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SUGAR EXPORTS RISE 12.4% IN FEBRUARY IN THE ANNUAL COMPARISON

Revenue from shipments registered an increase of 14.65% on the same comparative basis. Brazilian exports of sugar [raw and refined] reached 1.309 million tons in February, up 12.42% compared to the same month last year, according to data released on Monday (02) by the Foreign Trade Secretariat (Secex), from the Ministry of Economy. Revenue from shipments in February totaled US \$ 388.8 million, an increase of 14.65% compared to the result for the same month of 2019.

Source: *Universo Agro*

FERTILIZER DELIVERY IS EXPECTED TO REACH 37 MILLION TONS IN 2020

The Brazilian fertilizer market is expected to grow 2.5% in 2020, with the delivery of 37 million tons. The projection is by MacroSector Consultores. In the consultancy's estimates, delivery in 2019 was 36.1 million tons, which, in turn, represents a growth of 1.7% compared to 2018 (35.506 million tons). According to Fábio Silveira, director of the consultancy, one of the factors that justify the growth perspective is the trend of importing raw materials. In MacroSector's projections, the volume is expected to increase from 29.512 million in 2019 to 30.426 million tons, an increase of 3.1%. Domestic production is expected to fall 1.17% in the same comparison, from 6.741 million to 6.662 million tons. Still according to the consultant, the demand for fertilizers follows the growth trend of the Gross Value of Production (VBP) of agriculture, which should be 6% in 2020, totaling R \$ 415 billion, as projected by MacroSector.

Source: *Global Fert*

HARVEST OF 2019/20 SUMMER CROP OF CORN IN PARANÁ REACHES 45% OF THE AREA

The harvest of the 2019/20 summer crop of corn in Paraná reached 45% of the estimated area - weekly increase of 8% - , points out a survey by the Department of Rural Economy (Deral), of the State Secretariat of Agriculture and Supply, released on Tuesday (03). According to the department, 94% of the crops are in good condition and 6% are in medium stage. According to the agency, 74% of the crops are in the stage of maturation, 25% in fruiting and 1% in flowering.

Source: *Universo Agro*

MATO GROSSO DO SUL CREATES SPECIFIC LEGISLATION FOR CORN ETHANOL PLANTS

The government of Mato Grosso do Sul creates specific legislation for corn ethanol plants in the state. Until then, there was no such type of legislation in Mato Grosso do Sul. In effect since February 28, with a resolution published in an extra edition of the state's Official Gazette, the government creates procedures for environmental licensing to be carried out. The new criteria are necessary due to technological development and absence of waste, characteristic of this type of plant. And they are valid only for enterprises that produce ethanol

from corn in a closed circuit, where there is no dumping of vinasse or derivatives. This situation occurs in units producing ethanol from sugarcane. Mato Grosso do Sul has 19 of them in operation.

Source: *Jornal Cana*

ETHANOL EXPORTS GROW 46.6% IN FEBRUARY IN THE ANNUAL COMPARISON

Shipment revenue recorded an increase of 47.10% on the same comparative basis. Brazilian ethanol exports totaled 164.2 million liters in February, an increase of 46.67% in the annual comparison, according to data released on Monday (02) by the Foreign Trade Secretariat (Secex), of the Ministry of Economy. Revenue from shipments in February reached US \$ 94.1 million, an increase of 47.10% compared to the same month last year.

Source: *Universo Agro*

AGRICULTURE GREW 1.3% IN 2019, IBGE SHOWS

Corn, cotton, orange and beans sectors were highlights, according to the 2019 GDP report. Brazilian agriculture grew 1.3% in 2019, compared to 2018. The information is from the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), which released this Wednesday (4/3) the result of last year's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) which, in the countryside, totaled R \$ 322 billion last year. "The variation in volume of the Added Value of Agriculture in 2019 (1.3%) was due to the positive performance of both agriculture and livestock, with emphasis on corn (23.6%), cotton (39.8%), orange (5.6%) and beans (2.2%)", informs the Institute, in a note. In the fourth quarter of 2019, agriculture grew 0.4% compared to the same period in 2018. In relation to the third quarter of last year, there was a retraction of 0.4%, according to the IBGE. In the overall result, the Brazilian economy ended 2019 with a 1.1% growth compared to 2018. The Gross Domestic Product was R \$ 7.3 trillion.

Source: *Revista Globo Rural*

FUEL OILS EXPORTED BY PETROBRAS HIT RECORD

Petrobras announced that it has set a new record for the export of fuel oils. In February, the company reached the mark of 238 thousand barrels exported per day and exceeded one million tons this month. Petrobras claims that the new global specification for marine fuels (IMO 2020), which reduced the sulfur content limit in fuel oil from 3.5% to 0.5% as of January this year, has created a unique opportunity because, both oil and fuel oil produced by the company have a low sulfur content. Oil exports also remain at high levels, with volumes exceeding 690 thousand barrels per day exported in February. Since when it started to adapt the refineries for the production of VLSFO (Very Low Sulfur Fuel Oil), in April 2019, Petrobras has produced more than 3.5 million tons of bunker and low sulfur fuel oil. From October to January 2020, the company delivered approximately 1.5 million tons of VLSFO to supply ships in Brazilian ports. In addition to Santos, Petrobras sells bunker at the ports of Rio Grande, Paranaguá, São Sebastião, Angra dos Reis, Rio de Janeiro, Vitória, Salvador, Fortaleza, São Luís, Belém and Manaus. Petrobras stressed that the largest export occurred in a challenging period for the global economy, due to the outbreak of coronavirus (Covid-19), which restricted demand in Asia, the main destination for the company's exports.



Source: *Portos e Navios*

SOYABEAN EXPORTS FROM BRAZIL IN FEBRUARY IS THE LARGEST SINCE JULY 2019, SAYS GOVERNMENT

Soy exports in February totaled 5.12 million tonnes, slightly below that registered in the same month last year (5.27 million), but representing the highest volume shipped since July 2019 (7.4 million), according to with data released by the government on Monday (2). Accelerated sales in February were recorded amid the harvest of a Brazilian harvest estimated at a record 123.25 million tonnes and after relatively weak exports in January, 1.5 million tonnes, when the harvested volume of the new season is still it was low. The delay in harvesting the current season, after a later planting, ended up transferring many shipments previously scheduled for January, which helped boost exports last month, noted analyst Andrea Cordeiro. "Many purchases were already scheduled for January, but with the delay in the harvest they were pushed into February ... Even at a slower pace compared to February 2019, lineups showed an increase in ships offshore," said Andrea. Since the beginning of February, the schedule of ships in the ports pointed to an intense activity. Rains, however, limited movement. "The flow of shipments was not only greater due to the delay (in the harvest) and not due to cancellations of purchases made, as it got to air in the wings", she added. The analyst also pointed out that, if the market anticipated the scenario of deceleration in soybean shipments to China based only on the conclusion of the Phase 1 trade agreement between Chinese and Americans, at the beginning of the year, this was not confirmed in practice. "Business between countries really stagnated and a lot due to the lunar holiday (in China) combined with the coronavirus, but this was a widespread trend, and not just for agribusiness and Brazil," explained Andrea, pointing out February shipments are for businesses made previously. She anticipates that in March Brazil's exports are expected to remain firm, while Brazil demonstrates competitiveness amid a large harvest and a strong dollar. "It is worth noting that this delay also pushes a part of the planned commitments from February to the month of March, and that will be the reason for seeing in March a greater growth in the lineups ... and, if weather conditions allow, a flow number of shipments at Brazilian ports. " Last month's shipments were strong despite February 2020 having 18 working days, compared to 20 last year and 22 in January.

Source: *Portos e Navios / G1*

SOYA PRICE RISES TO R\$2 PER BAG

Brazilian market reflected the rise in the Chicago Stock Exchange; The prospect is that demand for US grain will increase after Argentina raises export taxes. The Brazilian soybean market showed higher prices on Wednesday, 4. The prices reacted to the combination of gains on the Chicago Stock Exchange (CBOT) and the surge in the dollar. The negotiations were carried out in several regions of the country, although in a smaller volume than on Tuesday. The prospect of increased demand for oil from the United States, after the Argentine government raised the export tariff from 30% to 33% and measures to stimulate the world economy amid the coronavirus outbreak supported the first positions. The soybean grain contracts delivered in May closed with an appreciation of 3.75 points, or 0.41%, compared to the previous closing, at US \$ 9.07 per bushel. The July

position had a price of US \$ 9.15 per bushel, an increase of 1.75 points, or 0.19% in relation to the previous close. The most distant maturities were pressured by a technical correction movement and by the estimate of a wide soybean supply in South America.

Source: *Canal Rural*

VESSEL WITH SOYA STRANDED IN THE BAY OF SANTA CATARINA PORT; OPERATION IS RESUMED WITH RESTRICTION

The bulk carrier Aeolian Grace loaded with 65,804 tons of soy stranded at dawn on Wednesday in Babitonga Bay, after leaving the public port of São Francisco do Sul (SC), which should bring some limitations for new moorings at the site, he said. the port authority on Thursday. Activities at the port, which have been suspended since the incident, were given permission to resume early Thursday afternoon, according to the Porto press office, but further docking will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis. The berthing will depend on the size of the ship and whether the vessel will be able to carry out all the maneuvers, considering that the bulk carrier Aeolian Grace is still stranded, the port added. With the authorization to resume operations, at 13:45 the ship Bunga Lilac began the maneuver to unload approximately 5,000 tons of vegetable oil. According to the port, four ships were waiting to dock in São Francisco do Sul and load soybeans. There was no information as to whether they would be authorized to dock - the port does not work with containers, according to the local press office. In terms of grain handling volume, São Francisco do Sul is the eighth port in Brazil, with exports of 4.2 million tons of soy and 1.5 million tons of corn, according to a survey by the maritime agency Cargonave. The ship's stranding occurs at the time of the new soybean harvest, which is being harvested. The state of Santa Catarina is not a major grain producer, but the port of São Francisco do Sul receives cargoes of grain produced in other states. Officials discussed actions related to the incident on Thursday, according to the press office. It was also defined that a study will be carried out to eventually carry out the salvage of the ship, which consists of removing the cargo to relieve the weight, which would facilitate the unstuck. The ship was destined for Singapore, according to the port. But Cargonave's report pointed to China as the ultimate soy destination. The port also informed that, before stranding, the ship unmarked under sea, wind and draft conditions within the operational parameters suitable for navigability established by the maritime authority. The Porto and Pilotage technical team assess the damage caused to the ship, according to a port note, which added that no oil leak had been identified.

Source: *Reuters*

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