



NORTH STAR

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# NEWS

# INSIDE

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### **PETROBRAS expands oil production cut and adjusts refinery processing**

PETROBRAS decided to adopt a new cut in its production due to the contraction in demand for oil and fuels. Oil production will be cut by 200 thousand barrels per day starting this week, in a volume that includes a reduction announced in March 2020, of 100 thousand barrels per day, previously expected to last until the end of the month. According to PETROBRAS, the duration of the restriction, as well as potential increases or decreases, will be continuously assessed. The company also added that it is still adjusting the processing of its refineries, in line with the demand for fuel.

### **Sugar futures contracts close higher in NY**

In New York this week, raw sugar futures contracts were up. The May 2020 lot rose 25 points and was traded at USD 10.29 per pound. The due date for July 2020 was USD 10.32 per pound, up 24 points. The other lots appreciated between 11 and 19 points. White sugar, traded in London, closed mixed. Contracts for May 2020 were signed at USD 340.60 per tonne, down USD 1.40. The due date for August 2020 fell by USD

0.60 and ended the day at USD 322.80 per tonne. The other futures contracts closed higher between USD 0.80 and USD 1.60, except for the lot for October 2020 that fell USD 0.80.

### **Ethanol prices and traded volumes fall sharply in São Paulo**

At the end of March 2020, the CEPEA (Centro de Estudos Avançados em Economia Aplicada - Center for Advanced Studies in Applied Economics) indicator for hydrated ethanol closed at R\$ 1.5137 per liter, a strong decrease of 9.47% in relation to the previous period. In the case of anhydrous ethanol, the CEPEA indicator was R\$ 1.8748 per liter, a devaluation of 7.28% in the same comparison. According to CEPEA researchers, the pressure came from the beginning of the milling activities in many plants in the Center-South and from the demand that was very weak. This scenario, in fact, made the volume of hydrated ethanol to be the lowest since the period ended in March 2017. Compared to the previous period, the drop in the volume of biofuel traded was a significant 70.5%.

## **PORTS OF BRAZIL**

### **Port of Paranaguá**

The Port of Paranaguá ended March 2020 with the largest monthly movement ever recorded in the Export Corridor. 2.4 million tons of soybeans, in grain and bran, were shipped. The volume is 51% higher than the volume handled in the same month of 2019 and exceeds the previous record of 2.2 million tonnes, reached in June last year by more than 180 thousand tonnes. According to APPA (Port Authority of the Ports of Antonina and Paranaguá), the positive result, despite the adversities of COVID-19, shows the effectiveness of the security measures adopted since January by the company. It is worth mentioning that the ports of Paraná were the first in Brazil to set up a complete structure for primary health care, on the quayside and in the truck sorting yard. Medical teams are open 24 hours a day, every day, with temperature measurements, guidelines and the proper referral of necessary cases.

### **Shipping Agency**

The shipping agency service values for quality and agility in attendance of foreign and Brazilian flag vessels, provision of information to companies involved in foreign trade and internal market in real time, with competitive prices in relation to port and maritime costs, and the search for harmony between public and private stakeholders in the supply chain. North Star operates in different segments, serving bulk vessels (solid and liquid), loose cargo, offshore ships, project cargo, dredgers and passenger ships, providing quality services for large and consolidated market players.

### **Shipbrokers**

As a result of negotiation and relationship skills with leading Shipowners and their representatives in 5 (five) continents, competitive prices of freight and special conditions on hiring of vessels are offered, thus helping trading companies, importers and exporters that need to transport their cargo around the world.

### **Consultancy**

It offers the market solution in the resolution of maritime demurrage disputes, making the management of recovery or settlement with the involved shipping companies. The technical, pre-operational and operational follow-up is performed of vessels in ports, ensuring that contract clauses will be achieved and complied.

### **Customs Clearance**

Customs clearance is a fiscal procedure by which all goods coming or going abroad must be submitted for the exporter to receive final permission to send their goods and the importer obtains authorization to receive their imported goods. Our function as Customs Brokers is to prepare and sign the documents that serve as basis for customs clearance, import and export, verifying the tariff framework of the respective merchandise and arranging the payment of import taxes and industrialized products, as well as the state tax (ICMS). We act toward to several public agencies linked to numerous Government Ministries (Health, Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, Finance, and others), finalizing the obtaining of documents or information via Siscomex necessary for the fiscal procedure (import licenses, export records, certificates of origin, phytosanitary certificates, among others). Our goal is to bring our customers, importers and exporters, peace of mind to carry out their activities in foreign trade with the highest transparency and efficiency throughout the process.

## **TRAINING**

### **North Star Training**

North Star develops training in a variety of areas, helping partners achieve excellence. We conduct courses within our facilities, or InCompany training. Make your quote.

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[www.nsshopping.com.br](http://www.nsshopping.com.br)

[training@nsshopping.com.br](mailto:training@nsshopping.com.br)

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