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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Press Release(25)30  
(English only)**

**04 July 2025**

**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.

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**Sugaronline Ebriefing**

**EGYPT: Cabinet expects self-sufficiency in sugar in 2026**

Egypt's Cabinet expects the country to achieve self-sufficiency in sugar by 2026, according to Ahram, citing infographics released by the [cabinet's media centre](#).

The sugarbeet area dedicated to sugar production was expanded by 25% in 2024/25 to 750,000 feddans.

Sugar production reached 2.6 million tonnes in 2025, compared to 2.3 million tonnes in 2014, and is expected to total 2.9 million tonnes in 2026, according to the Cabinet.

**INDONESIA: Minister sees potential to boost cane productivity**

Indonesia's Agriculture minister, Andi Amran Sulaiman, has said the government is working to boost sugar production to levels last seen during the Dutch colonial era, according to the Antara News.

Sulaiman said Indonesia produces about 4 tonnes of sugarcane per hectare, but with the use of modern techniques and sustained effort he sees potential to reach 14 tonnes per hectare. Indonesia's government seeks to achieve sugar self-sufficiency within three years.

**NIGERIA: Minister reaffirms commitment to Sugar Master Plan**

Nigeria's Industry minister John Enoh has reaffirmed the government's commitment to the full implementation of the National Sugar Master Plan and said the country's sugar industry must meet domestic production targets in line with the plan, according to World Stage News.

During a meeting with stakeholders in Abuja on June 25, Enoh said the core goals of the master plan remained the significant ramp-up of local raw sugar production and a corresponding reduction in the country's dependence on sugar imports.

**INDONESIA: Government postpones sugar tax to 2026**

Indonesia's government has postponed the implementation of the excise tax on sugary beverages to 2026, which was initially planned to become effective from July 2025, citing a need for regulatory preparation, according to the Jakarta Globe.

A spokesperson for the Directorate General of Customs and Excise (DJBC), Nirwala Dwi Heryanto, said in a press briefing on June 23 that the tax is postponed to 2026. He said the government would look for alternative sources of revenue from other excise items, import duties or export duties, according to the news report.

**NIGERIA: Sugar Development Council vows commitment to removing hurdles to local sugar production**

The National Sugar Development Council (NSDC) executive secretary Kamar Bakrin has assured stakeholders of the council's commitment to removing hurdles affecting domestic sugar

production in Nigeria, according to Punch Nigeria.

Bakrin said Backward Integration Programme (BIP) operators had raised concerns regarding loopholes in the Free Trade Zone (FTZ) regime, equipment clearing delays at ports, sugar smuggling, and resistance from host communities. He assured that the loopholes in the FTZ regime were being addressed.

### **INDIA: Odisha government bans refined sugar from school meal program**

The Odisha government has banned the use of refined sugar and limited the use of salt in meals served through the PM POSHAN school meal program, according to The New Indian Express.

The state government has issued a directive to district education officers to use jaggery, if necessary, and limit its use to less than 5% of the total energy content.

The decision follows a recommendation by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and advisory from the Ministry of Women and Child Development to limit sugar content in packaged foods and beverages, according to the news report.

### **EUROPE: Sugar production seen lower in 2025/26 amid 10.6% reduction in sown area**

Sugar production in the European Union is projected to decline by around 8% in 2025/26 to 15.214 million metric tonnes, amid a 10.6% fall in total sugarbeet cultivated area, according to initial estimates released by the EU's Expert Group Common Market Organisation on Arable Crops in late June, **reports Sugaronline**.

The sugarbeet cultivated area is seen at 1.351 million hectares (ha) in 2025/26, compared to 1.512 million ha in the previous season.

The estimates were calculated by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Agriculture and Rural Development and presented in the EU Sugar Market Situation report released on June 26.

Beginning stocks for the 2025/26 season in the EU are also estimated to decline to 1.997 million tonnes, from 2.114 million at the start of 2024/25.

Imports are seen higher at 2.23 million tonnes in 2025/26, compared to 1.48 million tonnes in 2024/25.

Consumption is estimated to remain practically stable at 13.9 million tonnes, down from 13.96 million tonnes in the previous season.

Exports should decline to 3.5 million tonnes in 2025/26, from 4.2 million in 2024/25.

The 2025/26 ending stocks are estimated at 2.04 million tonnes.

### **FIJI: Sugar minister welcomes increase in budget allocation**

Fiji's minister of Sugar and Multiethnic Affairs Charan Jeath Singh has welcomed the 2025/26 national budget increase allocation to his Ministry from \$70.1 million to \$72 million, according to the Fiji Times.

He said the "slight increase" in the allocation gives a good signal, adding that the Coalition will look after the sugar industry and continue to do so in the next financial year.

According to the news report, the ministry will continue with its subsidy program for fertiliser and weedicide, farm mechanisation, among other programs.

### **AUSTRALIA: Canegrowers chairman elected president at WABCG**

The chairman of Australian sugarcane growers association Canegrowers, Owen Menkens, has been elected president of the World Association of Beet and Cane Growers (WABCG), according to a statement released by Canegrowers on June 30.

The appointment was confirmed during official proceedings of the WABCG Conference in Cairns last week.

"Sugar producers globally are facing many shared challenges – from trade access and climate change to sustainability and pricing. The WABCG plays an important role in ensuring that growers' voices are heard and that we learn from one another," Menkens

said.

Canegrowers chief executive officer (CEO) Dan Galligan said Menkens' election was a strong endorsement of Australia's leadership in sustainable, innovative and grower-led sugarcane production.

### **EU and Ukraine agree on new trade deal**

The European Commission has concluded negotiations with Ukraine on the review of the EU-Ukraine trade deal, which it said secures trade flows between the two markets while continuing to safeguard European farmers' interests, **reports Sugaronline.**

The revised deal replaces the temporary framework that has been valid since June 6, when the Autonomous Trade Measures which granted trade concessions to Ukraine expired.

The new agreement provides for "only modest increases" in the negotiated market access for some of the most sensitive items, such as sugar, poultry, eggs, wheat, maize, and honey, compared to the temporary framework valid since earlier this month, according to a [statement](#) released by the EC on June 29.

"Ukraine will increase quotas volumes for pork, poultry and sugar and will eliminate or reduce its tariffs on goods imported from the EU. On its side, the EU will further open its market to Ukrainian products, compared to before the war, while fully taking into account the sensitivities of certain EU agrifood sectors," the EC said in a questions-and-answers [document](#) about the deal.

"This means that tariff rate quotas will be maintained for all sensitive products while trade of less sensitive products or categories in which EU and Ukraine are complementary will be increased or even fully liberalised in some cases."

The document didn't detail the new trade volumes agreed under tariff rate quotas.

The new agreement allows both sides to activate a safeguard mechanism that enables the adoption of "appropriate measures" in situations where imports may cause adverse effects to either party. "In the EU's case, the assessment of a possible disturbance can be done at the level of one or more Member States," the EC said in the statement.

### **Hartree concludes acquisition of ED&F Man Commodities' core units**

Hartree Partners has concluded the acquisition of ED&F Man Commodities' four core business units: ED&F Man Sugar, Volcafe (coffee), ED&F Man Liquid Products (molasses, animal feeds, and fish oil), and ED&F Man Cotton, according to a [statement](#) released by the companies on July 1, **reports Sugaronline.**

The closing follows the acquisition of the majority of ED&F Man's outstanding A2 and B1 Senior Secured Legacy Debt and the satisfaction of all required regulatory approvals and other customary closing conditions.

"This acquisition marks a significant and exciting step in Hartree's strategic expansion into soft commodities. It unlocks new opportunities for growth for our combined platform, leveraging ED&F Man's deep market understanding, global expertise, and strong customer and supplier relationships," Guy Merison, one of Hartree's founding managing directors, said in a statement.

Hartree said the addition of the four business units brings "deep capabilities" in soft commodities sourcing, logistics, and sustainability, broadening Hartree's platform, enhancing its ability to deploy market expertise across a wider range of global commodity markets.

"Integration efforts are progressing well, with cross-functional teams from both organisations collaborating to align operations and adopt best practices," the company said.

Senior leaders from ED&F Man will join Hartree's Management Team, forming a unified leadership structure.

"We are very pleased to be joining Hartree. This transaction represents a strong strategic fit and a promising future for our employees and stakeholders. With Hartree's long-term commitment, deep market expertise, and shared values, we're confident in the continued growth and success of ED&F Man Commodities under their ownership," said Phillip Murnane, chief financial officer and chief operating officer of ED&F Man Commodities.

Hartree's acquisition of ED&F Man Commodities' ED&F Man Sugar, Volcafe (coffee), ED&F Man

Liquid Products business units was initially announced in [August 2024](#). The conclusion of the transaction on July 1 included the ED&F Man Cotton unit, which hadn't been announced as part of the deal in the companies's initial [statement](#) about the deal last year. Hartree didn't release details about the transaction's value.

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## **Food Navigator.com**

### **High-protein, low-sugar, flavorful cereal brand Catalina Crunch launches first national advertising campaign**



The better-for-you cereal and snack brand's first national campaign emphasizes its rebrand and focus on healthy, flavor-forward products

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/Article/2025/06/30/catalina-crunch-rebrands-and-highlights-better-for-you-ingredients/>

### **Tariffs reshape food & drink M&A: Key trends in 2025**



Food and beverage M&A activity is being reshaped by global tariff changes and shifting buyer strategies

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/Article/2025/06/26/2025-food-ma-trends-tariffs-buyer-shifts/>

### **GLP-1s linked to cases of illness and death**



Widespread cases of acute pancreatitis have been linked to the drugs

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2025/06/27/glp-1-linked-to-life-threatening-illness/>

## Social media driving ingredient shortages in food and beverage



TikTok, Instagram and X are spiking demand for certain ingredients. What does this mean for industry?

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2025/06/26/social-media-trends-driving-ingredient-shortages-in-food-and-beverage/>

## Does Trump's America First trade policy put domestic CPG production second?



The Consumer Brands Association warns that unless the Trump administration 'fine-tunes' its trade policy and if it reinstates reciprocal tariffs on July 9 it would de facto pick 'winners and losers' among domestic producers with packaged goods manufacturers losing to the steel industry

<https://www.foodnavigator-usa.com/Article/2025/07/03/does-trumps-america-first-trade-policy-put-domestic-cpg-production-second/>

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## **ED & F Man Daily**

**Brazil raises biofuel levels, sees gasoline self-sufficiency – Bloomberg** - Brazil's National Energy Policy Council (CNPE) approved increasing the level of biofuels mixed into fossil fuels, a move towards gasoline self-sufficiency that was also celebrated by renewable energy lobbies after the government earlier hinted the blends would not be changed this year. From August 1, the proportion of ethanol to be mixed in gasoline will rise to 30% from 27%, and the amount of biodiesel in diesel increases to 15% from 14%, Pietro Mendes, oil and gas secretary at the energy ministry, said. Mines and Energy Minister Alexandre Silveira also said at the event that the change in the biofuels mandate would make Brazil "gasoline self-sufficient for the first time in 15 years."

**AB Foods set to close bioethanol plant after US-UK trade deal - Reuters** - Associated British Foods said it would close its bioethanol plant in northern England by September if the UK government does not provide funding, potentially the first victim of Britain's tariff deal with the U.S. President Donald Trump. Under last month's trade deal, the UK's 19% tariffs on U.S. ethanol will fall to zero, through a 1.4 billion-litre (370 million gallon) quota - a figure equating to the size of the UK's entire ethanol market today. AB Foods, which owns the Viverno plant in Hull, and Ensus, which is owned by Germany's Sudzucker Group and operates a bioethanol plant in Teesside in northern England, have warned that the deal, along with existing regulations that give U.S. producers an advantage in the British market, has made the operating environment impossible.

**Indian sales of sugar-free drinks reach new record - Press Reader** - Coca-Cola revealed that sales of no-sugar drinks in India reached a new record over the past three months. The shift in preference to zero sugar is focused in urban areas for now, although the number of low sugar products launched over the past five years across the country surged by 483%, according to Mintel.

**Bunge completes long-delayed mega-merger with grain handler Viterro – Dow Jones**

- Global agribusiness Bunge Global said it officially closed a long-delayed deal to merge with Glencore-backed Viterro on Wednesday, two years after announcing the \$34 billion mega-deal. The merger creates a global crop trading and processing giant that is poised to rival agribusiness giants Archer-Daniels-Midland and Cargill, at a time when slumping grain prices, weak crop-processing margins and geopolitical tensions have eroded profitability in the sector.

**WHO pushes for 50% increase in sugar, alcohol and tobacco prices – Reuters**

- The World Health Organization is pushing countries to raise the prices of sugary drinks, alcohol and tobacco by 50% over the next 10 years through taxation, its strongest backing yet for taxes to help tackle chronic public health problems. The United Nations health agency said the move would help cut consumption of the products, which contribute to diseases like diabetes and some cancers, as well as raising money at a time when development aid is shrinking and public debt rising. "It's deeply concerning that the World Health Organization (WHO) continues to disregard over a decade of clear evidence showing that taxing sugar-sweetened beverages has never improved health outcomes or reduced obesity in any country," said Kate Loatman, executive director of the International Council of Beverages Associations, adding that the industry was working on options to support health. "

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