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 E-Briefing

USA: New sweeteners brazzein and tagatose set to launch
Sweeteners brazzein and tagatose are expected to become commercially available this year, according to Food Business News.

Production of the two sweeteners is set to ramp up, and they will join allulose, stevia and erythritol as tools to help producers with sugar reduction.

Sweegen, Rancho Santa Margarita, Calif., expects to offer the zero-calorie, high-intensity sweetener brazzein early this year.

Brazzein, a small, heat-stable protein, is 500 to 2,000 times sweeter than sugar and has little to no bitter aftertaste, according to Sweegen. Brazzein derives from oubli, the fruit of a West African climbing plant.

Bonumose, Inc., Charlottesville, Va., plans to open a commercial production facility for the low-glycemic “rare sugar” tagatose this spring. Tagatose is 92% as sweet as sugar and has no aftertaste.

“Rare sugars” are so named because they are found in nature in small quantities. Tagatose is found in small quantities in some fruits and grains as well as in the cocoa tree.

BRAZIL: Sugar exports from Santos Port fall 14.6% in 2021
Sugar exports from Brazil’s Santos Port, Latin America’s largest port, decreased by 14.6% in 2021 to 20.6 million metric tonnes, reports Sugaronline.

Sugar exports from Santos Port in December fell by 38.1%, to 1.15 million tonnes, according to the Santos Port Authority (SPA).

Total shipments from Santos Port, considering all the products exported from the port, reached 103.08 million tonnes in 2021, down 3.5% year-on-year.
FoodNavigator.com
PepsiCo launches hemp energy drink in the US, carving out new direction for the category

PepsiCo’s energy drink Rockstar is launching Rockstar Unplugged: ‘a new kind of energy drink which focuses less on providing a big hit of energy and more focus on enhancing good vibes’.


Sweegen takes the pole position in race to commercialize sweetener brazzein with launch of Ultratia

In the race to bring the high intensity sweetener brazzein to market at commercial scale, taste solution provider Sweegen is claiming first place today with the launch of Ultratia, which the company says is a key tool in improving the health profile of existing and new products.


Mondelez reactivates ‘COVID playbook,’ warns of ‘waves’ of price hikes to manage inventory, offset inflation

Oreo-maker Mondelez warns the start of 2022 will be marred by lingering low inventory levels due to a now-resolved strike late last summer and ongoing labor challenges at third-party manufacturers as well as persistent supply chain challenges hindering its production rebound.

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FRANCE: Cristal Union’s Sainte-Émilie factory sees strong production
Cristal Union’s Sainte-Émilie sugar refinery in Picardy reported it hit production records this year, after grating its last beet on January 22, according to Action Agricole.

The Cristal Union factory saw a 115 day campaign, after a late start on Sept. 29, due to poor weather.

The factory processed 1,860,000 t of beets, from around 21,000 ha, the first time it exceeded 1.8 million. It also produced more than 270,000 tonnes of sugar, against 260,000 tonnes in 2017, but this volume was reached thanks to stopping syrup production this year.

“We are back to a normal year, and that reassures everyone,” said Jérôme Fourdinier, president of the section council.

US: Sugarbeet Growers Association meets for industry update
The American Sugarbeet Growers Association’s annual meeting in Arizona on Jan. 31 covered themes of politics, inflation, supply chain woes and sugar demand, according to AgWeek.

Speakers Nicholas Fereday, executive director of Rabobank, and Courtney Gaine, president and CEO of The Sugar Association focused on a decrease in sugar consumption and what that means for the sugarbeet and sugar refining industries. Fereday said that most of the drop came in high fructose corn syrup consumption. Gaine talked about efforts to differentiate “real sugar” from other sweeteners.

Jose Orive, executive director of the International Sugar Organization, suggested that even with lower sugar consumption per capita, population increases mean sugar consumption globally is growing.

Duane Simpson, head of North American public affairs, science and sustainability for crop sciences at Bayer told delegates that Hurricane Ida shut down its US glyphosate weedkiller production, and it took five weeks to get production back online. The company has diverted glyphosate worldwide to the US, but there is less available overall.

NICARAGUA: Monte Rosa mill expands production capacity
Sugarcane mill Monte Rosa has started the 2021/22 crushing season with an expanded production capacity of 600 metric tonnes per day, according to Informe Pastrán.

The company aims to produce more value-added products and enter the market of special types of sugar.

Monte Rosa invested US$4.8 million in the expansion project and plans to produce 49,000 tonnes of sugar in the 2021/22 season. The company has diverted glyphosate worldwide to the US, but there is less available overall.