

Due to this situation with Coronavirus, most of business are operating from home-office. In case of need, please contact us through our Key Personnel mobile phones in our website (williams.com.br)

BRAZIL IS THE WORLD'S LARGEST SUSTAINABLE SOYBEAN PRODUCER

The recently released data indicate that the first half of 2020 was of great evolution for the Round Table on Responsible Soy Association (RTRS), despite the Covid-19 pandemic. Many factors were significantly related to the outcomes, including the volume of certified and consumed material, RTRS credits, mass balance, and, mainly, the companies that require RTRS certified material and confirm their commitment to responsible purchasing. The figures show that more than 788,193 tons were certified until June this year in Latin America (Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay) and India. Brazil is the largest soy producer of the Association, having produced 685,607 tons. More than 17 countries consume RTRS certified material worldwide. "It is really impressive that the responsible soy purchasing in the world, in such a difficult moment, has been growing. It grew by 35% when compared to the first half of 2019. Both mass balance system and RTRS credits express significant result" said Cid Sanches, External Consultant of RTRS in Brazil. The increase in demand for responsible soy is one of the main reasons for producers to expand the certification of their properties.

Source: *Universo Agro/DATAGRO*

NEW MINI-REFORM IN BRAZIL'S PORTS LAW INCREASES EFFICIENCY

The Federal Government published on August 25 a Provisional Measure 955/2020 that changes the Law of Ports and provides greater openness to commercial activity in ports. The law also establishes some rules for the operation of ports during the pandemic as well as the removal from the risk and financial compensation for workers of high-risk groups. According to a document that had been released by the Government, the flexibilization of lease agreements is one of the major improvements introduced by the law. Public tendering process is no longer necessary when only one is interested and registered for ports leases, as contracts must be made via public call. According to the Ministry of Infrastructure, the National Waterway Transport Agency (Antaq) is empowered to regulate other forms of assessing port areas and facilities not provided for in the legislation. Currently, the Agency only supervises the lease agreement for port facilities occupation.

Source: *Agência Brasil*

SUGAR PRODUCTION GETS 47.6% OF PRODUCT MIX, SAYS UNICA

Sugar production grew 51.04% in the first half of August this year and reached 3.22 million tons, in comparison to the 2.13 million tons produced in the same period last year. The volume is the result of a higher proportion of raw materials for sugar production, 47.66% of the sugarcane was to produce sugar, compared to 35.68% registered in the same period of 2019. From the beginning of the 2020/2021 harvest to August 16, sugar production reached 22.95 million tons, against 15.49 million tons in the 2019/2020 cycle. "The 7.46 million tons increase reflects the growth of raw material availability and the greater demand for the product. Over 5.4 million tons are the result of a change in the product mix, while the remaining part results from the advance of grinding and better quality of cane", said Rodrigues. The volume of manufactured ethanol, in turn, reached 2.27 billion liters in the first half of August, with 718.17 million liters of anhydrous ethanol and 1.56 billion liters of hydrated ethanol. Of this total, about 92.55 million liters were manufactured from corn.

Source: *ÚNICA*

ETHANOL PRICE RISES IN AUGUST AND PRICE PARITY WITH GASOLINE REMAINS FAVORABLE

According to the consulting firm, Cogo - Intelligence in Agribusiness, the demand for biodiesel is growing amazingly fast. The gradual recovery of international oil prices has led to increase ethanol prices in Brazil, and the demand is set to recover. Cogo says that the units of production keep prices stable, and this is due to greater demand. The ethanol price parity with gasoline is lower than 70%, being favorable to biofuel. A few days ago, Petrobras increased gasoline prices by 6%. In São Paulo's gas stations, ethanol price parity with gasoline is over 64.2%, remaining favorable to hydrated ethanol since the beginning of the 2020/2021 season. Brazilian production of sugarcane ethanol is expected to reach 27.9 billion liters in the current 2020/2021 harvest, 18.1% lower than the 34 billion liters produced last harvest.

Source: *Canal Rural*

GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS WAIVING TARIFFS ON RICE, CORN AND SOY IMPORTS TO PREVENT PRICE INCREASES

The Ministry of Agriculture said on Thursday, August 27, that it is assessing the possibility of temporarily exempting tariffs on imports of rice, corn, and soy from countries that are not members of Mercosur to balance the domestic market and prevent price increases. In a note, the agency stated that the measure, which would involve temporary inclusion of these products in the List of Exceptions to the Common External Tariff (LETEC), has been considered by the Secretariat of Agricultural Policy of the portfolio. According to the note, "this proposal should be on Gecex's agenda in September". The ministry stated that the measure has "support from the productive sector" and aims to "balance the domestic market and prevent the increase in prices of products in the basic basket". "If approved, the adoption of this measure would have a preventive character, since there are no signs of shortages and there is no need to import these products into Brazil," he added.

Source: *Reuters*

CORN ETHANOL SECTOR ENLARGES PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY TO 320 MILLION LITERS WITH NEW INDUSTRY IN MATO GROSSO

Last Tuesday (25), the new corn ethanol manufacturing plant of Inpasa in Nova Mutum (MT) concluded license agreements with the National Petroleum, Natural Gas and Biofuels Agency (ANP). The unit opened this week, adding nearly 320 million liters per year in productive capacity. The investment was about R\$ 550 million. With the 560 million liters produced in the manufacturing plant of Sinop (MT), the sector can manufacture almost 900 million liters per year. Brazil has now 16 corn ethanol manufacturing plants in operation. Two new units are expected to start operating in November 2020 and March 2021, so the production capacity of the biofuel from the cereal may reach 3 billion liters per year.

Source: *Revista Globo Rural*

PORT OF SANTOS CUTS BUREAUCRACY INVOLVED IN VESSEL MOORINGS

As of this Tuesday, September 1st, the Santos Port Authority (SPA) is implementing a change in the way vessels enter the port in an effort to reduce the bureaucracy involved in moorings. SPA Resolution 151/2020 now considers only those vessels that have their operation confirmed by Pilotage. Until then, all vessels scheduled would have to be canceled if there was no effective way of it docking, subject to a penalty for use of the infrastructure. As the port works with six-hour planned slots, before the user with a scheduled vessel needed to enter the system up to four times a day to undo the order, which required dedicated personnel to implement. According to a SPA survey, a



company employee spends two months just on this task as there are around 50,000 requests/year for docking cancellations. With the change, only ships that have the maneuver confirmed by Pilotage will be charged the tariff. "The new resolution eliminates the so-called 'infrastructure cut', a previous requirement made of companies that requested mooring at the Port of Santos, but, for whatever reason, ended up not using it", explains SPA's Director of Operations, Marcelo Ribeiro. "It is a purely bureaucratic service that generated a lot of complaints from the port community and that, with a simple change, SPA can eliminate, generating time savings for both operators and the Port Authority", he adds. In order to maintain fluidity in vessel traffic, it is common for maritime agencies to request the entry of several ships to the same berth, in order to guarantee their place as soon as the berth is available. Depending on the best commercial or operational option, any of these ships are able to use the pier. But this procedure ended up causing many vessels that were not yet ready to enter the port to be included in the tariff collection tables, forcing the port operator to cancel the ship's entry at that time. Now, the "infrastructure cut" will only be necessary after confirmation of the maneuver by Pilotage, in case there is actually any problem that prevents the ship from docking. Resolution SPA 151 is available on the website www.portodesantos.com.br, under the icon "Legislation".

Source: *Datamar News*

RIO GRANDE DO SUL PORTS BREAK RECORD FROM JANUARY TO JULY

In the first six months of the year, Rio Grande do Sul handled more than 26.8 million tons of all types of cargo. By adding July, public ports achieve historical records. The ports of Rio Grande, Pelotas and Porto Alegre handled more than 24 million tons in the first seven months of the year, an increase of 5% over the same period last year. From January to July 2020, over 14.8 million tons of all cargo for export went through Rio Grande Port. Of this total, 51% was shipped in soybeans. The increase in soybeans handling was more than 22% when compared to last year. China remains the main destination for Rio Grande exports, with more than 57% of market share. In the Port of Pelotas, the increase of 2% between January and July showed a growth in wood logs cargo handlings (7.74%). Total cargo handling of the port of Pelotas exceeds 590 thousand tons.

Source: *Portos e Navios*

THE PORT OF ILHÉUS GROW 247% IN CARGO HANDLING FROM JANUARY TO JULY

The Port of Ilhéus handled 256,358 tons in the first half of 2020. The amount represents a growth of 247.74% over the same period last year, when 73,722 tons of cargo were handled. Of the types of cargo handled, dry bulk (soybeans, manganese, nickel, and others) increased 846.42%, which represents 160,362 tons of products; in addition, general cargo handling, especially wood, had a growth of 69.07%, exporting 95,996 to Portugal.

Source: *Portos e Navios*

PARANÁ PORTS SIGNS FIRST ADDITIVE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF VEGETABLE BULK HANDLING AREA

Paraná Ports renewed the contract for handling vegetable bulk by PASA – Paraná Operations Port, at the Port of Paranaguá. This is the first addendum entered into by the Paraná port authority, since the public company was granted autonomy to administer development contracts in August 2019. As a result, Paraná is the first state in Brazil to act as a granting authority, after 2013, when Federal Law 12,815 centralized port development with the Federal Government. The contract is valid until 2049. PASA's investments total R\$117.7 million in two phases. According to the company's director, Persio Souza de

Assis, the handling capacity is expected to rise from the current 3.6 million tonnes/year to 6.7 million tonnes/year. "The improvements adopted have outpaced the growth in movement in recent years. With the renewal of the contract, PASA reinforces its commitment to the growth of the country's exports and the increase in the volume handled at the port of Paranaguá", he highlights. According to him, the intention is also to leverage business, with a focus on the railway network that today already absorbs 90% of the company's logistics. By 2022, PASA should build a new shipping line, with the installation of a new ship loader, to handle up to 2.5 thousand tonnes/hour. In addition, by 2023, a new warehouse will be built, for 60,000 tonnes of sugar or 45,000 tonnes of other solid bulk.

Source: *Datamar News*

VLI ANNOUNCES NEW PIG-IRON EXPORT ROUTE VIA TUBARÃO PORT

On Wednesday, August 26, VLI, the logistics operator, informed that it started using a new route to transport pig iron, joining the company's railway operation to the shipment sector of the port of Tubarão, in Vitória (ES). The new route alternative provides for cargo to be captured at railway terminals in the interior of Minas Gerais and transported by rail to the Espírito Santo port complex. Two shipments have been made so far, totaling 100,000 tonnes of pig iron, which were destined for China. In a note, the company's general commercial manager, Asley Ribeiro, said that VLI's goal is to expand its market share in product exports to at least 50%, compared to 30% currently. VLI also pointed out that Kéntron, a large pig iron seller, is among the companies that the route will serve. In the same statement, Kéntron's export manager, Breno Faria, said he saw the route as "relevant", adding that it "generates economies of scale".

Source: *Reuters*

IMPORTANT NOTICE: In order to facilitate the documents issuance all messages related to Documentation (Documentary Instructions / BsL / Mate's Receipt / Others) for the vessels in Santos Port, should be sent to the new e-mail DOC.SANTOS@WILLIAMS.COM.BR

Please, do not hesitate to contact us for further information through our commercial@williams.com.br and lineup@williams.com.br! Always keeping you duly posted

