

BRAZIL'S ORANGE JUICE STOCKS MORE THAN DOUBLING IN 2017/18, SAYS CITRUSBR

The final stocks of Brazil's orange juice in the 2017/18 crop are expected to increase more than double compared to the previous season, after a larger harvest and a recovery in Brazilian exports after historical lows, predicted the National Association of Exporters of Citrus Juices (CitrusBR). The association reported that orange juice stocks of the world's largest producer and exporter will reach 254.2K tons (frozen concentrate juice equivalent 66 Brix), up 137% from 2016/17 (base June 30th) - the numbers consider volumes in Brazil and in importing countries. If confirmed, the stock will still be one of the lowest in the historical series and enough to supply the market for only 12 weeks. The forecast, however, indicates an increase over last year's August estimate of 207.6K tons. Stocks still at relatively low levels, looking at the historical series, may help sustain commodity prices, as the next crop of Brazil and Florida in the United States is expected to be lower, according to assessments from other institutions. The final stocks in 2013 were the largest in a historic series released by the association, which includes numbers since 2011. The 2017/18 orange crop of the citrus park of São Paulo and Minas Gerais, the country's main producing region, is expected to reach 385.2 million cases, up 57% from a weak season last year, according to the most recent estimate of the Citrus Defense Fund (Fundecitrus), released in December. This increase allowed an advance of Brazilian exports. In the accumulated harvest of July 2017 to January 2018, Brazilian exports of orange juice totaled 651.3K tons, an increase of 20% compared to the same period of the previous year, when they reached the close of the season the lowest volumes in more than 25 years. Exports to the US, the second largest destination of Brazilian shipments after the European Union, increased in the accumulated harvest until January 34 %, to 162K tons. CitrusBR also reported Brazilian juice inventories worldwide as of December 31st, 2017, which totaled 702,981 tons, an increase of 41.3% on volume as of the same date in the previous year - data are obtained through individual audits and then compiled by a new audit.

Src.: Reuters

SUGARCANE HARVEST GROWS 2.6% IN SP, SAYS IEA / CATI

The sugarcane harvest in the State of São Paulo, for the 2016/17 crop, registered a 2.6% increase compared to the previous crop, reaching a volume of 450.1 million tons, according to data from the Institute of Economics (IEA), calculated in partnership with the Coordination of Integral Technical Assistance (Cati), both agencies of the Secretariat of Agriculture and Supply of the State of São Paulo, which were released last Friday (09). According to the IEA and Cati, the planted area registered growth of 0.8% and productivity grew 2% to around 80.4 tons per hectare. According to the organs, 55.5% of the total sugarcane production is concentrated in only ten regions of the State, corresponding to the Rural Development Offices (RDEs) of: Barretos, Orlandia, Ribeirão Preto, Araraquara, São José do Rio Preto, Jaboticabal, Presidente Prudente, Andradina, Jaú and Catanduva.

Src.: Universo Agro

PRODUCTION OF ORANGE IN 2017/18 SHOULD REACH 397.27 MILLION BOXES

The orange harvest in 2017/18 should total 397.27 million boxes, 40.8 kg. The data is part of the third estimate of this season released today (15th) by the Fund for the Defense of Citriculture (Fundecitrus). The current estimate indicates a rise of 3.13% over the projection released in December / 17, and a 9.00% increase over the figures released in May / 17. According to Vinícius Trombin, the increase in crop numbers is a reflection of the higher weight of the fruits, which currently average 165 grams per unit, against 162 grams in the December restatement. "This fact is explained by rains above the historical average, which provided a greater accumulation of water in the fruits, which was enhanced by the improvement of the orchards' cultural treatments," Trombin said in a note. Also according to the expert, the reduction of the rate of fall of fruits also stands out as a factor that contributed to the increase of this production. "The drop is about one percentage point lower than the initially projected value".

Src.: Universo Agro

CORN: SALE OF 2017/18 CROP IN MT REACHES 25% OF ESTIMATED PRODUCTION

The commercialization of the 2017/18 corn crop in Mato Grosso reached 25.73% of the estimated production in January, registering a 5.8% increase over the result of December 2017, according to data from the Mato Grosso Institute of Agricultural Economics (Imea). According to the institute, the negotiated price closed with an average of R \$ 16.97 a bag, an increase of 1.2% over the previous month. According to Imea, the planting of the grain reached 27.02% of the total area estimated for the 2017/18 season.

Src.: Universo Agro

SOYABEAN HARVEST REACHES 28% OF THE AREA PREDICTED IN MATO GROSSO

Soyabean harvest reached 28.63% of the area estimated for cultivation in Mato Grosso in the 2017/18 harvest, a result that reflects a delay of 3.31% in comparison with the average of the last five years, but an increase of 17.16% compared to the same period of the previous season, according to the Institute of Mato Grosso do Agropecuária (Imea). With regard to marketing, sales in January reached 48.42% of the production expected for the crop.

Src.: Universo Agro

SOYABEAN PRICE RISES BOOSTED BY DOLLAR IN MATO GROSSO DO SUL

The soyabean closed the first week of February with a valuation of 2% in Mato Grosso do Sul, reaching R\$ 61 a bag of 60 kilos. According to data from the Bulletin Casa Rural, prepared by the Association of State Soyabean Producers (Aprosoja-MS), the increase in grain prices was boosted by the appreciation of the dollar, which rose by 2.84% in the first week of that month. However, the moment of high prices may be shorter than expected. "This recovery is not expected to continue as the harvest intensifies, adding greater availability of raw materials to the market," the organization's bulletin highlights. "To date, 30% of the 2017/18 harvest has already been marketed." recovery of prices in the domestic market and the rise of the dollar, a window of commercialization opens up. "Corn - Also thanks to the dollar, the price of maize

in Mato Grosso do Sul rose 3.6% in the same interval, leaving R \$ 22.25 to R \$ 23.50 a bag. So far, the marketing of the cereal reached 75.1%.

Src.: *Universo Agro*

BUNGE IS OUT OF THE SUGAR TRADING BUSINESS, CEO SAYS

Bunge said on Wednesday it was in the process of stepping out of the global sugar trade to focus on its main agricultural and grain operations after reporting a fourth-quarter loss. The company based in White Plains (USA) had previously said it was looking at options to divest its sugar unit. The company is among the leaders in sugarcane processing in Brazil and operates eight mills with a combined capacity of approximately 21 million tons per year, according to information from the Bunge website. Bunge is interested in its sugar trading unit, said company CEO Soren Schroder. According to Reuters, it has received approaches to acquire rival Archer DanielsMidland (ADM) and Glencore. The company rejected Glencore's offer last year and declined to comment on ADM's approach. Schroder said in a teleconference that Bunge has struggled for the past year to generate margin to cover sugar costs. Plans to sell sugar-producing units did not depend on the company maintaining global sugar trading operations, he said. "We simply decided that it was time to really focus on what is essential for us, which is agribusiness, food, grains and oilseeds, and to get a good way," he said. Bunge entered the world sugar market in 2006 and has since built a strong position in the marketing and production of sugar and ethanol.

Src.: *Portos e Navios*

PARANÁ WANTS REVIEW ON MINIMUM PRICE OF WHEAT

With the aim of stimulating wheat planting in the country, the Secretary of Agriculture of Paraná handed over to the Minister of Agriculture, Blairo Maggi, a document requesting the readjustment of the minimum price paid to producers and marketing support. According to information from the Department of Agriculture, the document was prepared in conjunction with the rural producers and production cooperatives of the State. The request calls for a readjustment of 16.4% for wheat type 1 bread class, and must go from R \$ 37.26 to sack, currently, to R \$ 43.38 the sack with 60 pounds. The publication also advocates a rebalancing of the operational costs of the crop so that producers are not further discouraged. The area of wheat planting in Brazil, where Paraná stands out as the largest producer, fell 9.5%, which corresponds to a loss of 201K hectares less wheat in the field. This reduction has been occurring since 2015 and one of the main factors of discouragement has been the prices received by the producers, which do not cover production costs and the minimum price established in the Minimum Price Guarantee Policy at the time of sale.

Src.: *Universo Agro*

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