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AGRIBUSINESS EXPORTS YIELD MORE THAN US\$ 10 BILLION IN A RECORD-BREAKING FEBRUARY

In February this year, agribusiness exports exhibited a record-breaking performance, reaching a never-seen value of US\$ 10.51 billion (+65.8%), result \$4.17 billion higher than the \$6.34 billion registered in February 2021. Agribusiness imports reached US\$ 1.25 billion in February 2022 (-2.1%). Thus, the agribusiness trade balance reached US\$ 9.2 billion. Exports had a good performance, especially soybeans, fresh beef, green coffee, soybean meal, chicken in natura and wheat. The record volume of soybeans available for export in February partially explains the increase in the quantum index of agriculture exports (+3.63 million tonnes, resulting in exports of 6.27 million tonnes). Foreign sales of soybean bran also reached record levels with exports of US\$ 699.62 million (+50.2%). Wheat ranked high on the list of the most exported items. Cereal exports outpaced imports in February 2022, with US\$ 246.3 million exported (836.6 thousand tonnes) compared to US\$ 141.58 million imported (498.8 thousand tonnes).

Source: Datamar News

TRADE BALANCE SURPLUS RISES 18.4% AND REACHES US\$ 7.53 BILLION

The Brazilian trade balance attained a surplus of US\$ 7.53 billion in the fiscal year up to the second week of March, representing a rise of 18.4% from January to March 2021. Meanwhile, trade flow reached US\$ 101.16 billion, a growth of 24.5%. Exports in 2022 yielded revenue of US\$ 54.35 billion, up 24.1%, while imports reached a value of US\$ 46.81 billion, a 25.1% increase. In the month-to-date, exports grew 38.2% and totaled US\$ 11.70 billion, while imports rose 30.3% and totaled US\$ 8.10 billion. The result was a surplus of US\$ 3.60 billion, up 60.2%, with a trade flow of US\$ 19.80 billion, up 34.9%. In the second week of March alone, exports totaled US\$7.13 billion, while imports totaled US\$5.13 billion. Thus, the trade balance was kept at a surplus of US\$ 2.00 billion, and the trade flow reached US\$ 12.26 billion.

Source: Datamar News

BRAZIL LAUNCHES NATIONAL FERTILIZER PLAN TO REDUCE INPUT IMPORTS

Brazil's strategy to reduce its dependence on fertilizer imports is the National Fertilizer Plan, launched Friday, March 11. The National Fertilizer Plan (PNF) establishes guidelines for the fertilizer sector for the next 28 years (until 2050) in order to promote the development of national agribusiness. Currently, Brazil ranks fourth in the world regarding global fertilizer consumption. The most important nutrient used by national producers is potash (38%). Following that, phosphorus ranks second with 33% of the total consumption of fertilizers, and nitrogen, with 29%. According to the National Association of Fertilizer Diffusion, more than 85% of the fertilizers used in the country are imported, which shows a high level of dependence on a market that only a few suppliers rule. Implementing PNF can minimize the external dependence of these nutrients, which arrive mainly from Russia, China, Canada, Morocco, and Belarus.

Source: Datamar News

ARAB COUNTRIES COULD EXPAND FERTILIZER EXPORTS TO BRAZIL

Brazil's minister of Agriculture, Tereza Cristina, met on Thursday (10) with Arab ambassadors and representatives to articulate the possible expansions of fertilizer exports from Arab countries to Brazil. Brazil faces concerns due to the reduction of exports from Russia and Belarus. The Arab countries already supply 26% of fertilizers in Brazil, according to the Arab Brazilian Chamber of Commerce. Morocco, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Oman and Algeria are the main suppliers of fertilizer. The minister said the ministry would talk to companies and cooperatives in the agricultural sector about the interest in increasing purchases from Arab countries. "We live in an important moment of

crisis but also of opportunities for both sides", said Tereza Cristina. Brazil relies on imports for 85% of fertilizers, and potash accounts for 95%. The top exporter of fertilizers are the Arab countries, Russia, China, Canada, and the United States. Brazil is the main destination for Arab fertilizer exports, followed by India, the United States, Thailand, Turkey, and Argentina.

Source: Canal Rural (*Translated by la Niani)

BRAZIL CAN INCREASE FERTILIZER PRODUCTION WITHOUT MINING IN INDIGENOUS LAND

While the Brazilian government pushes a bill to allow mining on indigenous lands in order to reduce the country's dependence on imported fertilizers, studies show another path to increase production, since the largest known reserves are in areas way distant from indigenous lands. Less than 2% of requests for exploration of fertilizer mineral deposits today focus on these lands. A survey carried out by the NGO Instituto Socioambiental (ISA) based on requests for mine exploration shows that only 1.6% of the requests for potash are located on indigenous lands. For phosphate exploration, they represent 0.4%. Another ongoing study carried out by researchers at the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG) shows that only one third of the reserves of fertilizer are in the Legal Amazon territory and only 11% would have some overlap with non-approved indigenous lands. The study indicates that most Brazil's reserves would be in São Paulo, Minas Gerais and Sergipe, far from indigenous lands or conservation units.

Source: Reuters (*Translated by la Niani)

PETROBRAS RAISES FUEL PRICES

Petrobras announced on Thursday (10) price increases in gasoline, diesel, and cooking gas. The highs came into effect on Friday (11). The readjustment was 18.8% for gasoline, 16.1% for cooking gas, and 24.9% for diesel. The average gasoline price will go from BRL 3.25 to BRL 3.86 per liter. The price of diesel will go from BRL 3.61 to BRL 4.51. Petrobras said in a statement that the decision went "in the same direction as other fuel suppliers in Brazil that have already promoted adjustments to their sales prices". Despite soaring international prices, because of the conflict in Eastern Europe, Petrobras remained 57 days without altering fuel prices, the last readjustments were made on January 12th. Cooking gas (LPG) will have its first adjustment after 152 days. LGP will see average sale price hit BRL R\$ 4.48 per kilo.

Source: Folha de S.Paulo (*Translated by la Niani)

HIGH OIL PRICE SUSTAINS INCREASES IN ETHANOL, STONEX SAYS

After a season in which hydrous ethanol lost ground to gasoline, the renewable fuel is likely to recover some share in the Brazilian market in 2022/23 (April/March) due to high oil prices as a result of the war in Ukraine, said StoneX on Wednesday. At the same time, StoneX projects a 5.6% increase in ethanol production from sugarcane in Brazil's center-south region in 2022/23, to 25.5 billion liters, while the production of fuel from corn should jump 18, 9%, to 4.2 billion liters, with capacity expansion of plants. "We have started to consider a greater participation of hydrous ethanol in the consumption of Otto Cycle based on the upward bias for gasoline prices, while the productive recovery in the center-south region could provide alcohol competitiveness", said Marina Malzoni, analyst at the StoneX. According to her, it will be important to assess the prospects for the oil market, especially amid turmoil between Russia and Ukraine, as well as the possible progress of negotiations regarding the nuclear agreement between the United States and Iran.

Sources: Reuters/União Nacional da Bioenergia (*Translated by la Niani)

BRAZIL'S SUGARCANE CRUSH EXPECTED TO REACH 562 MILLION TONS IN THE 2022/23 SEASON, DATAGRO SAYS

Sugarcane crush in Brazil's Center-South region is expected to reach 562 million tons in 22/23 compared to 525.0 million tons in 2021/22. Sugar production is forecast at 33.0 million tons, against 32.1 million



tons in the 2021/22 season. Ethanol production, including corn-based ethanol, is estimated at 29.8 billion liters in 2022/23. The mix for ethanol in 2022/23 is estimated at 55.3%, compared to 55.1% in 2021/22. The sugar mix is forecast at 44.7% in 2022/23, compared to 44.9% in 2021/22. The harvest in the North/Northeast region is expected to reach 53.0 million tons of sugarcane in the 2022/23 season, compared to 52.5 million in 2021/22. Sugar production may possibly have a slight increase from 3.0 million tons in 2021/22 to 3.1 million tons in 2022/23. Ethanol production, including corn, is estimated at 2.2 billion liters in 2022/23, compared to 2.1 billion liters in 2021/22. The mix for ethanol in 2022/23 is estimated at 53.9%, the same volume of 2021/22. Sugar mix is projected for the

Source: DATAGRO (*Translated by Ia Niani)

IBGE PROJECTS INTERIM-HARVEST OF CORN AT 83.1 MILLION TONS

The Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) points to an average corn crop in 2022. The February forecast predicted a total crop of 108.7 million tons, a 23.9% increase compared to 2021, when production dropped. "After a large drop in production in 2021, the effects of the delay in the second crop planting and the lack of rain in the main producing states, a normal year is now expected, which will allow for the recovery of crops, including reaching a new national record level", said IBGE. The February LSPA points to a production of 25.6 million tons in the first corn crop, a slight drop of 0.1%. The second-crop corn production was much hit by the planting delay and by the drought last winter, its production is estimated at 83.1 million tons, a slight increase of 0.5% in relation to the January forecast. The projection suggests a jump of 33.8% in relation to 2021.

Sources: Agência Estado/Nova Cana (*Translated by Ia Niani)

THE 2021/22 GRAIN HARVEST GROWS 4% TO 265.7 MILLION TONNES

According to the 6th 2021-22 Harvest Survey conducted by the National Supply Company (Conab), grain production should reach 265.7 million tonnes after an increase in production of more than 10 million tonnes compared to the previous cycle. The survey also shows an increase of 4.3% in crop area (3 million hectares), reaching, in total, 72.7 million hectares thanks to the production growth of soybeans and corn. In total, the production of soybean shall reach 122.76 million tonnes. The progress of the soybean harvest dictates the pace of the planting of corn's second harvest. Conab estimates that 74.8% of this area is already sown. Furthermore, Conab currently predicts that total corn production will grow 29%, reaching 112.3 million tonnes.

Source: Datamar News

CARGO HANDLING REACHES 88.5 MILLION TONNES THROUGHOUT PORTS

In January 2022, the national port sector, handled 88.5 million tonnes. This is a 0.75% decrease from the same month in 2021 when 89.2 million tonnes were handled. The data were released by Antaq. Brazilian public ports handled 27.9 million tonnes in the month, up 4.41%. Authorized private terminals, in turn, handled 60.6 million tonnes, down 3.11%. The port sector handled 47.6 million tonnes of solid bulk (down 0.32% compared to January 2021). Liquid and gaseous bulk entailed handlings of 25.5 million tonnes, a 4.42% reduction. Also, 10 million tonnes of containerized cargo passed through Brazilian ports, a 1.06% reduction. Finally, the sector handled 5.4 million tonnes of general cargo, an increase of 14.32%. The commodity most commonly found among Brazilian port operations was iron ore with 25.8 million tonnes.

Source: Datamar News

BRAZIL'S NORTHEAST HANDLED MORE THAN 330 MILLION TONNES IN 2021

The ports located in the Northeast region of Brazil handled 330.6 million tonnes in 2021. Compared to the previous year, the region saw a 1% retraction. The Pecém Port Terminal stood out in the region with 21.9 million tonnes handled: an increase of 37.6% in the year. This info was

released recently by the National Waterway Transportation Agency (Antaq). The most common products seen in Northeastern ports were mineral ores and ashes with 198 million tonnes, a 4.38% retraction, followed by mineral fuels, with 60.9 million tonnes, up 4.49%. Finally, the third most common cargo seen in the region were containers, which grew 8.45% in terms of handling. The Ponta da Madeira Maritime Terminal continues to be the main facility in the region. The private terminal handled more than 182 million tonnes of cargo. Among public ports, Itaqui was the one with the greatest figures, up 22.61%.

Sources: Brasil 61/Datamar News

HANDLING OF FERTILIZERS GROWS IN THE PORT OF RECIFE

In the first two months of the year, the Port of Recife handled 53,619 tons of fertilizers. The Port handled 201,509 tons of fertilizers in 2021, of which 79,543 tons came from Belgium and 38,870 tons from Russia. Morocco, Canada and China also delivered fertilizers through the Port of Recife, but in smaller quantities. In the first two months of 2022, the movement of fertilizers exceeded the same period last year. About 27,429 tons were handled in January, a growth of 13.46% in relation to the same period of the previous year. And in February there were 26,190 tons, representing a 79.80% increase. The volume of fertilizers handled in the two-month period represents an increase of 38.40% compared to the same period in 2021. Fertilizers imported by Recife supply agribusinesses in the states of Pernambuco, Paraíba, Rio Grande do Norte, and Ceará. Despite the good results, the Port of Recife is preparing for a challenging scenario and possible impacts on product imports as a result of the war between Russia and Ukraine. There were no mooring cancellations and the expected fertilizer vessels are confirmed.

Sources: Portos e Navios/Global Fert (*Translated by Ia Niani)

PARANÁ PORTS HAVE SETTLED A NEW DOUBLE HANDLING RECORD

The ports of Paraná scored two new handling records this year so far. Both the volumes registered in the two first months of the year and February alone exceed expectations, rising 27% and 39%, respectively, compared to 2021. In February, 5,076,757 tonnes of cargo passed through the ports' terminals. In the two-month period, the movement of cargo reached 9,234,295 tonnes. Solid bulk accounts for almost 64% of the movement seen in the first two months, with 5,893,104 tonnes. As for February, the transportation of solid bulk corresponded to 3,469,252 tonnes, that is, 68.34% of the volume handled. In general terms 5,040,887 tonnes of cargo were exported in the first two months of 2022. The volume is 46% greater than the 3,459,699 tonnes in the same period last year. Increases were also seen among imported products. In the two-month period, 4,193,408 tonnes arrived, a 46% growth compared to the 3,787,513 tonnes in 2021.

Source: Datamar News


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