

**International Sugar Organization**

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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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.

SRI LANKA: Foods high in sugar, salt and fat are banned from schools

Sri Lanka's government has begun enforcing a ban on food items high in sugar, salt and fat in schools in an effort to tackle rising cases of obesity and associated non-communicable disease among children, according to the New Straits Times, citing an AFP report.

According to the new guidelines for school meals issued by the Education Ministry, items banned include doughnuts, ice cream, biscuits, flavored milk, energy drinks, pastries, deep-fried snacks, hot dogs, burgers, pizzas, and even condiments such as tomato sauce.

Advertisers of "unhealthy food" are also banned from sponsoring school events, according to a 122-page ministry guide seen by AFP.

INDONESIA: Government accelerates self-sufficiency target, plans cane replanting program

Indonesia's minister of Agriculture, Andi Amran Sulaiman, announced on July 19 that the Ministry is ready to implement President Prabowo Subianto's directive to achieve sugar self-sufficiency within two years, focusing on modernising sugarcane cultivation through the use of high-yield seed varieties and agricultural mechanisation, according to RRI Voice of Indonesia.

President Prabowo said on July 17 that the ministry initially proposed replanting 100,000 hectares of sugarcane annually to achieve self-sufficiency within four years before agreeing to accelerate the timeline.

Prabowo praised the minister's commitment after hearing the revised proposal and described sugar self-sufficiency as part of Indonesia's broader strategy to build national resilience.

BRAZIL: Raízen sells Caarapó mill to Adecoagro

Raízen has signed a contract to sell its Caarapó sugar mill in Mato Grosso do Sul state, as well as approximately 3.5 million metric tonnes of sugarcane linked to the facility, to Adecoagro for BRL760 million (USD149 million), reports Sugaronline.

Raízen said in a statement on July 20 that the sale of the unit and associated sugarcane and contracts with suppliers to Adecoagro Vale do Ivinhema is in line with its strategy of optimising its asset portfolio, simplifying operations, and capturing efficiencies, to focus on improving profitability.

Once the transaction is completed, Raízen will operate a portfolio of 23 mills, with an installed sugarcane crushing capacity of approximately 69 million tonnes per season.

The completion of the transaction is subject to approval by Brazil's competition authority CADE, as well as compliance with other precedent conditions established in the contracts.

MOLDOVA: Food industry urges government to restore competition

Food industry manufacturers in Moldova have sent a joint letter to Prime Minister Vasile Tofan and Deputy Prime Minister Eugen Osmocescu, asking them to review a package of proposals they have drafted aimed at enhancing the competitiveness of the local food industry, including the Moldova's sugar market, according to Logos Press.

More than 20 companies and two associations of food industry associations accounting for about 70% of the total volume of sugar consumed by Moldovan industry signed the letter.

The companies argue that a large discrepancy with regional sugar prices significantly increases the production costs of Moldovan food manufacturers' products with high sugar content compared to similar products from food companies in Romania, Poland, Bulgaria, Ukraine, and other countries.

BRAZIL: Ethanol supply in 2026/27 could increase by 5 billion litres – Pecege

Brazilian consultancy Pecege Consultoria e Projetos expects ethanol production in 2026/27 to increase by 5.1 billion litres, or 15.1% from the previous season, according to Novacana.

The company forecasts production of 28.22 billion litres of sugarcane-based ethanol, which is 3.69 billion litres above the previous season and at least 1.5 billion more than the average of the last 12 years. Corn ethanol production is expected to reach 10.59 billion litres, 1.4 billion litres higher than in 2025/26.

The percentage of the total sugarcane available for ethanol production is expected to rise from 49.62% to 54.29% in 2026/27.

INDIA: Sugarcane research centre will be established in Tamil Nadu

The president of India's National Federation of Cooperative Sugar Factories (NFCSF) has announced that a new advanced sugarcane research centre will be established at the Sugarcane Breeding Institute in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, according to a news report by the New Indian Express on Aug. 1.

The centre will receive INR900 million in investment to develop high-yielding sugarcane varieties, according to the news report, citing NFCSF president Harshvardhan Patil.

Aimed at strengthening the country's sugar sector, the centre will receive funding support from the NFCSF and the Indian Sugar Mills Association.

SOUTH AFRICA: Tongaat Hulett investor seeks to acquire Illovo Sugar – news report

Vision Sugar, the South African investor group that recently rescued Tongaat Hulett, is interested in acquiring Illovo Sugar, according to a Semafor news report on Aug. 3, citing unnamed sources with direct knowledge of the matter.

Representatives from Vision Sugar, led by South African billionaire Robert Gumede and Zimbabwean dealmaker Rute Moyo, have initiated contact with the London-based Associated British Foods (ABF), the parent company of Illovo, about a potential deal, according to the news report.

This acquisition would create an African-owned sugar giant, including Illovo's sugar estates across South Africa, Zambia, Malawi, Eswatini, Tanzania and Mozambique.

ABF declined to comment while spokespeople for Illovo did not respond to requests for comment, according to the news report.

US: Sugar demand rises while consumption of HFCS declines

Demand for cane and beet sugar in the United States increased by 0.6% in the first half of the 2025/26 marketing year, in line with the country's 0.5% population growth, while deliveries of high fructose corn syrup (HFCS) dropped by 3.5%, according to Reuters.

The data was released in a report by US rural lender CoBank based on USDA data. Sugar consumption increased despite widespread health-related concerns, with three out of four Americans saying they wanted to limit or completely avoid sugar in a 2025 survey. Wholesale grocers and food distributors were among the sectors where sugar demand grew the most.

The report warns of potential risks of consumption decline in the future due to the use of GLP drugs that could lower overall food demand.

BRAZIL: Government challenges US tariffs at WTO

The Brazilian government challenged the latest US tariffs of 25% and 12.5% on Brazilian goods at the World Trade Organization (WTO), describing the new US surcharges on its exports as "unilateral" and "discriminatory", according to Valor International.

In a request for consultations filed with the WTO, Brazil's government argues that the tariffs breach commitments made by the United States at the WTO and disregard the rules of the multilateral dispute settlement system.

The US government announced the tariffs following two investigations conducted by the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), one of them alleging unfair trade practices and another related to forced labor.

FoodNavigator.com

Coca-Cola's Fairlife resumes operations after attack



Operations resume after Coca-Cola subsidiary Fairlife hit by ransomware attack

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2026/07/27/coca-cola-ransomware-attack-exposes-cyber-threat-to-food-and-beverage/>

6 ways a hotter Europe is transforming food and drink



Climate change is no longer a future threat for Europe's food and drink. It's already here, and it's reshaping the way European food and drink operates

[6 ways a hotter Europe is changing food](#)

Are global coffee sustainability strategies falling short?



Coffee sustainability worldwide is at a crossroads, as prices fluctuate and concerns grow over climate change, farmer incomes and long-term supply resilience

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2026/07/27/are-global-coffee-sustainability-strategies-falling-short/>

USDA pushes ahead with reorganization despite lawsuit and warnings of 'brain drain'



Employees face relocation deadlines as the agency defends plans to move thousands of Washington-based staff to national hubs, while critics argue the overhaul is an effort to force workers out and threatens safety oversight

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2026/07/28/usda-reorganization-moves-ahead-despite-lawsuit/>

Tate & Lyle shareholders vote in favour of £2.7bn Ingredion acquisition



Another stage of the acquisition is now complete, with more to come

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2026/07/28/tate-lyle-shareholders-back-27bn-ingredion-takeover/>