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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**Press Release(25)46  
(English only)**

**8 October 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**

**US: California approves sales of E15**

California Governor Gavin Newsom has signed legislation approving the sale of E15 (gasoline containing 15% ethanol) in the state, as part of efforts to reduce dependence on petroleum and help avoid spikes in gasoline prices, reports Sugaronline.

California was the only remaining state in the nation where E15 sales were not allowed, according to the [Renewable Fuels Association \(RFA\)](#). As of Nov. 2024, E15 was available in 31 US states at around 3,500 fuel stations, according to [RFA](#).

With the signing of Assembly Bill 30 into law on Oct. 2, sales of E15 are now also allowed in California.

The use of E15 in California could reduce gasoline prices in the state by as much as USD0.20 per gallon compared to E10, and save consumers as much as USD2.7 billion annually, according to a [study](#) conducted by the University of California, Berkeley and the United States Naval Academy. "While we continue the critical work to stabilise our state's fuel market, we're cutting red tape to provide consumers with more options as we continue our transition to cleaner transportation," governor Newsom said in a [statement](#).

**EL SALVADOR: Cane crush expected to rise 5% in 2025/26**

El Salvador's sugar industry association (AAES) estimates the country's 2025/26 cane crush to increase by 5% to 6.5 million metric tonnes, with sugar production reaching up to 720,000 metric tonnes, according to two separate reports by Elsalvador.com.

Last season, sugar mills in the country crushed 6 million tonnes of sugarcane and produced 687,157 tonnes of sugar.

Julio César Arroyo, executive director of AAES, attributed the potential production increase to the favourable impacts of rains on cane crop maturation in recent months. He said there was an even rain distribution during the winter, contributing to estimates of an improved yield in the next cycle.

**FAO Sugar Price Index falls to its lowest level since March 2021**

The FAO Sugar Price Index declined 4.1% in September compared to [August](#), falling to its lowest level since March 2021, according to the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), reports Sugaronline.

The index in September was also 21.3% below its level one year ago.

"The drop was driven by higher-than-expected sugar production in Brazil, resulting from large crushing volumes and increased use of sugarcane for sugar production in key southern growing regions," FAO said in a [statement](#) on Oct. 3.

"Additional downward pressure on prices came from favourable harvest prospects in India and Thailand, following ample monsoon rains, combined with expanded plantings."

Sugar is one of the items comprising the FAO Food Price Index, which averaged 128.8 points in September, down slightly from its revised August level of 129.7 points. The Food Price Index in September was 3.4% higher than in September 2024, but remained 19.6% below its peak reached in March 2022.

### **UAE: Ministry says updated tax on sugary drinks will be effective from January 2026**

The Ministry of Finance of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) said on Oct. 6 that a proposed update in the excise tax on sugary drinks, switching from a flat 50% tax on all sugar-sweetened beverages to a tiered system based on the sugar content, will become effective on Jan. 1, 2026, according to Gulf News.

The Ministry announced the completion of a set of proposed legislative amendments to embed the updated excise tax policy into the legislation. This update aims to improve the efficiency of the tax system and is in line with new standards adopted by the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

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## **FoodNavigator.com**

### **Top confectionery trends for 2026**



Top trends driving innovation in confectionery include personalisation, premiumisation, and ultra-limited editions

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2025/10/01/top-confectionery-trends-for-2026/>

### **Why the GLP-1 boom won't kill sugar reduction**



Junk food cravings may ease with GLP-1 use, but people still want sweet foods

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2025/10/06/glp-1s-wont-end-sugar-reduction/>

**Nutritional dark matter: The next frontier in food science**

The discovery of 'nutritional dark matter' is unlocking new paths for smarter food innovation, targeted health benefits, and precision nutrition

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2025/10/06/nutritional-dark-matter-the-hidden-chemistry-reshaping-food-and-health/>

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**ED & F Man Daily Research**

**Brazil's sugar production up 15.7% in early September, UNICA says – Reuters** - Sugar production in Brazil's key center-south region rose 15.72% in the first half of September compared with the year-earlier period, hitting 3.62 million metric tons, industry group UNICA said in a statement on Thursday. Sugarcane crushing totaled 45.97 million tons in the period, up 6.94% on a yearly basis, UNICA added in the statement. Total recoverable sugars (TRS) in the period hit 154.58 kilograms per ton of sugar cane, versus 160.07 kilograms in the year-earlier period, UNICA said. However, the level is higher than the accumulated average in the year so far, which sits at 134.08 kilograms of TRS per ton of cane, down 3.93% on the prior year.

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