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AGRIBUSINESS EXPORTS GROW 17.5% IN FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 2020

Brazilian agriculture exports grew 17.5% in the first four months of the year, compared to the same period last year. Despite the new coronavirus pandemic, there was an increase in exports to Asia, especially China. Agribusiness' share of total exports went from 18.7% in 2019 to 22.9% in 2020. The products that increased in the period were soybeans (up 29.9%), raw cotton (up 69.5%), raw wood (up 28.9%), natural honey (up 17.2%), and spices (up 3.2%). According to data released on Monday (May 4) by the Ministry of Economy, in April Brazilian exports totaled US\$18.3 billion and imports, US\$11.6 billion, with a positive balance of US\$6.7 billion, and current trade volume of US\$29.9 billion. In the year so far, exports totaled US\$67.8 billion and imports, US\$55.6 billion, with a positive balance of US\$12.3 billion and a trade flow of US\$123.4 billion. Unlike the scenario in much of the world, Brazil kept its trade balance quite stable. Some agribusiness products broke monthly historical records for exports in April, such as soybeans with 16.3 million tons; soybean meal with 1.7 million tons; fresh, chilled, or frozen beef, with 116,000 tons; pork meat with 63,000 tons and raw cotton, with 91,000 tons. On the other hand, there was a fall in exports of wheat, rye, and unground corn, except sweet corn, unroasted coffee, live animals, fruits, and nuts. Brazilian exports (from all sectors) to Asia rose 15.5% in the first quarter of the year, compared to the same period in 2019. *Fonte: Datamar News*

ABIOVE INCREASES SOYBEAN EXPORT PROJECTION TO 77 MILLION TONS

The Brazilian Association of Vegetable Oil Industries (ABIOVE) released on Thursday 7, the update of the statistics of the soy complex until March 2020, which point to an increase in soybean and soybean oil exports for this year (January to December). The data obtained indicate that soybean grain exports are expected to reach 77 million tons in 2020, an increase of 2.25% in relation to the volume previously forecast by the entity (75.3 million tons). The projection is 4% higher than the 74.073 million exported last year. Exports of soybean oil should total 700 tons. The volume is 42% higher than the estimated 500 thousand tons in March and 32.8% below the 1.041 million tons shipped abroad last year. Abiove's justification for raising this year's projection is the increase in demand in the main import markets. Abiove points out that projections of domestic crushing were maintained at 44.5 million tons, a record volume, which indicates sufficient availability of soy to meet the domestic and export needs of the year. *Source: Revista Globo Rural*

CONAB PROVIDES STRONG INCREASE IN SUGAR PRODUCTION

In line with private consultancies and entities in the segment, Companhia Nacional de Abastecimento (Conab) also predicts that the country's mills will favor sugar production over ethanol in this 2020/21 harvest. In its first report on the season that started in April, released yesterday, the state-owned company estimated sugar production at 35.3 million tons, 18.5% more than in 2019/20, and ethanol at 29.3 billion liters, down 13.9%. The movement reflects the double crisis in the domestic biofuel market, which

faces a fall in demand and prices - in this case under the influence of the oil slump - and the best moment for sugar exports, mainly due to the favorable exchange rate. From sugarcane ethanol production, 9.2 billion liters should be anhydrous (mixed with gasoline), 8.8% less than in the previous cycle, and 20.1 billion liters of hydrate (used directly in vehicle tanks), a 16% reduction in the same comparison. Conab also released projections for the production of ethanol made from corn. In this case, the agency predicts a significant increase of 61.1%, to 2.7 billion liters - 713.4 million anhydrous (76% high) and 2 billion hydrous (56.4% high). Thus, the total production of ethanol in the country in 2020/21 is expected to reach 32 billion liters, a reduction of 10.3% compared to 2019/20. In total, Conab estimated Brazilian sugarcane production at 630.7 million tons in 2020/21, a volume that represents a 1.9% reduction compared to 2019/20. *Source: Valor / Portos e Navios*

ANEC UPDATES BALANCE SHEET WITH PANORAMA OF THE GRAIN EXPORT SECTOR

The National Association of Cereal Exporters (Anec) released, this Tuesday (5th), a new statement about the panorama of grain exports amid the pandemic of the new coronavirus. In the note, the entity points out that shipments in the sector proceed normally. According to Anec, in the first two days of May, 1.1 million tons of soybeans and 53 thousand tons of bran were shipped. Until the 9th, the schedule foresees the shipment of more 3.6 million tons of soy and 558 thousand tons of bran. According to the organization, by the end of May, another 10.8 million tons of soybeans and 1.4 million tons of bran should be shipped. Anec also informs that after about 60 days without maize shipments, the first vessel will leave at the beginning of the second fortnight, carrying 30 thousand tons of grain.

Source: Universo Agro / Datagro

PRODUCTION COST BRINGS INCOME OPPORTUNITY FOR WHEAT PLANTING IN RIO GRANDE DO SUL

With the increase in the price of wheat by 21.7%, the producer may have an option of income in the crop this crop in Rio Grande do Sul. The evaluation is the Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives of the State of Rio Grande do Sul (FecoAgro / RS). The organization released the first survey of crop costs for the period, conducted by economist Tarcísio Minetto. With this projection, the production needed to cover the cost will be 14.4% lower than in the previous period. The total cost of wheat in Rio Grande do Sul should reach R \$ 3,282.38 per hectare. With this, the producer will need to harvest 65 bags to cover the total cost under these conditions. Disbursement or variable cost was R \$ 2,408.64, with a projection of 48.17 bags to cover costs. This means a slight increase in the total cost of wheat of 4.19% and 3.71% in disbursement, in relation to the last study of the 2019 harvest. Without remuneration to the land factor, the cost is R \$ 2,944.32 per hectare. In the evaluation of the study, this is considered a much better cost ratio than the last harvests. *Source: Universo Agro / Datagro*

PORTS OF PARANA HITS THE RECORD IN MONTHLY CARGO HANDLING

The biggest monthly movement in the history of the Ports of Paraná was achieved in the last month of April. Consolidated data this week shows that in 30 days there were more than 5.5 million tons of cargo - a volume 30.9% higher than that recorded in the



same month, in 2019. In the accumulated from January to April, there are already more than 18 million tons, 15% more than last year, with 15.7 million. "It was the best monthly transaction ever achieved by terminals in Paraná. The increase was in all cargo segments, with yet another record in the Export Corridor, in the Sorting Yard and also in public silos", says the CEO of Portos do Paraná, Luiz Fernando Garcia. "The volumes are surprising and we have to remember that all this performance is being achieved at a very adverse moment, which is facing a pandemic", he emphasizes. Considering the segments, the largest volume and percentage were registered in the handling of solid bulk. Overall, this segment represents a volume of 3.84 million tons in the month, more than 44% more than the volume handled in April 2019 (2.66 million tons).

Source: *Portos e Navios*

PORT OF VITÓRIA SET TO RECEIVE VESSELS LADEN WITH 20% MORE CARGO

As of this week, the Port of Vitória will start operating with vessels that are more loaded than before. This is because test maneuvers with such vessels were approved by the Navy, after the draft of the port's 8km canal was increased, as well as that of the turning basin and the berths. According to the Infrastructure and Operations director at CODESA, João Cunhalima, the tests will be divided into three stages. The first, next week, will consist of four outbound maneuvers and another four inbound, for drafts between 10.67m and 11.50m. The director also informed that two vessels are already confirmed for the tests, which will have two Pilots on board, in each vessel. The second and third stages will also have eight maneuvers each, in and out, for drafts between 11.50m and 12m and between 12m and 12.50m, respectively. In total there will be 24 maneuvers: 12 outbound and 12 inbound ships with greater cargo capacity. This increased capacity is expected to represent a 20% increase in cargo handling capacity for the port. In other words, vessels may arrive or leave the Port of Vitória with 20% more cargo.

Source: *Datamar News*

PORT OF ITAQUI SEE LARGER GRAIN SHIPMENTS IN SPITE OF "LOCKDOWN" IN THE STATE OF MARANHÃO

The port of Itaqui was not affected by the lockdown measures imposed this week in Maranhão to combat the new coronavirus, said on Thursday, May 7, the port's president, Ted Lago. The port exported more than 10% of soy from Brazil in 2019. Now, Itaqui projects a 16% increase in grain exports between January and May, to 4.3 million tons, mainly of soy. The port also forecasts a 65% increase in fertilizer imports in the period from January to May, to 986 thousand tons, with Brazilian farmers anticipating acquisitions for the 2020/21 harvest, according to the executive. The capital of Maranhão, São Luís, where the port is located, became this week the first large Brazilian city to implement the "lockdown". The increase in global demand for N95 masks amid the coronavirus pandemic was accompanied by the growth in cellulose exports via Itaqui, said Lago, referring to the raw material used in the production of the equipment.

Source: *Reuters*

COPERSUCAR PROMOTES SOLIDARITY ACTION IN SANTOS PORT

Copersucar has taken several actions to minimize the impacts caused by COVID-19 in several regions of Brazil, in recent weeks. To date, the company has donated more than 275,000 liters of 70% alcohol to more than 100 cities located in four different states. Of this volume, 50 thousand were delivered to the Santos Health Department, which has helped to supply public health units free of charge with material for disinfecting environments and surfaces, essential for hospital use

Source: *Jornal Cana*

PRIVATIZATION OF THE PORTS OF SANTOS AND SÃO SEBASTIAO BEGINS TO ADVANCE

The privatization process for the ports of Santos and São Sebastião has just started. The Ministry of Infrastructure formalized the contracting of the National Bank for Economic and Social Development (BNDES) to prepare the studies and the model for transferring the two ports to the private sector. The tentative schedule predicts that the studies will be completed in the first half of 2021 and public hearings will take place in the second half of the year. This would allow the government to organize the auction of port administrations in 2022 - the last year of President Jair Bolsonaro's term. It remains to be seen whether it will be a concession model (with the return of equity to the Federal Government after a certain period) or the pure and simple sale of assets (without the so-called reversibility of assets).]

Source: *Portos e Navios*

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