


**International Sugar Organization**

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Press Release(24)02  
(English only)**

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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.

**Sugaronline Ebriefing**
**NICARAGUA: Sugar production expected to reach record levels**

The general manager of Nicaragua's National Committee of Sugar Producers, Mario Amador, has said sugar production in the country is expected to be at record levels seen four years ago, between 17.4 million and 17.5 million quintals, according to Radio La Primerisima.

By Dec. 3, the country's four mills had produced 3 million quintals of sugar. Sugar exports are expected to generate US\$200 million in 2023/24.

He said agricultural production yields have been above expectations due to higher availability, but sugar content is lower.

**INDIA: Ethanol blending program saved \$2.9 billion in foreign exchange**

India's ethanol blending program has resulted in more than INR243 billion (US\$2.92 billion) in savings of foreign exchange during the 2022/23 season, according to the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, reports Sugaronline.

Minister Shri Hardeep Singh Puri said on Jan. 3 that the country avoided 5.09 billion litres in petrol purchases and recorded a net CO2 reduction of 10.8 million metric tonnes, according [to a statement](#) released by the Ministry.

The program has also allowed expeditious payment of about INR193 billion (US\$2.3 billion) to farmers, he added. There are more than 9,300 retail outlets selling E20 in India, which is expected to be available to the entire country by 2025, according to the minister.

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: Sugar production falls 22% in the season**

Sugar production in the Dominican Republic fell by around 22% in the recently concluded 2022/23 season, or by 138,059 metric tonnes, to 487,332 tonnes, according to Diario Libre.

According to the Dominican Sugar Institute Inazucar, raw sugar production fell by 100,110 tonnes to 362,902 tonnes. Refined sugar output declined by 37,949 tonnes to 124,430 tonnes.

Sugar exports totaled 186,464 tonnes, generating US\$119.6 million.

**INDONESIA: 2024 sugar import quota set at 4.8 million T**

Indonesia's government has set a sugar import quota of 4.77 million metric tonnes for industrial use in 2024, compared to 3.6 million tonnes in 2023, according to Reuters.

The director general of foreign trade at the Trade Ministry, Budi Santoso, said the sugar import quota for household use is 708,609 tonnes in 2024, compared with 991,000 tonnes in 2023.

**SOUTH AFRICA: Sugar sector faces uncertainties due to business rescue proceedings**

The executive chairman of the South African Farmers' Development Association (Safda), Siyabonga Madlala, has said that better days for the country's sugar sector will depend on the outcome of the business rescue processes for Gledhow Sugar and Tongaat Hullet, according to Food For Mzansi.

He said the business rescue had introduced a notable element of uncertainty for 2024.

Madlala said the sector "will have to wait and see" if farmers will have enough milling capacity and if the industry can supply local sugar.

**INDIA: Government allocates 8,606 T in raw cane sugar exports to the US**

India's Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) announced on Jan. 3 the allocation of 8,606 metric tonnes of raw cane sugar under the tariff rate quota (TRQ) to the United States for the fiscal year 2024, reports Sugaronline.

The volume is authorized for exports between Oct. 1, 2023, and Sept. 30, 2024.

"Certificate of origin, if required, for preferential export of sugar to the USA shall be issued by Additional director general of Foreign Trade, Mumbai, on the recommendation of APEDA (Agriculture and Process Food Products Export Development Authority) regarding entity and quantity for which eligible. Other certification requirements, if any, prescribed specifically for export of sugar to the USA would continue to be followed," according to the notification issued by the DGFT.

**THAILAND: Sugar production to drop 25% to 8-8.5 million T in 2023/24**

Thailand's sugar production is expected to reach 8-8.5 million metric tonnes in 2023/24, around 25% lower than in the previous season, according to Reuters.

The head of the Office of Sugar and Cane Board, Virit Viseshsinth, said on Jan. 5 that the decline in output is due to the impacts of the El Nino.

Thailand's sugar exports totaled 7.64 million tonnes in 2023.

**FAO Sugar Price Index falls 16.6% in December**

The FAO Sugar Price Index fell 16.6% in December [from November](#) to the lowest level in the past nine months, of 134.6 points, mainly due to the strong production pace in Brazil bolstered by conducive weather conditions, reports Sugaronline.

"Strong exports from Brazil, along with lower returns from ethanol sales, contributed to the overall decline in world sugar prices," FAO said in a statement on Jan. 5.

"In addition, the decision of India's government to limit the use of sugarcane for ethanol production in the current season exerted some further downward pressure on prices."

The index in December 2023 remained 14.9% above the level in December 2022.

For the full year of 2023, the FAO Sugar Price Index averaged 145 points, up 26.7% from 2022 and the highest value since 2011, mainly on concerns over a tighter global sugar balance.

**ED & F Man Daily Research**

**Indonesia sets 4.8 mln metric tons sugar import quota in 2024 – Reuters** - Indonesia has set this year's sugar import quota at 4.77 million metric tons for industrial use, a trade ministry official said on Thursday, up from a quota of 3.6 million tons in 2023. Sugar import quota for household use is set at 708,609 tons in 2024, said the ministry's director general of foreign trade Budi Santoso, compared with last year's 991,000 tons quota.

**Netherlands' sugar intake dropped 10% in 2019-21 – EVMI** - National sugar consumption fell by 10% in the 2019-21 period, mainly due to the soft drink reformulation, according to the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM). The share of sugar intake from soft drinks as a total of sugar consumption dropped during the period, while that from confectioneries stayed unchanged, the Association for Soft Drinks, Waters and Juices (FWS) pointed out.

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**China launches test runs for world's largest plant that can convert coal to ethanol.**

- Traditional ethanol production from corn or sugar cane competes with food supply, with China's rising grain prices also posing a challenge
- Coal-based production line 'vital' for China's food and energy security, co-developer Dalian Institute of Chemical Physics says in report on website

[https://sc.mp/phfw?utm\\_source=copy-link&utm\\_campaign=3246707&utm\\_medium=share\\_widget](https://sc.mp/phfw?utm_source=copy-link&utm_campaign=3246707&utm_medium=share_widget)

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**FoodNavigator.com**

**Caffeine improves performance indicators in female volleyball athletes**



Caffeine increases countermovement jump (CMJ), reactive strength index (RSI) and handgrip in semi-professional women's volleyball players, a new study has concluded.

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/article/2024/01/04/caffeine-boosts-female-volleyball-athletes-performance>

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**Guyana: Record Sugar Production in 2023, boosts agriculture sector - WIC News**



<https://wicnews.com/caribbean/guyana-record-sugar-production-in-2023-boosts-agriculture-sector-093265880/>

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