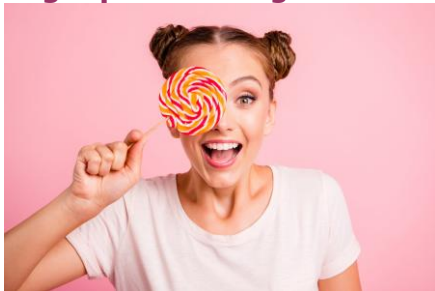
California's soda tax war reaches crucial battle in Santa Cruz



The momentum behind California soda taxes came to an abrupt halt in 2018 with the introduction of the Keep Groceries Affordable Act. But Santa Cruz defied the legislation and introduced a new soda tax: an action it is now preparing to defend

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/Article/2025/06/10/californias-soda-tax-war-reaches-crucial-battle-in-santa-cruz/>

Sugar prices falling: What does this mean for manufacturers and will it last?



Sugar prices fall to lowest level since June 2021

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2025/06/06/sugar-prices-falling-what-does-this-mean-for-manufacturers-and-will-it-last/>