

PORT OF SANTOS SETS ANNUAL TURNOVER RECORD 1 MONTH BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR

The volume of cargo handled at the Port of Santos reached an annual record even before the end of the year, having exceeded in November the previous record of 2015, according to data from Companhia Docas do Estado de São Paulo (Codesp). Until November, the port handled 119.96 million tons of cargo. The previous record was 119.93 million tons. The strong result, according to Codesp, is due to agribusiness, but also had an impact on the handling of containers, which represent 34% of the activity in the port and shows the diversification of cargoes. In November, the port recorded a record for the month, with the highest monthly growth from one year to the next: a rise of 40.6% to 10.9 million tons. Exports and imports increased 49.1% and 25.2%, respectively. In the accumulated of the year, the most exported product was soybean, reaching 21.04 million tons until November, followed by sugar, which had 19.63 million tons shipped, and corn, whose exports reached 12.69 million tons. The port leads in exports of these products from Brazil, the largest global exporter of soya and sugar.

Src.: Reuters

SOYA PRODUCTION SURPRISES AND MAY APPROACH RECORD NUMBERS

After a turbulent harvest season, with dry weather delaying soybean planting, the crop of the 2017/18 crop has shown good development conditions and can record yields close to the record for the 2016/17 season. "We are with a conservative projection of a sack unless in 2016/17, but that is just a caution," said Endrigo Dalcin, president of the Mato Grosso Soybean and Corn Producers Association (Aprosoja-MT). In the last harvest, the largest Brazilian State produced average yield of 55 sacks per hectare. For the current crop, to date, 54.2 sacks per hectare are estimated. According to Dalcin, the "bulk" of the harvest in the state should occur between January 20 and February 15. "In that period, it will not be able to rain hard so as not to disturb the work," he said. "There are soybeans coming out of the field by Christmas, but this is still very timely," he added. In SLC, one of the largest grain producers in the country and with plantations in Mato Grosso and Matopiba - confluence between Maranhão, Tocantins, Piauí and Bahia - productivity will be even higher in this crop than in the previous one. "We estimate a yield of 56 sacks per hectare. In the last harvest, there were 55 sacks," said Frederick Logemann, SLC's investor relations manager. According to the market intelligence analyst at INTL FCStone consulting firm, Ana Luiza Lodi, the scenario as a whole is positive for the producer. Still, he pointed out, the productivity of the past crop should not be overcome. "The weather was perfect in the last crop. We will have some producers with better results, but overall I still see lower productivity," he said. The analyst pointed out that some attention is still needed to the dry climate recorded in the south of the country. "The dry climate can get in the way, but we do not see anything generalized," evaluated.

Src.: Valor Economico

CORN OF SECOND CROP AT PARANÁ SHOULD RETREAT 7%

The first projection for corn harvesting in the second crop of

the 2017/18 harvest in Paraná - the second largest cereal producing state - points to higher productivity than in 2016/17. According to data from the Department of Rural Economy (Deral) of the State Department of Agriculture, Paraná's crops are expected to produce 5.7 tons of corn per hectare, 4% above the previous season. Despite the higher yield, the production of the second crop in the state is expected to drop 7%, to 12.3 million tons, due to the smaller area sown. The outlook is that 2.2 million hectares of maize will be planted, down 11% from 2016/17. Unattractive corn prices on the Chicago bourse have discouraged planting in the current crop. The higher productivity expected for Paraná's crops helps to dispel fears of excessive price increases in the domestic market. The fear was fueled by the prospect of an 18.8% drop in maize production in Mato Grosso - the country's main producer state - to 24.7 million tons. If scarcity should not be an issue in Paraná, the great production can show a very serious problem: the deficit in storage. There are still 8.8 million tons of soybeans, corn and wheat in the state's warehouses in the 2016/17 crop. And in January, the 19.3 million tons of soybeans estimated for the 2017/18 crop start to leave the fields. According to Deral data, 61% of the 13.3 million tons of corn out of the 2016/17 crop were sold. Of the summer crop of the last crop, 3% of the estimated production of 4.9 million tons remains. And there are still 2.8 million tons of soybeans from the 2016/17 crop to be traded, 14% of the estimated production of 19.8 million tons. The anticipated commercialization of corn from the 2017/18 summer harvest, whose harvest is expected to start in the coming weeks, is still at 1% of the estimated 3 million tons. And, at a slower pace, early marketing of 2017/18 soybeans stands at 13% of the estimated 19.288 million tons.

Src.: Valor Economico

BRAZILIAN ORANGE HARVEST EXPECTED TO RETREAT 15% IN 2018/19

Brazilian orange crop is expected to add 425 million boxes of 40.8 kilos in 2018/19, according to the USDA's estimate. The volume, if correct, will represent a decrease of 15% in relation to the 500 million boxes provided for in the review for the 2017/18 crop. The total delivered to the processing industry in 2018/19 will be 302 million boxes, according to the agency, 19.2% below the deliveries of the previous crop. For the USDA, strong production this season should cause tree stress and reduce vegetative vigor for 2018/19. In addition, dry weather in September should have reduced the first flowering. About the 2017/18 crop, the estimate went from 471 million to 500 million boxes due to the increase in fruit size, says the American association.

Src.: Valor Economico

PROCESSING OF SUGARCANE IN CENTER-SOUTH RISES IN DECEMBER

The plants and distilleries of the Center-South of Brazil processed 10.44 million tons of sugarcane in the first fortnight of December of the 2017/2018 harvest. The volume is 44.49% higher than the total of 7.229 million tons crushed in the same period last year, the Sugarcane Industry Union (Unica) reported earlier. In the accumulated of the season, until December 16th, processing was 578.759 million tons, down 1.73% over the same period of the 2016/2017 harvest, when 588.930 million tons of sugarcane were processed. Unica's



Technical Director, Antonio de Padua Rodrigues, said in a note that the harvest is practically closed in most of the producing region. "We will have to observe some residual grinding in the second half of December and a reduced quantity of sugarcane processed in the month of March," he added.

Src.: Revista Globo Rural

BRAZIL SHOULD HARVEST 635.59 MILLION TONS OF SUGARCANE IN 2017/18 CROP

Sugarcane production in the 2017/2018 harvest, at the final harvest stage, is expected to reach 635.59 million tons, which corresponds to a fall of 3.3% compared to 657.18 million tons of the previous season. The figures are part of the third survey of the 2017/2018 crop, from the National Supply Company (Conab). According to Conab, the fall in production is a result of the lower planting area. The area harvested should register a reduction of 3.4%, going from 9.05 million to 8.74 million hectares. "The lower availability has to do with the abandonment and return of areas of suppliers that have plantations far from the production units, especially those in which there is difficulty in mechanization," Conab said in a statement. The retreat of the planted area is not only greater thanks to the small increase of 0.2% in productivity, which went from 72.62 tons per hectare of the previous crop to 72.73 tons, says the state. Sugar production is expected to reach 39.46 million tons, or 2% more than the previous harvest (38.69 million tons). According to Conab, now, in the final stretch of the harvest, with 92.9% of cane already ground, the units increase the destination for ethanol due to its better profitability. However, ethanol production should still be lower than that of the previous crop. Conab's forecast is to manufacture 27.05 billion liters of ethanol, down 2.7% from the previous harvest (27.81 billion liters). While the hydrate falls 5.2%, going from 16.73 billion to 15.87 billion liters, the anhydrous rises from 11.07 billion to 11.18 billion liters, an increase of 0.9%.

Src.: Revista Globo Rural

ITAQUI MOVES 16.3 MILLION TONS FROM JANUARY TO OCTOBER

With the closing of the November and December numbers of the Statistical Yearbook of the National Waterway Transportation Agency (Antaq), the Port of Itaquí indicates that this year will have a much larger movement than in 2016, when it closed the 12 months with 17,082 million tons. From January to October, figures indicate that shipments and landings totaled 16.321 million tons, or 760k tons less than that of the previous year. The volume of shipments, in the ten months, total 10,011 million tons, while landings, 6,310 million. Despite the recovery, the movement is expected to be well below 2015, when the port handled more than 21.816 million tons and should narrow or slightly exceed the movement of 2014, which was 18.082 million tons. According to Antaq figures, in the month of October, Itaquí passed through 1,822 million tons of cargo, more than the one registered in September, 1,070 million tons. Agribusiness, boosted by the good harvest this year, was the sector that contributed the most to the movement this year, since the transport of grains totaled 6.087 million tons, which corresponds to 37.3% of the total, followed by fuels with 4,375 (26.7%), cereals with 1.473

million (9.0%), fertilizers with 1.482 million (3.2%) and pulp and paper with 1.184 million (7.3%). For its performance in the ten months of this year, Itaquí is occupying the 11th position in the ranking of the national ports, but is the sixth among the public, behind Santos (SP), Itaguáí (RJ), Paranaguá (PR), Rio Grande RS) and Suape (PE). Vale's terminal remains the largest port in the general ranking, with a turnover of 137.977 million tons, while that of the Consortium Alumar is in 10th among the TUPs, with a turnover of 12.496 million tons. In the overall ranking, the port of Alumar is the 16th of the country.

Src.: *Portos e Navios*

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