



NOTICIAS INTERNACIONALES AL 01/10/2021

GLOBAL	2
Boom de las Carnes Alternativas.....	2
ARGENTINA reabre y CHINA continúa cerrada para BRASIL	3
CHINA	4
Comprarán 30 mil toneladas de carne de cerdo congelada.....	4
Rabobank: síntesis del sector agroindustrial.....	4
Importadores expectantes ante flexibilización de las exportaciones de carne de Argentina.....	5
Impacto por aumento de costos y cortes de energía	5
BRASIL	6
CEPEA caída de precios 6 % en septiembre	6
IMPACTO DE BSE ATÍPICA.....	6
<i>Se complican las gestiones de Brasil para reabrir la exportación de carne vacuna a China</i>	6
<i>Crecen los stocks por paralización de embarques</i>	7
Existencias de ganado bovino suman 218,2 millones de cabezas.....	7
Estado de Pará desarrolla sistema de trazabilidad basado en ADN.....	8
URUGUAY	9
Mercado de hacienda llega a valores históricos.....	9
Los ingresos por exportaciones de carne de Uruguay crecieron 48,9% en 2021.....	9
China y Uruguay celebran un encuentro de trabajo sobre normas sanitarias	9
Paro en el puerto genera complicaciones a la carne	10
Se extiende la suspensión del uso del Estradiol hasta el 30 de setiembre de 2022.....	11
PARAGUAY	11
Precio del ganado gordo sufre baja de 30 a 40 centavos de dólar	11
Mayor presencia de Brasil en mercados comunes afectaron precios del ganado.....	11
Prevén otro aumento del precio de la carne.....	12
En noviembre se auditarán frigoríficos para habilitar exportación de carne a EE.UU.	12
Senacsa firma acuerdo de cooperación para garantizar estatus de país libre de aftosa.....	12
UNION EUROPEA	12
Uruguay fue el único país que aumentó sus exportaciones a la Unión Europea entre enero y julio.....	12
REINO UNIDO	13
Visas para camioneros complica el abastecimiento de productos básicos.....	13
Brexit provoca menor disponibilidad de mano de obra para la industria frigorífica	13
ESTADOS UNIDOS	14
Lenta mejora en situación de feed lots	14
Preocupa el alza de precio de las carnes	15
China incrementó su demanda de carne premium	16
Congresistas y productores denuncian falta de transparencia en Mercado de hacienda	16
Parte de prensa de NFU saludando “class action” contra los 4 Grandes	18
Secretario de USDA sostiene que el sector no será afectado por cambio impositivo.....	19
AUSTRALIA	20
Precios record para hacienda de feed lot	20
Faena 2020/21: más de la mitad fue tipificada	21
Reabre establecimiento cerrado por casos de COVID.....	22
Lanzan calculador de vida útil.....	22
EMPRESARIAS	24
Marfrig autorizan la operación de compra de BRF	24
Carrefour Brasil lanzó carne libre de deforestación	24



Morgan Stanley prevé mejora en papeles de Minerva y JBS	25
Paraguay Frigorífico Concepción y Brangus acuerdan nuevo plus por hacienda para la Unión Europea	25
Volvo lanzó un modelo libre de “cuero”	26
Brasil Multaron al frigorífico Alibem Alimentos en R\$ 159,2 millones	26

GLOBAL

Boom de las Carnes Alternativas

James Nason, 29/09/2021

THE alternative meat sector is booming, we're often told in media reports, backed by data showing spectacular percentage growth (albeit percentage growth from a tiny base), distribution arrangements putting faux meat brands in thousands of burger outlets and supermarkets, and investors climbing on board in multi-million dollar deals.

It all combines to create a compelling picture of a new market category exploding in growth.

But on the critical measure of consumer sales, publicly reported data is much harder to find – which seems to tell a story in itself.

The sheer volume of plant-based alternative meat products now being manufactured and pushed in front of consumers via burger menus or supermarket shelves is creating sales and category growth, if only because consumers are naturally curious to try something new.

But a couple of years after plant based protein alternatives began appearing regularly on menus, the lack of reports showing hard data to demonstrate consumer sales are matching the hype is becoming more conspicuous.

“The novelty is already wearing off” Bloomberg Businessweek wrote last week, noting that the trend “could spell trouble for the makers of the products who’ve hyped the partnerships as a major step to mainstream popularity”:

“The biggest restaurant chains are backing off—or at least slowing down—faux-meat plans after the Covid -19 pandemic and lockdowns upended dining and eating. Instead of trying new things, Americans have been eating at home or seeking familiar, comforting foods when they do venture out. Orders of plant-based burgers and sandwiches at fast-food restaurants were unchanged for the year ended in June, while beef burger orders climbed 12 percent over the same period, according to market researcher NPD Group Inc.

“Sales of meat substitutes overall at U.S. restaurants fell more than 23pc last year, according to Euromonitor International data. Volumes have rebounded this year but are expected to be only 4.4% above the 2019 level.”

Earlier this year Reuters reported “Wall Street’s plant-based love wilts”, focusing on “a cooling of the US stock market’s taste for plant based meat makers”, in turn spreading doubts among investors.

As was widely reported in July McDonald’s has withdrawn its McVeggie Burger less than two years after launch, citing flagging sales.

Hungry Jack’s plant-based “Rebel Whopper” has not been selling as well as the burger giant hoped, according to the handful of media articles in which founder Jack Cowin has been asked about its performance.

“Sales are down on what had been hoped for,” Mr Cowin told the Australian in May. In an interview with the Australian Financial Review published last week he was still quite circumspect, stating that the Rebel Whopper had been making “steady progress”, but “wouldn’t bring about a transformation of the business just yet”.

A couple of things are clearly noticeable about most of the media coverage reporting that the sector is booming. One, most such reports appear to take the manufacturer’s claims of environmental and health superiority to naturally raised meat at face value and without any evidence of verification beyond their initial media release. Second, the sources they use are almost invariably individuals or corporate entities with close commercial ties to the faux meat sector.

While it seems fair to say that media interest and even investor interest in the sector is indeed booming, the question many media articles about plant based proteins are rarely providing answers on is how actual consumer sales are going.

And from the limited examples we have seen this year, the answer at this point consumer support is not reflecting the media and investment hype.

Growth predictions “highly speculative”

The plant-based meat market has existed in Australia for many years. Pioneers such as Quorn have been manufacturing meat substitutes since 1985.

In a report commissioned by an alternative protein sector “think tank”, Deloitte Access Economics recently estimated the value of the sector at around \$150m annually.

In the same report, it predicted it will see spectacular growth to be worth \$3 billion annually by 2030.



While that forecast generated a round of positive headlines for plant-based meat alternatives upon its release, not everyone was sold on its validity.

Professor Paul Wood AO from Monash University, a biotechnology professor with extensive experience working across the food protein spectrum both academically and commercially, described the prediction to Beef Central as “highly speculative”.

An “unprecedented” compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 43 percent per annum for 10 consecutive years would be required to achieve that target, he pointed out.

“It would be interesting to know if any food group has ever had compound annual growth rate of this magnitude in Australia,” he said.

While media coverage can create the impression that large percentages of the population are reducing their meat intake, meat sales data and consumption projections tell a different story, as do also key independent surveys.

The most recent Australian national nutrition survey found 6.8 percent avoided meat, dairy, eggs, a level that has been largely unchanged for decades. This data was quoted in a submission to the Senate Inquiry into Meat Category branding from plant-based food processor Sanitarium.

Similar sentiments were echoed in Nielsen Homescan annualised consumer data, showing that, despite the enormous publicity that alternative proteins have received, they account for just 0.3 percent of Australia’s fresh meat volume sales, and 0.4 percent of value sales – more detail here.

The results of the largest ever opinion poll on climate change, conducted by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and Oxford University, released earlier this year, also showed that many consumers do not view meat as the environmental problem plant-based protein manufacturers portray it as.

Out of 18 policy suggestions presented to global survey respondents, the least favoured option was switching to a plant-based diet. That option also failed to attract majority support in any country – see details here.

While media coverage of the “alternative meat ecosystem” appears to have been booming, as does investment support for the products marketed as so-called climate solutions, the key measure that ultimately counts, as anyone in the livestock sector has always known, is the consumer dollar.

It is still early days, and the sophisticated marketing forces behind the plant and cell based sector will continue to invest significant resources trying to convince consumers their product is better.

But for now it appears the sector still has a hard row to hoe to satisfy its investment backers that consumer support and sales will match the hype.

ARGENTINA reabre y CHINA continúa cerrada para BRASIL

SEP 28, 2021 Argentina on Tuesday said it would once again allow cattle farmers to freely export beef to China, lifting a cap imposed earlier this year that had stoked tensions with the agricultural sector.

BUENOS AIRES, Sept 28 (Reuters) - Argentina on Tuesday said it would once again allow cattle farmers to freely export beef to China, lifting a cap imposed earlier this year that had stoked tensions with the agricultural sector.

The government had capped beef exports at 50% of the normal volumes to tamp down fast-rising prices, leading to protests and threats by farmers to halt local trading in cattle and also grains.

Argentina is the world's fifth-largest beef exporter while China is the world's top consumer of the meat. About 75% of Argentina's 2020 beef exports went to China, according to official numbers.

Farm exports are the country's main source of much needed foreign currency.

"Regarding the issue of beef meant for China, we will restart exports starting on Monday," Argentina's agriculture, cattle and fishing minister Julian Dominguez said following a meeting with leaders of four main agricultural associations.

"This is the message that producers needed," said Elbio Laucirica, head of the Coninagro agricultural association, following the meeting. "It doesn't affect the local market."

Analysts say China primarily buys a beef cut that is not popular in the domestic Argentine market.

Dominguez took over as farming minister earlier this month after the government of center-left President Alberto Fernandez badly lost a congressional primary election, sparking a rift in the ruling Peronist party and a Cabinet reshuffle.

Dominguez convened the official Federal Agricultural Council earlier on Tuesday, where a plan was discussed to bolster the "quantity of available beef" for 2022.

Jon Condon, 30/09/2021

ARGENTINA will resume beef exports to China from Monday next week, but after almost four weeks in suspension, there is no sign yet of a China export trade resumption out of Brazil.

The loss of both South American suppliers has left a large void in China's imported beef supply.



Argentine officials announced on Wednesday that restrictions on beef exports to China will be lifted from October 4 – about one month sooner than originally planned. The decision followed negotiations with local producers, after the country's elections on September 12.

Producers seeking removal of all export restrictions had argued that the limitations were inflicting economic harm on Argentina's livestock and meat industries while doing little to help domestic consumers.

China accounted for 76pc of Argentina's beef exports for the year to August. Argentina accounted for 21pc of China's imports for the year to August, second only to largest exporter Brazil, which held a 38pc share.

Earlier, Argentina had planned to restrict volumes shipped to China and most other markets to 50pc of the year-ago average through the end of October, though exemptions were already in place to fulfil certain tariff rate quotas for the European Union market, including the Hilton and High Quality Beef/481 quotas, plus the country's 20,000t quota for export to the United States.

Back on May 17, the Argentine government imposed a surprise 30-day ban (later extended) on all beef exports out of the South American nation, in an effort to contain domestic meat prices and curb inflation.

Argentina's chilled and frozen beef exports to China in August totalled 32,800t, well below the 50,000t shipped in May ahead of the government curbs on exports.

No sign of Brazil re-entry

Meanwhile, there is still no sign of resumption in beef trade to China out of Brazil, after Brazil's self-imposed suspension on September 4 following confirmation of two atypical BSE cases in separate states.

Almost four weeks has now passed since Brazil's voluntarily suspension. Many had predicted a resumption of trade after a fortnight, based on events that unfolded the last time the country reported a case of BSE back in 2019.

Chinese meat trade analysts are concerned about the impact, the longer the suspension stands – particularly as China is approaching important National Day holidays and a high consumption period.

"At present, due to the expected supply shortage, imported beef market prices continue to rise," China's Meat International Group said in a report issued this morning.

Due to the earlier restrictions on beef exports Argentina's export volumes fell 33pc in August, compared with the previous month, MIG reported.

"Brazil's suspension on September 4 may cause larger uncertainty to the future market supply," the group said.

"So far MIG's intelligence is that there is not a technical problem, causing the prolonged delay, but more of a problem with China's willingness to open up. Political diplomacy has a greater impact on the progress of re-opening. It could also involve Brazil's presidential election and a series of recent diplomatic events that have turned unpredictable," MIG said.

Five other customer countries applied their own suspensions following Brazil's BSE announcement earlier this month, most of which are yet to allow exports to recommence.

Questions continue to be raised in trade circles around the Brazil's unusual announcement of two atypical BSE cases at the same time.

The US National Cattlemen's Beef Association's chief executive Colin Woodall said earlier this month that "Given Brazil's history of failing to report BSE cases in a timely manner, we must remain vigilant in enforcing our safeguards and holding them accountable."

This may partly explain China's reluctance to re-open beef trade with Brazil, trade sources said.

CHINA

Comprarán 30 mil toneladas de carne de cerdo congelada

27/09/2021 Para las reservas estatales el 10 de octubre

China comprará 30.000 toneladas de carne de cerdo congelada para las reservas estatales el 10 de octubre, según un aviso del Centro de Gestión de Reservas de Mercancías de China.

El planificador estatal de China ha dicho que continuará comprando carne de cerdo para mantener los precios bajos en el principal mercado consumidor de carne de cerdo del mundo.

Rabobank: síntesis del sector agroindustrial

29 September 2021 Rabobank

Rabobank's Food & Agribusiness Bimonthly for China shows that the surge of the Delta variant and recent floods are clouding the country's consumption picture during Q3 of 2021.

Farm inputs

The Chinese government is making an effort to ensure domestic supply, curb export, and stabilize prices.

In the near term, prices of nitrogen and potash fertilizer are likely to see a mild decline, amid weak demand. The price of phosphate fertilizer will stay high, supported by costly raw materials

Grains and oilseeds



As large quantities of new corn are available soon, the domestic corn price will experience some seasonal price corrections for the rest of 2021. The domestic soy meal price will be in line with the movement of CBOT Soybeans, subject to US soy yield and weather conditions in the South American planting season. Comparably speaking, due to low edible oil inventory, the price of soy oil will perform stronger than that of soy meal.

Animal protein

Pork prices have been generally below cost price for months, leading China's government to launch a new round of state reserve purchases. Pork imports may decline further in the coming months. Poultry demand has been weak due to COVID-19-related restrictions on gathering and group dining.

Demand is expected to improve slightly in the coming months, if no further disruptions.

Dairy

Slowdown or falls in imports will likely kick in from September onward to start to rebalance the market. Processors will feel the pressure much more on profitability in 2H 2021, barring meaningful and broad product price rises.

Consumer foods

China's foodservice sector registered a 14.3% YOY rise in July 2021, reaching value sales of CNY 375.1 billion. QSR chains accelerated delivery channel expansion to prepare for the future. Total accumulated food-related retail sales of enterprises above designated grew by a value of 10.2% YOY in July.

Importadores expectantes ante flexibilización de las exportaciones de carne de Argentina

por Cecilia Ferreiraseptiembre 29, 2021

El gobierno argentino anunció la flexibilización de las restricciones para exportar carne a China y genera expectativa en los importadores del país asiático. "Los chinos empezaron a parar un poco, a esperar que Argentina regularice la exportación para empezar a comprar pensando que los precios pueden llegar a bajar", dijo a Ganadería.uy e Daniel Castiglioni, director de la firma Castitrading.

El trader señaló que Uruguay viene colocando su carne a precios muy elevados, "más arriba de lo que veníamos en los últimos meses", principalmente impulsado por la falta de Brasil y la demora en reingresar al mercado.

Algunos importadores que consideraban que la medida sería más breve más breve no esperaron y tomaron posición sobre algunos productos, señaló el operador. "Terminaron pagando más arriba, teniendo en cuenta además que hay una semana de vacaciones en China la semana que viene", dijo.

Impacto por aumento de costos y cortes de energía

30 de setembro de 2021

O enorme setor pecuário da China está enfrentando um aumento nos custos de ração, já que as piores interrupções de energia do país em anos forçaram o fechamento de plantas de esmagamento de soja, reduzindo o fornecimento e elevando os preços, disseram analistas e participantes da indústria.

O aumento nos custos da ração ocorre em um momento ruim para os produtores rurais da China, muitos dos quais estão sofrendo com perdas e margens fracas devido aos preços baixos dos suínos em particular.

Pelo menos metade das plantas de esmagamento de soja no norte e nordeste da China tem sido fechada desde a semana passada, e permanecerão fechadas pelo menos até depois do feriado do Dia Nacional em 1º de outubro, disseram à Reuters um gerente de uma unidade e um gerente de compra de rações, sob condição de anonimato, por não estarem autorizados a falar com a mídia.

O volume de soja processada em todo o país neste mês caiu 9,4% em relação a agosto, para 7,68 milhões de toneladas, disse a consultoria MySteel em relatório nesta quinta-feira.

Os preços do farelo de soja em Tianjin, um importante centro de produção do norte, saltaram 220 iuanes (34 dólares) para 3.800 iuanes por tonelada na semana passada, embora os preços tenham caído um pouco antes do feriado do Dia Nacional.

Os aumentos no custo da ração ocorrem em um momento em que os criadores de porcos sofrem com os preços baixos dos suínos, sob a pressão do aumento da produção, já que os estoques estão sendo reconstruídos depois que a doença mortal da peste suína africana dizimou o enorme rebanho de suínos.

"No momento, os suinocultores estão sendo pressionados nas duas pontas. O preço dos suínos está incrivelmente baixo e a demanda está fraca, ao mesmo tempo que o preço do farelo de soja e da ração está subindo", disse Darin Friedrichs, analista sênior de commodities sobre a Ásia da StoneX.

Os preços da ração já estão 10% acima do ano anterior, de acordo com o Ministério da Agricultura e Assuntos Rurais, enquanto os preços do suíno vivo estão em seus níveis mais baixos em mais de dois anos.

Os suinocultores perderam mais de 500 iuanes por porco no mês passado, disse o ministério, e as margens caíram ainda mais desde então.



Os preços da ração provavelmente subirão ainda mais, disse Friedrichs, acrescentando que a falta de energia também poderia impactar a secagem da safra de milho que acabou de começar a ser colhida.

BRASIL

CEPEA caída de precios 6 % en septiembre

30 de setembro de 2021

No acumulado de setembro (até o dia 29), o Indicador CEPEA/B3 do boi gordo registra baixa de 5,9%, fechando a R\$ 294,80 nessa quarta-feira, 29. Trata-se da variação negativa mensal mais intensa desde janeiro de 2020, quando a queda no acumulado foi de 7,8%. Segundo pesquisadores do Cepea, nas primeiras semanas de setembro, notícias indicando dois casos atípicos de Encefalopatia Espongiforme Bovina (EEB) afastaram compradores do mercado interno, resultando em recuos nos preços da arroba do boi gordo.

Agora, neste encerramento do mês, a retração compradora se somou ao fraco ritmo de vendas de carne no mercado atacadista da Grande São Paulo. Além disso, pesquisadores do Cepea ressaltam que os envios da proteína à China, o principal destino internacional da carne brasileira, se mantêm suspensos – o que, por sua vez, acaba limitando a demanda por novos lotes de animais para abate.

IMPACTO DE BSE ATÍPICA

Se complican las gestiones de Brasil para reabrir la exportación de carne vacuna a China

Por: ESTADÃO CONTEÚDO 29/09/2021

Segundo a pasta, foi encaminhada uma solicitação para reunião técnica com o país

O Ministério da Agricultura informou em nota que continua aguardando um retorno das autoridades chinesas quanto à liberação dos embarques de carne bovina à China, após os dois casos atípicos do “mal da vaca louca” no País.

Segundo a pasta, foi encaminhada uma solicitação para reunião técnica com o país asiático, mas esta ainda não foi agendada pelos chineses, que disseram estar analisando as informações apresentadas.

O embargo às exportações foi estabelecido de forma voluntária pelo Brasil, como cumprimento ao protocolo sanitário que consta no acordo comercial entre os dois países.

As regras preveem a normalidade das negociações após investigação dos casos por um laboratório internacional, como foi feito pela Organização Mundial de Saúde Animal (OIE) no Canadá.

“O Brasil foi totalmente transparente com as autoridades sanitárias chinesas, informando da possibilidade de EEB antes mesmo da confirmação oficial pelo laboratório canadense. Desde então, temos atendido pronta e tempestivamente todos os pedidos de informação que nos são dirigidos”, afirmou o ministério.

A pasta acrescentou que acompanha de perto a situação dos frigoríficos, mas que não tem como definir uma data para o retorno das exportações, uma vez que aguarda a decisão dos chineses.

por Javier Lyonnetseptiembre 29, 2021

En Brasil se especula con que China quiere sacar rédito al bloqueo de las exportaciones de carne vacuna después de que estas fueron suspendidas voluntariamente por las autoridades brasileñas tras confirmarse dos casos atípicos de vaca loca en diferentes estados.

Ni el Ministerio de Agricultura, ni los exportadores brasileños ni los importadores chinos saben cuándo se reactivarán los negocios, y setiembre ha sido un mes perdido para la cadena cárnica brasileña en relación al comercio con su principal mercado.

En Uruguay, el efecto en términos de mercado fue parcial ya que Brasil pudo embarcar los contenedores certificados previo al cierre del mercado, según el acuerdo bilateral que tiene con China. Hubo algún corte en China que mejoró para la carne uruguaya a la vez que se pudo acceder a algo más de capacidad de carga, consignó Monitor Ganadero.

Es posible que los impactos más notorios para la industria local comiencen a verse a partir de ahora.

Es que la cadena de carne bovina en Brasil está en alerta, ya que las proyecciones iniciales fueron de que China volvería a habilitar las compras de Brasil en dos semanas como máximo pero más de tres semanas después del 4 de setiembre la situación permanece incambiada.

En las últimas horas, el Ministerio de Agricultura de Brasil informó que solicitó una reunión técnica con China para discutir el embargo a la exportación de carne bovina pero su contraparte no confirmó fecha, según Pecuaría.com.

Las autoridades chinas dijeron que están analizando las informaciones enviadas referentes a los dos casos.

Sin embargo, pese a la rápida confirmación por parte de la Organización Mundial de Salud Animal (OIE) de que los dos casos atípicos no representan riesgos sanitarios, el embargo permanece. La OIE se



pronunció a favor de un levantamiento de las barreras para la exportación. El gobierno brasileño sostiene ahora que el protocolo sanitario bilateral debería ser revisado.

No es posible determinar cuándo se retomarán los embarques dijo el Ministerio de Agricultura de Brasil, porque la decisión depende de China. “Seguimos acompañando de cerca y con preocupación la situación de los frigoríficos”, dice el comunicado del Ministerio. China es el destino de cerca del 60% de las exportaciones de carne bovina de Brasil.

“Ni siquiera los importadores chinos saben lo que está sucediendo”, dijo el analista Fernando Iglesias, de Safras y Mercado.

Lygia Pimental, directora de la consultora Agrifatto, especuló que el fuerte incremento de las exportaciones a fines de agosto y los primeros días de setiembre “es como si alguien supiese lo que estaba sucediendo”.

Según la consultora, la posibilidad más creíble es que los chinos estén aprovechando el episodio para renegociar contratos y reducir los precios de sus importaciones desde Brasil.

Iglesias entiende que China no tiene demasiadas opciones, considerando las limitaciones de la oferta de Australia y Argentina. “Estados Unidos tampoco va a dejar de abastecer a su mercado interno para abastecer a China”, indicó.

Si bien no menciona a Uruguay, la capacidad de complementar la capacidad exportadora de Brasil es muy parcial para los volúmenes que maneja China, pero cualquier incremento es muy significativo a nivel local. Iglesias considera que setiembre es “un mes perdido” y que con la oferta de contenedores bastante limitada que existe en el mundo, llevará un tiempo antes de que los frigoríficos se recompongan y consigan normalizar la logística una vez que las exportaciones sean liberadas.

Crecen los stocks por paralización de embarques

29/09/2021 Paralisação temporária das exportações para a China é a principal razão; OUÇA também a avaliação do proprietário do Confinamento Monte Alegre □

Nesta quarta-feira, 29/9, chegam a 25 dias de paralisação das exportações de carne bovina do Brasil para a China por conta da confirmação de dois casos da doença atípica da vaca louca, no dia 4/9.

A paralisação, além de ter deixado muitos pecuaristas em maus lençóis, está produzindo um outro efeito preocupante: altos estoques de carnes nos frigoríficos.

“Os altos estoques estão causando um redirecionamento parcial para o mercado doméstico, no entanto o mercado não está conseguindo reabsorver essa parte então não está muito bonito para o mercado”, diz a médica veterinária e economista Lygia Pimentel, CEO da consultoria Agrifatto (São Paulo, SP).

Entre os efeitos desse alto estoque é a pressão por preços da arroba mais baixos. A situação, porém, não se trata de um caso isolado, segundo lembra Lygia, pois o País amargou uma experiência semelhante com a Rússia em 2017.

O fato é que na comparação mensal dos embarques para a China, de 2019 para cá, mostra o incrível apetite do maior país asiático para a carne bovina.

Em janeiro de 2019, as exportações foram de 23,5 mil toneladas, segundo os dados do AgroStat, a plataforma do Ministério da Agricultura sobre estatísticas do comércio internacional da agropecuária brasileira.

De lá para cá, os embarques só cresceram, até chegar a marca história – para apenas um mês – de 105,9 mil toneladas, em agosto passado (confira essa evolução detalhada, mês a mês, no quadro abaixo).

Existencias de ganado bovino suman 218,2 millones de cabezas

Por: Portal DBO 29/09/2021

As informações da Pesquisa da Pecuária Municipal (PPM) 2020 mostram que o Mato Grosso segue líder, com 32,7 milhões de cabeças e alta de 2,3% ante 2019

Em 2020, o rebanho bovino nacional cresceu 1,5%, chegando a 218,2 milhões de cabeças, maior efetivo desde 2016 e o segundo maior rebanho da série histórica iniciada em 1974. O rebanho bovino cresceu pelo segundo ano consecutivo em 2020, após dois anos seguidos em queda.

Os dados integram a Pesquisa da Pecuária Municipal (PPM), do Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística (IBGE), divulgada nesta quarta-feira, 29.

“Havíamos passado por um período de abate de fêmeas gerando uma redução no número de animais e bezerras e isso fez com que o preço da arroba subisse. Hoje estamos num cenário de retenção de fêmeas, que, em vez de irem para o abate, são utilizadas para gerar novos animais, recompondo o rebanho”, explica Mariana Oliveira, supervisora da PPM.

O Centro-Oeste respondeu por 34,6% do total (75,4 milhões). A maior alta foi na região Norte: 5,5%, ou mais 2,7 milhões de cabeças, somando 52,4 milhões.

Mato Grosso segue líder, com 32,7 milhões de cabeças e alta de 2,3% ante 2019. Entre os municípios, São Félix do Xingú (PA), manteve a liderança com 2,4 milhões de cabeças e alta de 5,4%, no ano (veja mais abaixo).



O valor de produção dos principais produtos pecuários cresceu 27,1% em 2020, chegando a R\$ 75,5 bilhões. A produção de leite concentrou 74,9% deste valor, seguida pela produção de ovos de galinha (23,6%), mel (0,8%), ovos de codorna (0,5%), lã (0,1%) e casulos de bicho da seda (0,1%).

O maior valor de produção foi na região Sudeste, com 36,3% do total, seguida pela região Sul, com 31,9% (R\$ 24,04 bilhões). Minas Gerais foi líder em valor de produção: R\$ 17,8 bilhões, sendo 89,8% desse total (R\$ 15,99 bilhões) proveniente da produção de leite.

A produção nacional de leite chegou ao recorde de 35,4 bilhões de litros em 2020, com alta de 1,5% ante 2019. Minas Gerais continua líder na produção de leite: 9,7 bilhões de litros, ou 27,3% do total, nacional, com alta de 2,6% no ano. Castro (PR) é o maior produtor de leite do país, com 363,9 milhões de litros.

A produção nacional de ovos de galinha bateu novo recorde: 4,8 bilhões de dúzias em 2020, alta de 3,5% frente a 2019. Em 2020, e em particular na pandemia, o ovo foi uma fonte de proteína alternativa mais acessível. O estado de São Paulo, maior produtor, concentrava 25,6% da produção nacional. Santa Maria de Jetibá (ES) foi o maior produtor em 2020, com 371,6 mil dúzias.

A piscicultura cresceu 4,3%, chegando a 551,9 mil toneladas. O Paraná continua líder, com 25,4% do total nacional. Nova Aurora (PR) concentra 3,6% da piscicultura do país. Já a produção de camarão em cativeiro cresceu 14,1%, totalizando 63,2 mil toneladas. Juntos, Rio Grande do Norte e o Ceará são responsáveis por 68,0% da produção e Aracati (CE) é o maior produtor, com 3,9 mil toneladas.

Rebanho bovino – Em 2020, a alta do preço do boi gordo e o crescimento nas exportações de carne contribuíram para que o rebanho bovino crescesse 1,5% ante 2019, chegando a 218.150.298 cabeças de gado. Foi o maior número de bovinos desde 2016 (218.190.768 cabeças).

Mato Grosso e Goiás mantiveram-se com os maiores rebanhos bovinos do país e, juntos, foram responsáveis por 25,8% do efetivo nacional.

Mato Grosso elevou seu efetivo em 2,3%, totalizando 32,7 milhões de animais. Goiás teve alta de 3,5% e fechou o ano de 2020 com 23,6 milhões de cabeças de gado.

Em terceiro vem o Pará, com 22,3 milhões, crescimento de 6,3%. Em quarto, perdendo a terceira posição para o Pará, veio Minas Gerais, com alta anual de 6,6% em seu rebanho, totalizando 22,2 milhões de cabeças.

O maior rebanho continua em São Félix do Xingú (PA): 2,4 milhões de cabeças e alta de 5,4%, no ano. Corumbá (MS) veio a seguir, com 1,8 milhão. Com alta de 11,8% em seu rebanho (1,3 milhão de bovinos), Marabá (PA) subiu da quinta para a terceira colocação.

Estado de Pará desarrolla sistema de trazabilidad basado en ADN

30 de setembro de 2021

O setor produtivo paraense recebeu da Organização Social BioTec-Amazônia a proposta de criação de um sistema de rastreabilidade de carne bovina baseado no DNA do animal. Utilizada em outros países, mas até então inédita no Brasil, a tecnologia permite que o comprador acesse as informações do produto por meio de etiqueta inteligente, pela qual é possível conhecer o histórico do animal, desde as vacinas tomadas e alimentação, ou até mesmo fotos da fazenda onde o animal foi criado e da família dona da propriedade. Com isso, haverá maior controle sobre a origem do produto comprado, impulsionando as exportações paraenses dentro das características exigidas pelo mercado internacional.

A apresentação do projeto foi feita na última segunda-feira (27), pelo diretor técnico da BioTec-Amazônia, Artur Silva, ao presidente da Federação das Indústrias do Pará (Fiepa), José Conrado Santos, e ao vice-presidente, Marcos Marcelino de Oliveira.

“Nossa proposta é envolver desde o pequeno produtor até o grande produtor, ou grandes frigoríficos, de uma forma descomplicada e o principal: a conta dessa nova tecnologia não é paga pelo produtor que está lá na base, vai ser pelo consumidor final, que terá um produto da mesma qualidade, mas com a confiança de que aquilo é de uma área que é toda legalizada, seguindo os preceitos de um bom mercado, que é o que eles precisam”, explica o diretor técnico da BioTec-Amazônia, Artur Silva.

O estudo científico foi feito pela BioTec-Amazônia junto com universidades e tem como parceiros no exterior laboratórios que fazem parte da Sociedade Internacional de Genética Animal. “O mais importante é nós criarmos um piloto, onde teremos acesso ao mercado internacional de forma mais rápida e desburocratizada, e conforme isso vai se solidificando no mercado, a gente vai agregando inclusive dentro da própria certificação que o Estado do Pará tem, que já é fantástica”, completou Silva.

De acordo com a BioTec-Amazônia, no Pará, a construção de um modelo piloto passa pela liderança da FIEPA e da Federação da Agricultura e Pecuária do Pará (FAEPA), representantes dos setores interessados na rastreabilidade dos produtos.

Um Termo de Cooperação Técnica entre a Organização Social BioTec-Amazônia e o Sistema da Federação das Indústrias do Estado do Pará (FIEPA) foi assinado em setembro de 2018, na sede da Federação. Entre as ações previstas, estão a execução de ações conjuntas de atividades de ensino, capacitação, pesquisa e desenvolvimento nas áreas de arte, cultura, educação, esporte, gestão e ciência



e tecnología. No convênio, o trabalho do Sistema Fiepa conta com a execução do Serviço Social da Indústria (SESI), Serviço Nacional de Aprendizagem Industrial (SENAI) e Instituto Euvaldo Lodi (IEL).

URUGUAY

Mercado de hacienda llega a valores históricos

01/10/2021 El novillo cotiza US\$ 4,45 a US\$ 4,50; la vaca de US\$ 3,30 a US\$ 4,35

El ganado gordo con destino a faena está muy firme y eso es algo que sorprende a los consignatarios.

“Veníamos con una oferta firme, la de agosto, por la cuota 481 pero después que pasamos la cuota nuevamente faltó ganado gordo”, señaló Ignacio Aramburu, consignatario de ganado.

La industria faena todo lo que aparece con entradas cortas, pero hay que negociar lote a lote para no quedar corto en alguna categoría.

El novillo cotiza US\$ 4,45 a US\$ 4,50; la vaca de US\$ 3,30 a US\$ 4,35, hay mucho abanico según el estado de la pieza.

por Javier Lyonnetseptiembre 29, 2021

Con valores de US\$ 4,65 por kilo carcasa los novillos mejor terminados están alcanzando esta semana valores que no tienen registros. Esto es hasta US\$ 1,30 por kilo más que un año atrás, un incremento de 38% en los precios, que acompañan el sostenido ritmo de faena.

“La faena sigue cinchando, muy sostenida, con una demanda firme del exterior sobre todo, que volvió a superar las 50.000 cabezas semanales con ganado de pasto básicamente, lo que es de destacar”, dijo el consignatario Alejandro Zambrano, de Zambrano y Cía.

Pablo Sánchez, de Escritorio Walter Hugo Abelenda, afirmó que esta semana se han registrado negocios por novillos gordos pesados de carcasa que llegan a los US\$ 4,65 “y arriba también”.

Según Zambrano, las vacas gordas marcaron US\$ 4,25 y US\$ 4,30 en los últimos días, bastante por encima del promedio de US\$ 4,18 que expresaba la grilla de la Asociación de Consignatarios Ganaderos (ACG) al arranque de la semana.

La expectativa es de que estos precios se mantengan, teniendo en cuenta el interés por todas las categorías, la oferta restringida de los vacunos mejor terminados y que es el momento en que China acelera las compras para embarcar en octubre y principios de noviembre y cumplir con la demanda del Año Nuevo chino, en febrero 2022.

Las noticias desde Brasil y Argentina siguen siendo buenas para Uruguay, a nivel competitivo, que sigue siendo el proveedor privilegiado en la región ante las restricciones autoimpuestas por Argentina y la extensión sin fecha del cierre de las exportaciones de Brasil (ver notas aparte) a China como consecuencia de los dos casos de vaca loca comunicados a principios de setiembre.

Los campos están empezando a venir y todavía no se cumplen los pronósticos del Año Niña, por lo que el mercado de reposición comienza a tonificarse, ya que es el sector que no acompaña aún hasta que no se afirmen los pastos más largos.

La vaquillona, destinada al abasto interno, se mantiene en los US\$ 4,40 el kilo carcasa.

Los ingresos por exportaciones de carne de Uruguay crecieron 48,9% en 2021

29/09/2021

En lo que va de 2021 se alcanzaron US\$ 1.885,8 millones

El ingreso de divisas a Uruguay por las exportaciones de todas las carnes subió de modo relevante, un 48,9% en el acumulado anual –al 18 de setiembre de 2021–, comparado con lo que sucedió en el mismo período de 2020.

Con relación al último año considerado “normal”, es decir sin los impactos por la pandemia de covid-19, el de 2019, el incremento en los ingresos (siempre con base en comparar el mismo período del año) es de 25,15%.

En lo que va de 2021 se alcanzaron US\$ 1.885,8 millones (el año pasado iban 1.267,2 millones de dólares).

Desde el inicio de enero hasta mediados de setiembre de 2021 se embarcaron 465.738 toneladas peso embarque (el año pasado iban 347.639 toneladas), con un crecimiento en volumen de 33,9%.

Se logró al momento (siempre considerando todos los rubros cárnicos) un precio promedio de 4.051 dólares por tonelada, cuando en el mismo lapso de 2020 se promedió 3.645 dólares (con una mejora en ese valor de 11,1%).

China y Uruguay celebran un encuentro de trabajo sobre normas sanitarias

27/09/2021



Se dialogó sobre habilitaciones sanitarias y probables protocolos, así como certificaciones en materia de aspectos sanitarios y fitosanitarios de distintos productos agropecuarios

Autoridades del Ministerio de Ganadería de Uruguay compartieron una instancia de trabajo con representantes de la Administración Nacional de Aduanas de China (GACC), en el marco de la VI reunión de Medidas Sanitarias y Fitosanitarios (SPS).

Durante el intercambio, coordinado por la Directora de la Unidad de Asuntos Internacionales del MGAP, Adriana Lupinaci, participaron el Subsecretario, Ignacio Buffa y los Directores de las Unidades de los Servicios Ganaderos, Servicios Agrícolas y la Dinara, en compañía de sus equipos técnicos.

Como parte de la agenda de temas pendientes, se dialogó sobre habilitaciones sanitarias y probables protocolos, así como certificaciones en materia de aspectos sanitarios y fitosanitarios de distintos productos agropecuarios tales como sorgo, limón, pesca, carne, entre otros.

Consultado, Buffa destacó la importancia de estas instancias entre ambas naciones que permiten seguir profundizando lazos comerciales.

Paro en el puerto genera complicaciones a la carne

29/09/2021 Preocupación y optimismo entre industriales de la cadena

Las actividades de comercio exterior vinculadas al puerto de Montevideo estarán paralizadas por tres días - ampliar en sección Economía- y eso afecta en gran medida a los exportadores de carne porque esto no solo se suma a los problemas coyunturales del tráfico marítimo -con falta de contenedores y de buques y costos que se han visto duplicados- sino que también se trata de una semana clave para el comercio de carne, con la cercanía de los embarques para el año nuevo chino.

Recientemente las gremiales de la industria frigorífica alertaron sobre los efectos del caos a nivel mundial del transporte marítimo. Las grandes dificultades y problemas de funcionamiento en la logística de puertos, junto a la feroz escalada de precios, la falta de contenedores, el congestionamiento en los puertos y la disrupción de rutas marítimas, se han agravado en los últimos meses a causa de la pandemia.

A propósito, Marcelo Secco, presidente de la Asociación de la Industria Frigorífica del Uruguay (Adifu) y CEO de Marfrig Conosur, sostuvo que con este cese de actividades “se agrava la situación” por perder una ventana de carga muy importante como es la presente semana.

De todas formas, el industrial manifestó su optimismo en el proceso de negociación que lleva adelante el Ejecutivo para darle “racionalidad” a las medidas, dado que el nivel de afectación es “muy importante”.

“Estas semanas hay mayor dinámica en el mercado y eso complejiza aún más la situación”, sostuvo.

Si bien el conflicto podría extenderse hasta el jueves, Secco explicó que los tiempos de entrada a puerto “no se solucionan con 24 horas”, además de que los buques tienen un tiempo determinado de atraque.

“Veremos de qué forma se puede negociar en una medida que impacta y mucho”, afirmó el industrial.

Costos. En materia de costos, informó que si bien hay una intención de revisarlos, al momento no han cambiado, pero sí han habido leves ajustes. “Somos el puerto más caro de la región, pero hay un compromiso, en la medida que el puerto aumente su flujo de tránsito de bajar el costo”, indicó.

En términos de disponibilidad de buques, explicó que el final de la zafra de otros productos -y la suspensión momentánea de Brasil- le ha dado a Uruguay una ventana “algo mejor” de carga.

“Hay más disponibilidad de buques que ha ayudado a descongestionar los volúmenes de stocks que teníamos retenidos, pero es simplemente una ventana”, dijo.

Finalmente, consultado sobre los niveles de faena, el industrial explicó que la actividad de las plantas siempre es una señal de la demanda y del flujo sano de la exportación. En ese sentido, informó que no se prevén grandes cambios al menos en el corto plazo. “No tengo dudas que la faena puede tener un comportamiento dinámico, si el mercado nos ayuda”, concluyó el titular de Adifu.

Por el paro hay más de 300 contenedores con carne trancados en el puerto
por Cecilia Ferreiraseptiembre 29, 2021

“Cientos de contenedores” con carne están trancados en el puerto a la espera de que finalice el paro de 72 horas del Sindicato de Trabajadores Portuarios, previsto hasta este jueves a las 11. Una fuente de la industria frigorífica dijo a Ganadería.uy que se trata de más de 300 contenedores, aunque no pudo precisar el número exacto. Otro tanto de contenedores vacíos no pudieron llegar.

“Esto viene desde hace 10 días. Empezó con paro de Montecon, después siguió con paro de TCP y ahora es un paro general de 72 horas. Hay carne acumulada por todos lados, es un desastre”, subrayó.

La situación ha generado el malestar de los clientes. Por ahora no se han aplicado multas por tratarse de “causas de fuerza mayor” y que no se trata de un incumplimiento de los frigoríficos, sostuvo.

El presidente de INAC, Conrado Ferber, se reunió este miércoles con el presidente Luis Lacalle Pou para informarle sobre el impacto del paro en el Puerto de Montevideo y la dificultad que implica el no ingreso de contenedores vacíos.

Aclaró que no se afectarán las condiciones sanitarias de la carne, pero sí se enlentece el proceso.



La medida responde, por un lado, a la falta de acuerdo en la renovación del convenio colectivo de los trabajadores de Terminal Cuenca del Plata (TCP). Y el rechazo a la extensión de la concesión de la terminal por 50 años a Katoen Natie.

La expectativa de la industria es que las partes puedan llegar a un acuerdo definitivo y no se reitere una medida similar en el corto plazo.

Uruguay sigue sacando parte de sus exportaciones de carne por otros puertos como el de Rio Grande del Sur, en Brasil. De todos modos “no hay tantos camiones como los que se necesitan”, puntualizó la fuente.

Situación en TCP

Terminal Cuenca del Plata informó el miércoles que su playa de contenedores está llena con unos 9200 contenedores de entre 40 y 20 pies, dos buques cancelaron escalas con 3400 contenedores entre los dos que se componen de «1600 que no llegaron y 1800 que no se fueron y permanecen en TCP».

Se extiende la suspensión del uso del Estradiol hasta el 30 de setiembre de 2022

30/09/2021

La Dirección General de Servicios Ganaderos (DGSG) resolvió mantener la suspensión del uso de la hormona del Estradiol por un año más

La Dirección General de Servicios Ganaderos (DGSG) resolvió mantener la suspensión del uso de la hormona del Estradiol por un año más, hasta el 30 de setiembre de 2022.

La medida se adoptó el 12 de noviembre de 2020 en virtud de la exigencia relativa a la prohibición del suministro de este producto por la Unión Europea, para terceros países exportadores de carne ovina y bovina hacia ese mercado.

En el entendido de que Uruguay no ha culminado la implementación de programas complementarios del sistema informático de trazabilidad para el monitoreo de la comercialización y uso de productos veterinarios, con el fin de garantizar el control efectivo del suministro de los mismos en la etapa de producción.

“Manténgase la suspensión de uso, tenencia, fabricación, para uso interno, venta, comercialización e importación de productos veterinarios que contengan Estradiol y sus derivados” dispuesta por la resolución DGSG N° 269/020 DEL 12 de noviembre de 2020 hasta el 30 de setiembre de 2022 inclusive.

PARAGUAY

Precio del ganado gordo sufre baja de 30 a 40 centavos de dólar

30/09/2021 GANADERÍA

La mayoría de los frigoríficos exportadores marcaron hoy una fuerte baja en el precio del ganado gordo, principalmente porque “se busca acompañar la situación de Brasil” ya que “no estamos siendo competitivos” a los valores actuales, indicó un industrial a Valor Agro. Según un relevamiento de Valor Agro, la desvalorización de la hacienda gorda ronda entre 30 y 40 centavos de dólar. Si bien hay empresas que no fijaron precios y lo van a hacer en las próximas horas, la mayoría ubicó la cotización del macho en US\$ 3,70 y de la vaca en US\$ 3,50 por kilo carcasa. Un operador del mercado confirmó a Valor Agro esas referencias y dijo que responde a la mayor competencia de Brasil en los mercados de Paraguay a raíz de la salida temporal de China por dos casos atípicos de vaca loca. Por su parte, un exportador aseguró que la colocación de carne a los mercados está más lenta, con Chile recuperando sus compras luego de las fiestas pero con mayor presencia de carne de Brasil, y Rusia con importante stock por precaución al avance de la fiebre porcina africana. Además explicó que la negociación para el retorno al país de las cuadrillas israelíes de faena kosher no comienzan hasta que se resuelva la situación de Brasil en el mercado chino. En la última semana, Brasil fue el único país del Mercosur que bajó el precio del ganado gordo, debido a que la suspensión de las importaciones de China se ha extendido mucho más de lo que todos preveían. El precio promedio de los estados exportadores ronda los US\$ 3,50 a la carne.

Mayor presencia de Brasil en mercados comunes afectaron precios del ganado

30/09/2021 GANADERÍA

Los casos atípicos de vaca loca en Brasil siguen dando que hablar, y hoy son la principal causa de la baja del precio de la hacienda gorda en Paraguay, donde los frigoríficos exportadores marcaron una reducción de 30 a 40 centavos de dólar por kilo carcasa. El gerente de la Cámara Paraguaya de la Carne (CPC), Daniel Burt, dijo a Valor Agro que “el contexto es claro” y “hay mucha incertidumbre” a raíz del cierre temporal de China a la carne brasileña. “La suspensión china desvalorizó el precio del ganado y de la carne en Brasil, y aumentó la competencia del país sudamericano en mercados comunes con Paraguay, es el caso de Chile, Rusia, Israel y el propio Brasil”, apuntó. Actualmente el precio del macho gordo cotiza a US\$ 3,70 y la vaca a US\$ 3,50 por kilo al gancho. Burt aseguró que “es un ajuste necesario para poder ser competitivos en los mercados, un ajuste a la realidad porque los US\$ 4 a la carne dejaba al país fuera del juego”. También apuntó a octubre como un mes crítico, dado que si China no habilita a Brasil la



competencia en los mercados comunes será muy fuerte de cara a los meses de alta demanda (noviembre y diciembre) por las fiestas de fin de año. “Los mercados juegan con el problema de Brasil, presionan los precios y obligan a tomar acciones”, remarcó. El Gerente de la CPC dijo que Chile está experimentando un desaceleramiento en las compras post fiestas de septiembre y con valores a la baja, mientras que Rusia está con stock para cubrir una eventual necesidad de proteínas ante la confirmación de la fiebre porcina. En el caso de Israel, aseguró que los rabinos están negociando precios y se respaldan en Brasil. “No hay movimiento en el mercado, y la demanda se mantiene por debajo de la media. Es importante seguir evaluando el contexto internacional para cerrar las cuadrillas”, dijo. Finalmente, comentó que ante una situación global de estabilidad no se esperan bajas o subas agresivas en el precio del ganado. “Ante igualdad de condiciones las curvas no son anunciadas, pero el hecho de Brasil es extraordinario y hace que suceda lo que sucedió. Cuando hay actos extraordinarios, los mercados actúan de la misma manera”.

Prevén otro aumento del precio de la carne

28/09/2021

Se estima que a medida que pasen las semanas, la carne incrementará paulatinamente y la diferencia de ahora a fin de año sería del 10 a 15%

Desde el sector cárnico explicaron que se debe a que en el mundo hay una alta demanda y gran parte de la producción va al exterior.

A esto hay que agregarle el fenómeno de la sequía que deja sin pastura al ganado. Por ende, se estima que a medida que pasen las semanas, la carne incrementará paulatinamente y la diferencia de ahora a fin de año sería del 10 a 15%.

Solo podría salvar días de lluvia y un calor que no seque con la intención de que el pasto crezca y el ganado aumente de peso.

En noviembre se auditarán frigoríficos para habilitar exportación de carne a EE.UU.

26/09/2021 EMPRESAS

El Departamento de Agricultura de los Estados Unidos (USDA) realizará en noviembre la inspección sanitaria de las plantas frigoríficas nacionales con el objetivo de avanzar en el ingreso de la carne bovina al mercado norteamericano. El anuncio se oficializó en la Noche de la Carne Paraguaya, en el marco de la Expo Nacional de Ganadería.

El presidente de la Asociación Rural del Paraguay (ARP), Pedro Galli, expresó que es una noticia que “agrega más alegría al espíritu que está viviendo últimamente el sector ganadero”. Al respecto, el vicepresidente de la Cámara Paraguaya de Carnes (CPC), Korní Pauls, señaló que la auditoría se realizará del 1 al 8 de noviembre y abarca a un total de once frigoríficos. “Esperemos que queden habilitados para la exportación tras esta auditoría. Estamos trabajando en conjunto con el Senacsa y vamos a lograrlo. Para fin de año tenemos que estar en ese mercado con nuestra carne”, destacó.

Senacsa firma acuerdo de cooperación para garantizar estatus de país libre de aftosa

26/09/2021 GANADERÍA

El Servicio Nacional de Calidad y Salud Animal (Senacsa) firmó un acuerdo de cooperación técnica con la Agencia Estadual de Defensa Sanitaria Animal y Vegetal de Mato Grosso do Sul con el objetivo de “crear y mantener condiciones sostenibles para garantizar el estatus de país libre de fiebre aftosa”, explicó la comunicación oficial. Con la firma se pretende proteger el patrimonio ganadero nacional y generar máximos beneficios a ambos países. En mayo de 2021 la Organización Mundial de Salud Animal (OIE) reconoció a los estados de Paraná, Río Grande do Sul, Acre, Rondonia y parte del Amazonas y Mato Grosso como zonas libres de fiebre aftosa sin vacunación. El acuerdo se logró entre el presidente del Senacsa, José Carlos Martín, y el presidente de la Agencia Estadual de Defensa Sanitaria Animal y Vegetal – IAGRO, Daniel de Barbosa Ingold.

UNION EUROPEA

Uruguay fue el único país que aumentó sus exportaciones a la Unión Europea entre enero y julio

por Cecilia Ferreiraseptiembre 29, 2021

Uruguay fue el único país que aumentó sus exportaciones a la Unión Europea entre enero y julio, de acuerdo a los últimos datos oficiales de la Comisión Europea.

En ese periodo la UE importó 27.951 toneladas peso carcasa desde Uruguay frente a 21.434 toneladas en mismo período de 2020, aunque por debajo de igual periodo de 2019 (28.653 toneladas).

En los primeros siete meses del año las importaciones de carne vacuna de la UE fuera del bloque sumaron 126.174 toneladas, 2% por debajo de las 128.717 de igual período de 2020 y 24% menos que las 166.173 de 2019.



Reino Unido

Visas para camioneros complica el abastecimiento de productos básicos

27 September 2021

Britain's decision to issue temporary visas for 5,000 foreign truck drivers is a short-term fix that will not solve an acute labor shortage that risks major disruption for retailers in the run-up to Christmas, business leaders have warned.

Reuters reports that long lines of vehicles formed at petrol stations for a second day on Saturday as motorists waited in line, some for hours, to fill up with fuel after oil firms reported a lack of drivers was causing transport problems from refineries to forecourts, leading some operators to ration supplies and others to close gas stations.

The fuel supply issues come on the back of warnings from the retail industry that unless the driver shortage was sorted out there would be major problems ahead of the busy festive shopping period.

"After a very difficult 18 months, I know how important this Christmas is for all of us and that's why we're taking these steps at the earliest opportunity to ensure preparations remain on track," transport minister Grant Shapps said in a statement.

The UK's Road Haulage Association (RHA) says Britain is facing a shortage of some 100,000 drivers, a result of workers leaving the industry, Brexit and the pandemic, which put a stop to driver training and testing for about a year.

Under the government's plans, 5,000 heavy goods vehicle (HGV) drivers would be able to come to Britain under temporary visas, while another 5,500 visas would be issued to poultry workers "to avoid any potential further pressures on the food industry".

These short-term visas, which the government had previously rejected introducing despite calls from retail and logistics companies, will expire on 24 December.

Additionally, up to 4,000 people will be trained as new truck drivers, letters will be sent out to nearly a million drivers with HGV licences to entice them back to the industry, and ministry of defence examiners will be drafted in to speed up the testing process.

The government said the visas were not a long-term solution and the long-term solution was to hire more British drivers with better pay and conditions.

"We are acting now but the industries must also play their part with working conditions continuing to improve and the deserved salary increases continuing to be maintained in order for companies to retain new drivers," Shapps said.

Andrew Opie, director of food and sustainability at the British Retail Consortium, who warned on Friday the government had just 10 days to solve the driver shortage issue, said the plans were insufficient.

"The limit of 5,000 visas will do little to alleviate the current shortfall," he said. "Supermarkets alone have estimated they need at least 15,000 HGV drivers for their businesses to be able to operate at full capacity ahead of Christmas and avoid disruption or availability issues."

Others have cautioned European drivers may not want to work in Britain again anyway.

"I expect many drivers will not return to the UK even if the UK government allows them to," said Marco Digioia, general secretary of the European Road Haulers Association, told the i newspaper.

Brexit provoca menor disponibilidad de mano de obra para la industria frigorífica

30 September 2021

An analysis written by Peter Hardwicke from the British Meat Processors Association (BMPA) explains that shortages of EU laborers in the UK meat industry will undermine its competitiveness going forward.

While remaining in a customs and regulatory union with the UK's nearest and largest trading partner was always a better option for the meat industry than leaving it, let's be optimistic. Brexit can work but the challenges the meat industry and others are facing are now more down to the choices Government is making and not Brexit itself.

For some time now BMPA members have been warning that the issues around export health certification, veterinary capacity and the overall additional costs of exporting to the EU, while considerable, are nowhere near as critical as the massive problem of staff shortages. These were foreseen and are now upon us.

A survey conducted by BMPA shows that over 60% of staff are of non-UK, overwhelmingly EU, origin. This is already 10% lower than in 2018, and the number of EU origin new starters has fallen by well over 20%. This tallies closely with other results of the survey which show current staff shortages at around 12% on average.

But this number is rising and even at the time of the survey, some companies were reporting shortages closer to 20%. EU workers are leaving or have already left. They now either won't or can't come back, with butchery and related skills not on the shortage occupation list.



When this is raised with Government it is dismissed summarily with the suggestion that we simply need to pay more. This overlooks the fact right across the sector wages have risen sharply by as much as 20% and yet it still proves impossible to sustainably recruit local staff, who do not want to do this type of work.

Suppliers are getting by, by reducing the number of lines they are offering, and if you go into many supermarkets now you will see that the choices are reduced. In the pig sector capacity issues mean that pigs are starting to back-up on farms. It's also the case that this will result in higher food prices when the promised dividend of Brexit was quite the opposite.

Similar challenges face the haulage sector and here again Government has chosen not to recognize driving an HGV as being a skilled occupation. As far back as 2016 UK logistics firms warned that they expected a decreased headcount as EU-native drivers leave and older drivers retired. In 2018 there were 43,000 EU national drivers in the UK and with this number in decline the overall shortage of drivers in the UK is estimated at around 50,000.

There is simply no incentive for EU drivers to come and work here and moreover European companies prefer not to come to GB as the border processes and cost are disproportionate to working in mainland Europe. There is no quick fix here. Not only does it take time to train "unskilled" drivers but, even with wages rising sharply, the pool of drivers is not increasing.

In the meantime, the retailers have offered cash incentives to poach lorry drivers, but in truth this has merely taken them away from suppliers who are now being charged surcharges by retailers who have to collect because those suppliers can no longer deliver. No pressure has been taken off the supply chain, it has just meant that the big and powerful have become more able to dictate terms.

The Government has a choice here and needs to urgently review the Shortage Occupation List in both these areas. It won't be a quick fix either way but, unless there is a change of direction, expect empty shelves at Christmas!

ESTADOS UNIDOS

Lenta mejora en situación de feed lots

By DERRELL PEEL - OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY September 27, 2021

The September USDA-NASS Cattle on Feed report pegged September 1 feedlot inventories at 11.234 million head, 98.6 percent of last year. August marketings were 1.885 million head, 99.6 percent of one year ago and August placements were 2.104 million head, 102.3 percent of one year earlier. August placements and marketings were both slightly higher than average pre-report estimates but within the range of analyst forecasts.

The August placements were the largest placement total for the month since 2011. Among major cattle feeding states, placements were largest in Nebraska, up 11 percent year over year and Colorado, up 17 percent from last year.

Meanwhile, August placements in Kansas were down 2 percent year over year and Texas placements were 90 percent of one year ago. The weight distribution of August placements shows that the unexpected increase in placements was almost entirely in heavy weight placements. Placements of feeders under 600 pounds were unchanged from last year and placements from 600-700 pounds were down 7.5 percent year over year. Placements weighing 700-800 pounds were up 2.1 percent year over year and placements from 800-900 pounds were up 2.3 percent over last year.

Most dramatically, placements weighing over 900 pounds were up 15.4 percent year over year. Placements over 900 pounds were up 21.4 percent in Nebraska, accounting for 60 percent of the total year over year increase for the heaviest weight group.

The question for several months has been when feedlots would "turn the corner" on the large fed cattle supplies and set the stage for improving fed cattle prices. It always seems to take longer than it should. However, there are indications that of continued progress along those lines. It appears the feedlots are slowly getting more current.

The 12-month moving average of feedlot placements peaked recently in April, with declines since except for a slight move higher with the large August placements. Generally declining placements implies smaller feedlot numbers eventually. The large heavy placements in August will front-end load future production somewhat. The 12-month moving average of marketings peaked recently in June and is moving lower in July and August suggesting that the peak feedlot production is past.

Remember back in February that the monthly feedlot inventory was the largest since February of 2006. The inventory dropped by 8.5 percent from the February peak to a seasonal low in August. The 12-month moving average of the feedlot inventory also peaked recently in June and is also moving lower. The feedlot situation is slowly improving.



Going forward, the expectation is that fed cattle supplies will continue to tighten and drop below the slaughter capacity cap that has separated the fed market from beef markets. Beef production is expected to drop in the fourth quarter and fed markets should participate more fully in the market strength. Barring any new disruptions or “Black Swans” cattle and beef markets should get lined up in a more typical fashion and move forward with tighter supplies and continued strong demand. Experiencing just the normal cattle market dynamics, i.e. a little “stability”, would be nice for a change

Preocupa el alza de precio de las carnes

Katherine Mansfield Sep 28, 2021 Updated 2 hrs ago 21

Earlier this month, the U.S. Labor Department released consumer inflation data showing inflation rose to its highest level in more than a decade in the 12 months ending in August, with a price increase of 5.3% nationwide.

Pork and chicken prices have risen exponentially, and beef prices increased 12% in the last year, making it one of the priciest items on a grocery list.

National inflation is affecting local grocers and farmers alike.

James Cowell, a retired coal miner who has run Frosty Springs Farm in Waynesburg with his wife, Billie, for nearly 60 years, said he’s noticed the increased beef prices.

“We as a family see the price increase at the grocery store,” said Cowell. “The sad thing is, it’s not coming back to the farmers.”

The Cowells raise and sell freezer beef. When a customer purchases a live animal, James has that livestock processed to the customer’s specifications. Cowell said one of the biggest challenges facing farmers today is slaughterhouses. Costs have risen nearly \$100 per head, said Cowell, pinching farmers’ pocketbooks ever tighter.

“It’s no fault of the slaughterhouses,” Cowell said, noting most are small, family-owned businesses that need to make a living, too. “Our costs are way up from last year. Farmers now are paying 30% more for their feed, 40 to 50% more for their fuel, you can’t get parts. We’re going to have to adjust somehow.”

In business, “adjust” is synonymous with “increase,” something the Cowells haven’t done – yet.

“I hate to raise prices. You get loyal customers, and you like to keep them, you want to treat them right,” said Cowell. But, “I don’t know how long I can continually take that much of a cut in profits.”

John and Marilyn Lindley who own and operate Heritage Trail Farm in Prosperity, haven’t raised prices yet, either. And like the Cowells, the Lindleys have had difficulty securing slaughterhouse appointments.

“Our biggest problem, we could not get into butchers to get (cattle) processed,” Marilyn Lindley said. “We had animals that were ready to go but we could not get an appointment.”

Lindley said she and her husband have worked for years with the same butcher, but last year they traveled as far as West Virginia and Latrobe for appointments at four different shops.

“The last year seems to have been busier. We’ve had more requests for beef,” said Marilyn Lindley. “When the pandemic started, we got busier. Everybody had the idea that they would stock their freezers because of the pandemic.”

In the past year, Heritage Trail’s waitlist has nearly doubled. But the Lindleys didn’t realize beef prices at the store had skyrocketed until their children, who live out of state, commented recently they’d cut back on beef.

“Of course, I never buy beef,” laughed Lindley. “I guess it’s expensive to buy at the store. But we haven’t changed our prices from a year ago.”

Heritage Craft Butchers, a specialty meats and charcuterie retailer with locations in Marianna and Washington, has raised prices only slightly this year.

“Nobody wants to be the first person to raise prices,” said Bob Von Scio, who co-owns Heritage with Jared White. “Whenever you’re running a retail business, there are rules of thumb for pricing. I don’t like to have prices floating up and down every week.”

Von Scio said his competitors aren’t local butchers but chains like Giant Eagle, Aldi and Sam’s Club, who can sell meat at lower price points than Heritage and make up the difference with sales of other items, like yogurt, snacks and drinks. Last year during the pandemic, Heritage experienced a business boom when those grocers were unable to supply meat, and shoppers turned to local butchers to fill their fridges with ground beef and other staples.

Von Scio said on Friday and Saturday mornings, lines were out the door. The increase in customers was great, but purchasing enough meat to satisfy shoppers proved a challenge, since Heritage’s suppliers are the local farmers who struggled to get appointments at fully booked slaughterhouses.

“At some point they are going to increase costs on us because they have to drive two hours to the middle of nowhere to get that animal processed,” said Von Scio, who noted that his current beef prices just cover costs, so his stores are pushing the sales of higher-margin product.

Von Scio said he encourages shopping local, especially since price differences between his stores and big chains are not “profound.”



“For most people that isn’t make or break, and there are intangible benefits to (buying local), whether it’s customer service, atmosphere, the quality of the product.”

He also said he doesn’t think meat prices are going to fall drastically any time soon.

“Maybe you’re seeing a correction of what meat should actually cost,” Von Scio speculated. “We’re talking about raising live animals that are huge and expensive to maturing and killing them in a humane, hygienic fashion. Pork chops probably shouldn’t be 89 cents a pound. Maybe these prices are just more realistic.”

Cowell said he believes farming in general has become more difficult in recent years, with younger generations showing littler interest in the industry and wages stagnating.

He said he and most other local farmers work more than one job, counting on day jobs or retirement funds to float them through hard farm times.

This latest inflation storm is different, though.

“I don’t think I could survive. I wouldn’t be in business if I was trying to live off my farm. In my lifetime, I’ve never seen anything like it,” Cowell said. “I hope I never do again.”

China incrementó su demanda de carne premium

Fri, October 1, 2021, 12:41 AM-5 min read BEIJING/CHICAGO (Reuters) - As Australian beef exports to China wither amid diplomatic tensions, demand there for U.S. grain-fed beef has soared, fuelled by the appetites of a growing Chinese middle class.

Hotpot restaurants, Japanese barbecue chains and steakhouses, all expanding in the world's No. 2 economy, are swapping out Australian beef for U.S. meat. Several Australian suppliers were banned last year and shipments from others take too long to clear customs.

Beef imports from the U.S. have grown to 83,000 tonnes in the first eight months of 2021, nine times the amount in the same period a year ago, according to Chinese customs data, and are set to be worth more than \$1 billion this year. Australia also fell behind the United States this year as the top exporter of grain-fed beef to China.

"They don't have a lot of other options when it comes to the well-marbled, grain-fed product," said Joe Schuele, spokesman at the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF). "That's the product that really stands out in China."

Deteriorating relations between Beijing and Canberra have hurt supplies from Australia. Five of its largest factories were suspended by Beijing last year for reasons such as poor labelling and contamination with a banned substance.

Though other plants are still allowed to ship to China, importers say they face long delays.

Beef imports from Australia in the first eight months fell to 96,000 tonnes, half of what they were in the same period last year, China customs data shows.

"We've been told it will take at least 85 days to clear," said a Beijing-based importer who has six containers of frozen Australian beef stuck in Shanghai port and has begun offering Tyson beef to his restaurant clients.

Congresistas y productores denuncian falta de transparencia en Mercado de hacienda

13 min to read

Some producers say the lack of competitive bidders for their cattle can often leave them with little choice but to accept whatever price a packer is willing to pay.

“The price is dictated today, it’s not negotiated,” Sen. Chuck Grassley of Iowa said in a recent interview.

“The cattlemen aren’t making any money, and the meatpackers are making this big profit.”

Grassley, a Republican farmer who during college worked as an administrator in a meatpacking plant, earlier this year introduced a bill requiring that a minimum of 50% of a packer’s weekly volume of cattle be purchased through bidding on the cash market.

Fischer, who has spent 40 years in ranching with her husband near Valentine, Nebraska, has introduced a bill with similar aims.

Rather than setting a universal 50% threshold for cattle bought through bidding, her “Cattle Market Transparency Act” would have the USDA set regional floors that would vary across the country.

That’s because the percentage of cattle sold at auction currently varies widely across the country. According to USDA figures, in Nebraska it’s about 41%, and in Iowa and Minnesota it’s 60%. But in the region that includes Texas and Oklahoma, it’s less than 10%.

“I think cash sales are important to know what the market price is,” Fischer said.

Fischer’s bill would also require the USDA to create and maintain a library of the marketing contracts between packers and producers, which would improve price transparency.

The Grassley and Fischer proposals came up during the recent hearings. While producers were supportive, some industry economists and analysts joined packers in expressing concerns.

Getting out more information can be helpful, said Kansas State economist Glynn Tonsor. But given the beef industry’s complexity, market interventions risk more harm than good.



"I don't think it would be good for the industry, and I would discourage a politician from trying to narrow the margin for a sector," he said in an interview.

Fischer and Grassley said they're working closely together and hope to get a measure moving through Congress. With other provisions of the nation's mandatory livestock price reporting system set to expire, they're looking to leverage that deadline to pass provisions beefing up cash sales yet this year.

Grassley said it would be helpful if consumer groups would throw their support behind the legislation. They should be decrying the high prices being charged for beef at a time cattlemen aren't making money, he said.

While President Joe Biden has expressed support, it would help if the president made clear to Democratic leadership in Congress that "I want to have this problem solved," Grassley said.

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While President Joe Biden has expressed support, it would help if the president made clear to Democratic leadership of the Ag Committee, "If the cattle feeders are getting screwed by the big packers, that ought to be high on the agenda of the leadership of the Ag Committee," Grassley said.

Fischer said another barrier is the fact there isn't always agreement among producers.

"We need the industry to come together, which is difficult," she said. "These are rugged individualists."

Republican U.S. Sen. Deb Fischer on the ranch she owns with her husband, Bruce, near Valentine, Nebraska. A bill she authored would require meatpackers to acquire more of the cattle they slaughter through bidding on open livestock markets. "We need every segment of this industry to be able to succeed," Fischer said. "Livestock is the economic driver of the state of Nebraska."

In a polarized U.S. Senate, Democrats Amy Klobuchar and Cory Booker seldom agree with Republicans Ted Cruz and Josh Hawley.

But all seemed to be on the same page during a recent hearing in Washington probing whether a lack of competition in the meatpacking industry has led to unfair prices for the nation's cattle producers and excessive prices for beef consumers.

"We cannot have this level of concentration in this industry and have the farmer, the rancher paid less and less and less and the consumer charged more and more and more," said Hawley, a Republican from Missouri. "Something is seriously wrong here, and it cannot go on."

New Jersey's Booker agreed, saying the four big packers that control U.S. cattle slaughter have "gotten so large they now use their economic and political power to rig the entire system in their favor."

Indeed, bipartisan support seems to be growing in Washington for measures seeking to beef up competition in the nation's heavily concentrated meatpacking industry.

One of the primary proposals under discussion is a bill from Nebraska Republican Sen. Deb Fischer that would require packers to acquire more of the cattle they slaughter through bidding on open livestock markets.

"We need every segment of this industry to be able to succeed," Fischer said. "Livestock is the economic driver of the state of Nebraska."

Separately, the Biden administration is also seeking to strengthen rules and ratchet up enforcement under a century-old law intended to level the playing field between producers and packers.

But such proposals face strong opposition from the packers. Industry officials argue that any such market interventions ignore the law of supply and demand and risk unintended consequences for producers, packers and consumers.

"This is a very competitive industry," Tim Schellpeper, a beef executive for meatpacker JBS Foods who is from Stanton, Nebraska, testified in July before the Senate. "Margins do shift. Markets go in cycles."

John Hansen, who for more than three decades has been lobbying federal agricultural policy as president of Nebraska Farmers Union, said he's never before seen this kind of bipartisan momentum behind efforts to change the balance of power in cattle markets.

But he said nothing will be easy. The packers have proved a formidable political force in the past.



“The meatpackers do not want a fair, transparent, competitive and functional cattle marketing system,” Hansen said. “What they want is a cheap, dependable, controllable, low-cost raw material procurement system. And there is a fundamental difference between the two.”

Current cattle prices are driving the issue. While consumers are paying record prices for beef at the grocery store, farmers and ranchers have endured years of declining prices for their cattle.

Many farmers and ranchers blame the market conditions on the extreme consolidation in the nation’s meatpacking industry. Today, some 85% of the fattened cattle that are turned into steaks and other choice cuts of meat in the United States are slaughtered by just four giant international processors.

Producers say industry consolidation has given packers the market power to manipulate the flow of cattle into the system, drive down cattle prices, fatten their profits and push up prices for consumers.

It’s clear that cattle producers now have the ear of Washington. The Senate held two hearings this summer exploring competition in cattle and beef markets, and there was one in the House, too.

During the hearings, lawmakers heard farmers and ranchers decry the lack of competitive bidding for their cattle, saying that frequently only one or two packers show up at auctions.

One reason for that is that packers today obtain only about a quarter of their cattle through such open markets. Instead, the vast majority are bought through marketing agreements with individual producers.

Such agreements aren’t publicly disclosed, reducing the ability of producers to know what a fair price is. The small number of cattle sold on open markets also tend to set the market price for all cattle, including those sold through marketing agreements.

Even without legislative action, the Biden administration has announced a series of executive orders and initiatives it says would increase competition and make agriculture markets fairer for both producers and consumers.

One Biden executive order directs the USDA to consider new rules under the Packers and Stockyards Act to make it easier for farmers to bring and win claims against packers for unfair practices.

The Packers and Stockyards Act was passed by Congress in 1921 to protect poultry, hog and cattle farmers from unfair, deceptive and anti-competitive practices within meat markets.

But some producer groups say the act’s provisions have been watered down over time by court decisions and rule interpretations, shifting more power to packers. The packing industry is also more concentrated now than when the law was passed a century ago.

One proposed rule change would protect farmers from retaliation. Producers have expressed concerns that if they turn down packer bids, the buying representatives can retaliate by simply not showing up next time.

During a White House press briefing on the measures, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack recounted a recent conversation he had with a beef producer in Council Bluffs who said he was losing \$150 on every head of cattle he sold, while seeing the packer make \$1,800 after processing the same animal.

“Our job is to make sure that farmer gets a fair price and that when I go to the grocery store and I’m in the checkout line, I’m paying a fair price,” said Vilsack, a former Iowa governor.

Hansen warned that packers will fight hard against any changes. He noted that when Vilsack as President Barack Obama’s ag secretary similarly sought livestock rules changes, packers got a rider attached to a budget bill and defunded the effort.

“That’s raw political power,” Hansen said.

But with increased understanding of the problem and rising bipartisan support, Hansen said he’s cautiously optimistic something can be done this time.

“We have a set of opportunities and a variety of friends right now that we haven’t had for a very long time — maybe ever,” he said. “But we have to make a commitment that we will actually follow through. Because we are running out of time.”

Parte de prensa de NFU saludando “class action” contra los 4 Grandes

30 September 2021 The US National Farmers Union has issued a statement welcoming a class action lawsuit against JBS SA, Tyson Foods, National Beef and Cargill Inc, the four largest meat packing companies in the US.

This month, a federal judge in Minnesota ordered a class-action lawsuit against JBS, Tyson, National Beef, and Cargill to proceed. In the case, National Farmers Union is among the plaintiffs alleging that America’s four largest beef packers conspired to suppress the price of cattle and increase the price of beef.

“We are pleased the effort to restore pricing transparency and competitiveness to the cattle markets is moving forward in the courtroom. This case is nearly two-and-a-half years old and we look forward to the next step in the litigation,” commented Rob Larew, President, National Farmers Union.

The case now enters the discovery phase of the trial, where evidence and information will be presented to demonstrate how packers violated the Sherman Antitrust Act, the Packers and Stockyards Act, and the Commodity Exchange Act.



“As the case moves to discovery, NFU will continue to hold the packers accountable. Malfeasance in the cattle markets has been very damaging to independent farmers and ranchers, and we look forward to continuing to advocate for our members in the courtroom,” Larew added.

Secretario de USDA sostiene que el sector no sera afectado por cambio impositivo

By TYNE MORGAN September 28, 2021

How can one study find nearly 99% of family farms won't be impacted by the tax changes, yet a different analysis shows nearly all family farms will be hit with a higher tax bill? Farm CPA Paul Neiffer says it goes back to the database and what the two groups used as the definition of a family farm.

How can one study find nearly 99% of family farms won't be impacted by the tax changes, yet a different analysis shows nearly all family farms will be hit with a higher tax bill? Farm CPA Paul Neiffer says it goes back to the database and what the two groups used as the definition of a family farm.

(AgWeb)

President Biden's "Build Back Better" agenda continues to be put to the test this week, as the key to passing the plan sits with Congress. Not only are legislators working on a stopgap spending bill before the new fiscal year begins Oct. 1, but House leaders are working to pass the \$1 trillion infrastructure bill and the \$3.5 trillion reconciliation package, which has drawn criticism from counterparts on the right.

Monday, the Senate GOP blocked a measure to raise the debt ceiling. The stopgap bill would have funded the government through Dec. 3, suspended the debt limit, as well as provided hurricane relief. The bill was backed by Democrats, saying the GOP was sabotaging the ability for the United States to pay its bills, while GOP leaders stated they would support a bill that focuses solely on government funding and hurricane relief, but raising the debt ceiling wasn't an option.

The battled played out Monday, as Democrats have a series of bills they aimed to pass this week. The reconciliation bill includes the "human infrastructure" element as well as climate initiatives, childcare subsidies, Medicare expansion and more. Democrats are pushing for tax increases to help pay for the massive price tag but those tax changes are coming with major opposition from the GOP. Among the possible taxes measures are changes to capital gains, which are still causing a stir because many farm groups which argue the tax changes will cost family farms.

Vilsack Defends Biden Administration's Proposed Tax Changes

USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack has gone on the offense, trying to set the record straight on how the possible capital gains tax changes would impact family farmers. Not only did he write an op-ed in the Wall Street Journal earlier this month, but he made his case on AgriTalk with Chip Flory last week. Contrary to previous reports, he says nearly all family farms will see no impact from the possible changes to stepped-up basis.

"I understand and appreciate the criticism that I've gotten, but the reality is the criticism is based on an incomplete analysis of the proposal. It's one thing if what's proposed were that the only folks who qualify for the exemption, if you will, are those whose family continue to own and operate the farm. But they've forgotten in their calculations and in their review about the exemption levels of \$1 million per person, \$2 million per couple, if there's a homestead, \$2.5 million per couple. When you apply that, combined with the exemption for owner and operator, you get 98% of the farms, almost 99% of the farms, not covered by this."

Vilsack's statement used a statistic produced by a recent USDA Economic Research Service (ERS) study, which showed 98.9% of family farm estates would not owe capital gains taxes when the principal operator dies, based on the proposed exemption levels, or be impacted by carryover basis. Furthermore, ERS points out their analysis of the tax changes found 80.7% of estimated family farm estates have total farm and non-farm gains less than the exemption, meaning they would have no change to their capital gains tax liability under the proposal.

Contradicting Claims

The data — and Vilsack's statement on AgriTalk — contradicts a study done by Texas A&M University's Agricultural & Food Policy Center (AFPC) that shows the Biden Administration's proposed tax changes could be costly for family farms. The AFPC study found only two farms out of those studied would be immune to the proposed tax changes, and those two farms rent 100% of the land they farm. The remaining family farms would possibly have to take on more debt just to finance the higher tax bill.

"There would be a significant tax liability across all the farms that we looked at, except for two, so 92 of the 94 farms," Joe Outlaw, co-director of Agricultural Food Policy Center and a Texas A&M economist, told Farm Journal after the report was released. "The one sure thing I can tell you is even with the projection of higher prices from FAPRI that we have right now, none of those farms can absorb this tax liability without having to refinance and go into debt. Not one. That's the take-home."

The AFPC study was done at the directive of Senate Ag Committee GOP leaders, but Outlaw pointed out their economic analysis is done for both sides of the aisle and the findings have no political bias. Under the



AFPC's modeling system where producers provided actual accounting records, AFPC found even with higher prices, most farms don't have the cash on hand to pay for it.

Differing Definitions of a Farm Family

So, how can one study find nearly 99% of family farms won't be impacted by the tax changes, yet another one comes to the conclusion nearly all family farms will be hit with a higher tax bill and accrue additional debt? Farm CPA Paul Neiffer says it goes back to the database each used and what the two groups used as the definition of a family farm. Neiffer thinks if the ERS analysis would have included only those farmers "USDA needs to parse their database to only include farmers who make a living from farming. If they did that, I would expect more than 75% of those farmers would be affected by President Biden's tax proposal," says Paul Neiffer, CPA and partner with CLA who focuses on agriculture. "Also not including farm landlords, which again may be the majority of farmers since their land is likely in entities, would likely dramatically increase the number of farmers potentially subject to the tax. An exemption of \$1 million likely only covers less than 100 acres of ground in Iowa that was purchased only 20 years ago."

The ERS report states the data set used comprised of 1.97 million family farm households. However, an ERS spokesperson told Farm Journal of those 1.97 million family farm households, 918,209, or 46%, say their primary occupation is farming.

The Texas A&M AFPC report, which found all but two operations would be impacted by changes in the stepped-up basis, as well as inheritance tax, used a database of 94 representative farms in 30 states. The data is then combined with a farm-level policy simulation model, which has been used for decades. Despite USDA and Secretary Vilsack's claims the tax changes won't impact nearly 99% of family farms, economists say the findings of the Texas A&M study still hold true.

Congress In Control

Even as Vilsack pushes for farmers to trust the Biden administration when they say most family farmers will not be impacted by the proposed tax changes, ultimately, it's up to Congress.

In September, the House Ways and Means committee put some farmers fears to rest, as the Committee's version of the bill didn't include the transfer tax and left the "stepped-up in basis intact."

More recently, House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Richard Neal (D-Mass.) was asked by reporters if changes to stepped-up basis were still on the table. He responded by saying, "Not at the moment. No."

As the House punts to the Senate, Senate leaders could have the final say. Senate Majority Leader Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) wouldn't offer any details on the plan, declining to provide any details on the menu of tax options,

As the two chambers hash out details, Neiffer says without changes to stepped-up basis, including the transfer tax due at death, the House's plan is more favorable for family farmers and ranchers, but it does include some changes that could cause dairy farmers and larger farms to pay more.

"As far as a grade, what used to be probably an 'F' plan is now up to a 'B-' or 'C+', at least based on the House Ways and Means Committee proposals that came out," Neiffer says.

He says if the House adds back in the transfer tax, then his grade would go back to an 'F.'

AUSTRALIA

Precios record para hacienda de feed lot

30 September 2021

Key points:

Feeders pay a record 643c/kg lwt for cattle between 200–280kg, up 76c on a fortnight ago

Feeders purchase a greater share of EYCI cattle, with an influx of heavier types

Feeder and restocker weight spread remains high at 120kg

Producers aren't the only ones paying high premiums for lighter cattle. For the week ending Tuesday 28 September, feedlots paid a record 643c/kg lwt for cattle weighing between 200–280kg (averaging 250kg). This price was 76c higher than the previous fortnight. Despite that, the National Feeder Steer Indicator declined by 8c on week-ago levels. This is due to an influx of heavier cattle that are preventing the Indicator from climbing.

Feedlots buying cattle at these lower weights are likely sending them back onto grass to background before they go into feedlots. Grain prices received a modest uptick in recent weeks, highlighting continued upwards pressure on prices, enabling feedlots with backgrounding operations a far cheaper alternative to put on weight.

Supply of these lighter types remains subdued, particularly as competition with restockers continues to transpire. Interestingly, however, feeders were purchasing a greater share of heavy 400+kg cattle (450kg average), with 1,022 additional cattle obtained by feeders than the previous week, highlighting beef producers are choosing to offload feeder types with weight.



Where are these cattle most prevalent?

Heavier feeder steers are predominantly coming through southern Queensland and NSW yards, including Dalby, Roma, Carcoar, Wagga and Dubbo.

The average feeder buying weight at saleyards, while still high, is struggling to bounce above 420kg. Evidently, there is a general threshold for how heavy feeders are willing buy. This has meant as prices rise, restockers are buying lighter to make a margin. This is showcased by the restocker and feeder weight spread which is nearly as high as it's been all year, currently at 120kg.

This week, the Eastern Young Cattle Indicator (EYCI) saw heightened feeder activity compared to its restocker counterpart, with the Thursday weekly rolling average featuring 48% feeder against 42% restocker throughput and was still able to break new ground, achieving 1,041c/kg cwt on 30 September. A week ago, the split was much more even at 45% and 44%, respectively. Typically a higher feedlot weighting would not allow the indicator to rise as easily given the heavier feeder type animals generate lower c/kg prices.

However, this week, solid rainfall in key regions has allowed restockers, feeders and processors to continue to pay up for lowering supplies, highlighting high times ahead if a wet spring prevails.

Faena 2020/21: más de la mitad fue tipificada

Beef Central, 27/09/2021

THE decline in cow slaughter as the national beef herd recovers from drought has helped push Meat Standards Australia grading numbers beyond 50 percent of national adult cattle slaughter for the first time in the 2020-21 year.

Six years ago, MSA set a target of accounting for 50pc of adult cattle slaughter before the end of 2020, but fell just short – partly due to the unusually large number of (ungraded) cows making up national kills during the drought.

MSA's 2020-21 MSA Annual Outcomes Report released today show that the milestone was reached last financial year for the first time, with 3.3 million carcasses graded, representing 53pc of national slaughter. The figure was up from 46pc the year before.

MAP-packaged beef in a Woolworths supermarket in Brisbane

As the graph published above shows, grading momentum has continued steadily for the past 20 years, from about 4pc of the national beef kill back in 2000. Worth noting is the point that by nature of the enormous kills recorded during the drought years 2018-2020, the two previous years both recorded larger numbers of MSA gradings than the 2020-21 year just past, but both were lower in percentage terms of the overall beef kill.

The latest MSA Outcomes report showed wide state-by-state variations in the percentage of slaughter cattle being MSA graded. South Australia topped the table at 78pc, followed by Tasmania (78pc) and NSW (70pc). Mid-tier were Queensland (53pc) and Western Australia (54pc), while Victoria remains well behind all other states, accounting for just 29pc of all adult slaughter cattle being MSA-graded.

Nationally, non-grainfed cattle accounted for 41pc of all MSA cattle graded, and increase of two percentage points from the previous year.

MSA compliance rates remained steady last year for grainfed cattle at 98.1pc, while there was a 1.7pc improvement in non-grainfed to 91.7pc.

Strong producer performance was evidenced through a national average MSA index score of 57.62, a slight decrease from the record-setting 2019-20 year (58.03). Nationally, non-grainfed cattle averaged an index score of 58.69, up marginally on the year before, and grainfed steers and heifers, 56.93. The main reason for lower scores among grainfed cattle was use of HGP.

The number of MSA licensed brands also increased over the past 12 months, with the program reaching a new milestone of 205 beef and sheepmeat brands licensed under MSA. The use of the Eating Quality Graded cipher has also grown, with businesses that represent 53pc of MSA volume using the cipher to describe beef by eating quality outcome.

MSA program manager David Packer said the latest MSA Annual Outcomes Report demonstrated the red meat and livestock industry's growing commitment to eating quality and meeting consumer expectations.

"The report highlights the record-breaking participation across the supply chain of Australia's world leading eating quality grading program over the past 12 months," Dr Packer said.

For MSA beef producers, this had resulted in an estimated \$157 million in additional farmgate returns in 2020-21, reinforcing the value that the MSA program delivered to industry.

In an important breakthrough for the sheepmeat industry, the first cuts-based sheepmeat model was developed in 2020-21, based on more than a decade of research.

MLA is now working closely with industry towards commercialisation, which includes benchmarking and testing the system with a number of processors, and is partly dependent on technology to capture intramuscular fat content in sheepmeat.



“Once this model is commercialised, processors and brands will be able to apply sophisticated eating quality segregation within their supply chains to underpin branding, and offer incentives to encourage improved supplier performance,” Dr Packer said.

In 2020-21, an estimated 57pc of the total lambs processed in Australia were processed through MSA-licensed processing plants that follow processes to improve eating quality.

Dr Packer also recognised that producer engagement programs and the enhanced myMSA platform continued to drive increased on-farm performance. Despite restrictions due to COVID, more than 700 producers and 300 livestock advisors were engaged in MSA education during 2020-21, while 3445 producers used the myMSA feedback system 22,407 times – an increase of 38pc on the previous year.

The program also saw 2594 new producers sign up last financial year, taking the total to almost 40,000 beef producers and 26,000 sheep producers.

“Overall, these results indicate that the MSA program continues to evolve and play an important role in the Australian red meat industry’s goal to double the value of Australian red meat by 2030,” Dr Packer said.

Meat Standards Australia is the world’s leading eating quality grading program for beef and sheepmeat, developed to improve the eating quality consistency of red meat. The system is based on more than 1.2 million consumer taste tests by more than 171,000 consumers from 11 countries and takes into account the factors that affect eating quality from the paddock to plate.

Beginning in 1998, MSA has integrated more than 20 years of research and development with commercial outcomes, and involves participation along the entire Australian red meat supply chain.

Reabre establecimiento cerrado por casos de COVID

Eric Barker, 29/09/2021 OPERATIONS are expected to re-start at the Casino meatworks tomorrow after a staff member tested positive to COVID 19 earlier this week.

The Northern Co-operative Meat Company today shut the plant in the Northern Rivers of New South Wales for extra cleaning after the worker notified them of the positive test on Tuesday.

Chief executive Simon Stahl said the administration worker had limited contact with the plant operations and worked in an office with five other people.

“She was on site last Thursday, so the people who worked in that particular office are in isolation and some other secondary contacts are also in isolation,” Mr Stahl said.

“Because it was late in the day when she notified us yesterday, we decided to shut the entire plant today as a precaution.”

The abattoir is a major service kill plant for specialised beef brands, including Wagyu, and has the capacity to process about 9000 head per week.

Mr Stahl said with a tight supply of cattle, the one-day closure was unlikely to have much impact on operations.

“We would prefer not to shut the plant but it probably is good timing with the cattle supply situation,” he said.

Rapid antigen tests used

The Casino case was reported on the same day the Federal Government announced its plans to allow at-home rapid antigen tests, on application, from November. The tests, which are known to return a result within 20 minutes, are widely used in Europe and the US.

Beef Central has been told by several processors, including one large multi-state operator, that they are looking to applying for its workers to use the rapid antigen tests.

Mr Stahl said the Casino abattoir already had some of the tests on-site, which were approved for use under the supervision of a health professional.

“We tested some people this morning under the supervision of our on-site nurse as it was prescribed in the instructions,” he said.

“We’ve had some on site for a while as a precaution and we’ve put them to good use in the past 24 hours.”

Lanzan calculador de vida útil

Beef Central, 30/09/2021

A new tool has been launched helping red meat suppliers to monitor in real time, shelf-life days remaining on chilled beef and lamb products moving through the global supply chain.

Sam O’Leary, Australian Organic Meats business development manager holding the Escavox tracker on their North Star property in NSW. See earlier article here

The new automated function, based on the MLA shelf-life calculator, has been released by Australian supply chain intelligence provider Escavox to help red meat suppliers make improvements to their supply chains empowered by real-time data.

Escavox Chief Operations Officer, Nici Sanderson, said the Escavox shelf-life calculator provided customers with insights to improve supply chain performance, extend product shelf-life, protect brand integrity and strengthen quality assurance.



“The Escavox shelf-life calculator predicts the length of time available for the product to be safely consumed, allowing suppliers to make decisions about their supply chain arrangements at any point in the journey,” Ms Sanderson said.

“It makes supply chain issues tangible and instantly actionable.

“As well as seeing the temperature spike, we can now demonstrate the impact of that temperature spike on the product’s edible shelf life.

“Red meat suppliers can then have the confidence to consign their products over a longer time frame, potentially providing access to more export markets via more efficient and sustainable shipping methods, such as sea freight instead of airfreight.”

Carbon-cutting innovation

Ms Sanderson said Escavox converted captured supply chain data into an operational function to give food suppliers direct control over maximising product quality improvement in-chain, while achieving measurable business efficiencies.

Utilising the Escavox shelf-life calculator, she said, would give food suppliers the opportunity to retain more value through reduced product loss and spoilage, resulting in lower volumes of waste and a decreased carbon footprint.

“Our customers across all food categories already understand and manage their product’s experience in the supply chain from their desktop computer or smart device,” she said.

“They do this by having access to Escavox dashboards showing in real-time what their product is experiencing in the supply chain.

“For red meat customers, our dashboards now deliver the added enhancement of an automated shelf-life calculator integrated with Escavox supply chain tracking, predicting how much life their product will have once it reaches its destination.”

Australian ingenuity

The Escavox shelf-life calculator was automated by Escavox’s technical team in North Sydney from the shelf-life calculator developed by Meat & Livestock Australia (MLA) and the University of Tasmania (UTAS), released under a creative commons licence.

The calculator’s automation within the Escavox dashboard follows a nine-month trial the company conducted with MLA to validate new shelf-life algorithms for chilled beef and lamb in vacuum packaging.

The culmination of three years’ work by MLA and UTAS researchers, the shelf-life algorithms were ‘road tested’ by Escavox in thousands of cartons of red meat in export tracks via air and sea using Escavox smart trackers to monitor time, temperature, location, light and humidity.

Announced in April, the trial results showed that moving and storing vacuum packed chilled red meat consistently at or below -0.5C resulted in a rate of shelf-life loss per day of less than one day.

Conversely, moving or storing red meat consistently above -0.5C means shelf life is lost at a faster rate than one day per day of journey time.

The trial also confirmed that continuous monitoring of location and temperature across the supply chain from processor to destination could extend beef shelf-life by up to 50 days, and up to 30 days for lamb, provided crucial data from tracking, such as the technology deployed by Escavox, is used to improve cool chain operations.

MLA’s Project Manager of Market Access and Science, Long Huynh, said It was important for supply chain managers to understand the impact of temperature.

“There is \$60 million worth of unforeseen shelf life lost due to insufficient cold chain control within the Australian red meat supply chain alone, spanning from processors to customers,” he said.

“The implementation of the shelf-life calculator into the Escavox dashboard is a major shift from temperature data to useful and actionable information.

“Escavox is the first, real time supply chain data company to be able to implement and visualise the impact of shelf life based on temperature.”

Return on investment “substantial”

Ms Sanderson said that following the trial, participating red meat suppliers were able to prove that even on significantly delayed shipments, the remaining shelf life on the product after arrival still met import requirements.

The shelf-life calculator, she said, would now give suppliers a sharper tool, offering faster and more accessible forecasting capability to take supply chain management to another level of sophistication.

“This is a particularly relevant result considering the current disruptions to global shipping due to the pandemic,” Ms Sanderson said.

“For the exporter moving significant volumes of beef or lamb that represents substantial savings and potentially increased profit.”

Ms Sanderson said the shelf-life calculator represented a significant evolution in Escavox’s offering to the fresh food industry.



“As a result of the trial work we did with MLA, red meat suppliers are now able to monitor their supply chains in real time and, if required, make adjustments to extend product life to avoid spoilage and wastage at journey’s end,” she said.

“For suppliers who subscribe to the feature, that’s money flowing back to their bottom line, while improving quality for the customer and reducing food waste.”

Financial assistance

Supply chain solutions provided by Escavox to help red meat suppliers address gaps in their cold chain are eligible for industry financial assistance, with up to 50 per cent of implementation costs available to support technical upgrades.

EMPRESARIAS

Marfrig autorizan la operación de compra de BRF

27 September 2021 Cade, Brazil’s antitrust regulator has approved with no restrictions Marfrig’s acquisition of a 33.6% stake of BRF.

Reuters reports that the companies announced the permission on 23 September.

Marfrig, a beef producer, had made two moves to increase its stake in Brazilian food processor and leading poultry export company BRF during June and July. Marfrig stated at the time that it does not intend to control BRF.

Carrefour Brasil lanzó carne libre de deforestación

27 de setembro de 2021 O Grupo Carrefour Brasil, a Fundação Carrefour e a Iniciativa para o Comércio Sustentável (IDH) lançaram o primeiro lote de uma carne bovina livre de desmatamento e com rastreio desde o nascimento do bezerro até as prateleiras do supermercado.

Os responsáveis pela produção e distribuição não divulgaram os valores que a carne é vendida, mas destacaram que os preços são acessíveis e compatíveis aos que os consumidores estão habituados no Brasil.

Desde 2018, mais de 3,5 milhões de euros já foram aplicados no Programa de Produção Sustentável de Bezerros em Mato Grosso, que visa incluir cerca de 450 pequenos produtores em uma rede que oferece assistência técnica, financeira e ambiental para tornar a cadeia pecuária mais sustentável com menor preço final dos produtos.

Daniela Mariuzzo, diretora executiva da IDH Brasil explica que o ponto-chave do projeto é a garantia de rastreabilidade de ponta a ponta. “Até hoje, o que temos são frigoríficos que conseguem monitorar o fornecedor direto do animal para a indústria, e a indústria manda isso para o mercado. Mas não fazem questão de saber os indiretos, que são justamente os pequenos produtores de bezerros”, afirma.

De acordo com Lúcio Vicente, diretor de Assuntos Corporativos e Sustentabilidade do Grupo Carrefour Brasil, a iniciativa torna possível que os produtores enxerguem seu consumidor final e vice-versa. “Há o produtor com o potencial do que pode construir de novas formas de produção e o consumidor conhecendo a origem e entendendo como aquele produto chegou até ele”, ressalta.

Para chegar ao mercado com preço compatível, a equação do projeto é o reinvestimento dentro da cadeia produtiva. “Qualquer empresa que entre no ciclo deve ter o mesmo compromisso de garantir o reinvestimento na cadeia ou o preço acessível sob o ponto de vista da realidade do mercado”, diz Vicente. Apesar de não divulgar valores, o Carrefour esclarece que a carne mais sustentável não é um produto em promoção, mas com valor compatível aos moldes do brasileiro médio que vai a lojas populares.

Ele explica que o cálculo também é feito considerando o engajamento de novos fornecedores com a mesma proposta. “A partir do momento que temos mais frigoríficos no projeto, existe maior capacidade de fazer com que exista maior oferta desse produto e em mais lojas”, observa.

Daniela frisa que as empresas devem começar a envolver suas áreas comerciais mais próximas aos temas da sustentabilidade. “Nosso objetivo é desenhar soluções economicamente viáveis entre operações financeiras de compra e venda para que isso possa refletir em uma carne de preço acessível dentro de um público que hoje nem está conseguindo comprar carne”, salienta.

Os pequenos produtores

O investimento de 3,5 milhões de euros em 450 produtores significa, em média, cerca de 7,5 mil euros por participante do projeto. O valor aplicado é dividido em cinco tipos de consultoria: nutrição animal, pastagem, manejo do rebanho, ambiental e fundiária. “Nós não entregamos dinheiro para o produtor e sim assistência técnica”, explica a CEO da IDH.

Os produtores são de duas regiões do Mato Grosso: uma no bioma Amazônia e outra no Cerrado. O rastreio dos animais envolve um processo que passa pela avaliação de todos os critérios socioambientais, incluindo listas do Ibama, do Ministério do Trabalho, do desmatamento zero e do eventual conflito com áreas indígenas.



“Tudo isso é verificado na propriedade junto ao Cadastro Ambiental Rural (CAR). Todas as propriedades têm essa identificação, e os animais também passaram a ser identificados desde o nascimento”, esclarece Daniela.

Daniela explica que os contemplados são desde produtores que não possuem regulação fundiária, título final da terra ou CAR legalizado, até os regularizados que queiram melhorar a parte de produtividade da pastagem. “Temos produtores que já estavam legalizados e queriam melhorar a parte de manejo do gado e outros que estavam com problemas no CAR e, então, os apoiamos a fazer o cadastro de forma correta.”

Comercialização

O produto foi lançado no final de julho, na unidade Carrefour do Shopping Interlagos, em São Paulo. “Lançamos em uma das lojas mais populares da empresa na periferia de São Paulo para garantir que a mensagem chegue de uma maneira emblemática. Fizemos questão de colocar isso em uma loja que oferece o desafio de ter um preço acessível”, afirma o diretor.

O projeto prevê expansão, a princípio nas unidades do Estado de São Paulo, mas já visa distribuição em maior escala. “Estudamos levar para outras regiões, como o Rio de Janeiro, que é uma praça importante de consumo de carne e daria bastante visibilidade para o projeto. A estratégia é acompanhar toda a oferta que temos do produto para ajustar a expansão”, finaliza Vicente.

Daniela garante que a ampliação do programa não afetará o nível de segurança de rastreio. “Com base nas práticas estabelecidas nos últimos três anos, foi possível testarmos modelos e com isso construímos um protocolo de produção sustentável de bezerras que garante informações sobre a origem dos animais. Portanto, a ampliação para mais fazendas ou animais não compromete a rastreabilidade, pois seguirá o mesmo padrão”, conclui.

Morgan Stanley prevê mejora en papeles de Minerva y JBS

Fonte: Valor Econômico. 27 de setembro de 2021

A China ainda não retomou as compras de carne brasileira, mas o apetite voraz do país asiático fez a ação da Minerva Foods disparar nesta sexta-feira. Num relatório distribuído a clientes, o Morgan Stanley recomendou a compra dos papéis do frigorífico brasileiro e também da JBS.

“Não há carne bovina suficiente no planeta”, escreveram os analistas Ricardo Alves e Victor Tanaka. Sem oferta capaz de atender a demanda, as margens dos exportadores de carne bovina justificariam um investimento em BEEF3 e JBSS3.

O Morgan Stanley elevou o preço-alvo para Minerva, de R\$ 15 para R\$ 16,50, o que embute um potencial de valorização de mais de 60% sobre as atuais cotações. O preço-alvo para JBS pulou de R\$ 47 para R\$ 54, o que implicaria numa alta de 55%.

“Ficamos muito mais bullish com os frigoríficos da América Latina após nosso mergulho em carne bovina”, ressaltaram os analistas num relatório de 53 páginas sobre o mercado global de carne.

Na contramão das rivais JBS e Marfrig, que valorizaram mais de 50% em 2021, a Minerva vinha ficando para trás na bolsa, o que parece injustificado na leitura dos analistas do Morgan Stanley — por outro lado, pode ser o momento para entrar na companhia a um valuation atrativo.

Numa relação ao relatório, as ações da Minerva sobem mais de 4%, com a companhia avaliada em R\$ 5,6 bilhões. Às 15h30, JBS valorizava 3%. A firma dos irmãos Batista vale R\$ 87 bilhões em bolsa. O Ibovespa caía 0,7%.

A dupla de analistas do Morgan Stanley calcula que as ações da Minerva estão com um desconto expressivo. Historicamente, os papéis da companhia dos Vilela de Queiroz negociam a um EV/Ebitda de 5,5 vezes, mas o múltiplo atual é de apenas 4,2 vezes, considerando as projeções para 2022.

Os preços das exportações de carne bovina estão em alta e acelerando desde o segundo trimestre”, disseram os analistas. Na Minerva, a tendência é de melhora sequencial de margens na Athena Foods, a principal divisão do grupo. Apesar das preocupações com as restrições às exportações na Argentina, o cenário é positivo no Paraguai, Colômbia e Uruguai.

Mesmo no Brasil, onde os frigoríficos sofrem com o boi caro, os sinais de melhora de margem também existem, argumentaram os analistas. No mercado, há grande ansiedade com a retomada das exportações à China, mas uma fonte confia que um desfecho positivo pode ocorrer na próxima semana, normalizando as vendas em outubro. A China responde por mais de 50% das exportações.

Na JBS, o Morgan Stanley ainda vê espaço para novas altas mesmo com a alta expressiva de 55% já acumulada pela companhia no ano. Neste caso, é o exuberante momento nos Estados Unidos, com rentabilidade recorde e um barbecue season espetacular que também catapultou a Marfrig (outra brasileira que produz nos EUA).

Paraguay Frigorífico Concepción y Brangus acuerdan nuevo plus por hacienda para la Unión Europea

26/09/2021 GANADERÍA En el marco de la 75° Exposición Nacional de Ganadería, Frigorífico Concepción y la Asociación de Criadores de Brangus del Paraguay renovaron por décimo año consecutivo el acuerdo



que otorga beneficios por cada carga de hacienda entregada a la planta. Este año se incorpora un plus para las categorías exportadas a la Unión Europea. La renovación del convenio trae como novedad la incorporación de una nueva modalidad de ganancia, que implica un plus del 3% sobre el precio del mercado para novillos y vaquillas de hasta cuatro (4) dientes a ser exportados al mercado de la Unión Europea. En cuanto a novillos, el acuerdo contempla animales de hasta seis (6) dientes con un peso de 270 kilos al gancho y una carga mínima de 80 cabezas, la bonificación es del 5%. Para novillos y toritos, de hasta cuatro (4) dientes que tengan una terminación mínima de 3mm, el plus es del 3%. Y los novillos hasta cuatro dientes (4) a ser exportados al mercado chileno es del 3%. Solo podrán acceder a este convenio los socios de la Asociación que produzcan animales tipo Brangus, en machos desde 220 kilos y vaquillas a partir de 190 kilos al gancho, respectivamente.

Volvo lanzó un modelo libre de “cuero”

Eric Barker, 30/09/2021

The Volvo c40 recharge will be the first leather free car from the company. Source: Volvo

THE leather industry says a decision by Swedish car manufacturer Volvo to stop using leather in its vehicles will not have its desired impact on the number of cattle being slaughtered each year.

Last week, Volvo said it planned to make all its new electric vehicles leather free, starting with the C40 recharge model – citing animal welfare and environmental concerns with the cattle industry.

“Being a progressive car maker means we need to address all areas of sustainability, not just CO2 emissions,” the company’s director of global sustainability Stuart Templar said.

“Responsible sourcing is an important part of that work, including respect for animal welfare. Going leather-free inside our pure electric cars is a good next step towards addressing this issue.”

Naturally, Volvo’s decision was not well received by the leather industry and Australian Hide and Skin Leather Exporters Association executive officer Dennis King said it was short-sighted.

“It will have no impact on the number of cattle being slaughtered, because they are not slaughtered for the leather, it’s for the meat,” Mr King said.

“In Australia we generate about eight million hides a year and if we don’t use those hides for leather they will be buried.”

Will other companies follow?

Mr King said Volvo’s exit was likely an impact on the market, especially if it becomes a precedent for other companies to follow.

“Volvo’s a big company and there’s a lot of Volvo cars around the world,” he said.

“There’s always pressure from activists to stop using any animal products because of perceived animal welfare issues.

“The same thing has happened in the kangaroo industry and Nike has announced it will stop using kangaroo leather in its sports shoes because they’ve been berated by these activists.”

Despite a recent rally, the leather market has been on the decline for years with some of the product ending up in landfill.

Mr King said declining demand from car and shoe manufacturers was contributing to the market slumping.

“The car industry is a massive market for us, leather has become the choice many manufacturers over the years,” he said.

“We went from an era of having PVC seats and people demanded better, so leather came into the fold.”

Labelling issues arising

As far as Beef Central has been able to determine, Tesla is the only other car company to take the same stand as Volvo, going leather-free in 2017.

Several other car manufacturers, including Audi and BMW, have been offering vehicles using leather substitutes for decades.

But recently the marketing of those substitutes has changed with terms like “vegan leather” used to advertise the cars.

“In Europe and Italy, it’s illegal to call anything leather that has not been produced from the skin of an animal,” Mr King said.

“If it’s vegan leather it will be something like PVC and it should be called for what it is.”

Brasil Multaron al frigorífico Alibem Alimentos en R\$ 159,2 millones

Fonte: Valor Econômico. 30 de setembro de 2021

O Ministério da Agricultura multou em R\$ 159,2 milhões a Alibem Alimentos S. A, que atua na produção de carne suína e bovina e tem sede no Rio Grande do Sul. O frigorífico foi um dos alvos da Operação Semilla, da Polícia Federal (PF), deflagrada em 2015, que investigou casos de corrupção envolvendo a Superintendência Federal da Pasta no Estado e empresas do agronegócio gaúcho.

A decisão do julgamento do processo administrativo, conduzido pela Corregedoria Geral do ministério, foi publicada nesta quarta-feira no Diário Oficial da União. O documento relata o acolhimento parcial do



relatório final e indica o cometimento de três fatos ilícitos distintos pela empresa, com previsão na Lei Anticorrupção de 2013. Procurada, a Alibem afirmou que vai solicitar a reconsideração e nega a ocorrência das irregularidades.

Segundo os trechos da legislação indicados na decisão, a empresa foi condenada por prometer, oferecer ou dar, direta ou indiretamente, vantagem indevida a agente público, ou a terceira pessoa a ele relacionada; comprovadamente, utilizar-se de interposta pessoa física ou jurídica para ocultar ou dissimular seus reais interesses ou a identidade dos beneficiários dos atos praticados; e dificultar a atividade de investigação ou a fiscalização de órgãos, entidades ou agentes públicos, ou intervir em sua atuação, inclusive no âmbito das agências reguladoras e dos órgãos de fiscalização do sistema financeiro nacional. Os três atos são considerados lesivos à administração pública.

O ministério ainda determinou a publicação da condenação em veículos de grande circulação nacional e que o grupo seja inserido no Cadastro Nacional de Empresas Punidas (CNEP). A Alibem tem prazo de dez dias para um eventual pedido de reconsideração da decisão. O prazo para o pagamento da multa é de 30 dias. Além do Rio Grande do Sul, a empresa atua em Mato Grosso e exporta carne suína para diversos países, como Hong Kong e União Europeia.

“A Alibem foi surpreendida com a decisão publicada e providenciará o cabível pedido de reconsideração. A empresa confia na justiça e permanece à disposição das autoridades para demonstrar a não ocorrência de nenhum dos fatos que lhe são imputados”, diz a companhia em nota enviada ao Valor.

A Operação Semilla investigou crimes no âmbito da Superintendência do Ministério da Agricultura no Rio Grande do Sul (SFARS). O então superintendente, Francisco Signor, chegou a ser afastado do cargo e responde na Justiça Federal por suposto recebimento de propina e lavagem de dinheiro. Ele também teria favorecido a Alibem com fiscalizações menos rígidas em troca de propina, segundo a investigação. Outros frigoríficos e empresas de ramos distintos, como laticínios e eventos, também estavam envolvidas, segundo informação da PF à época.