



NORTH STAR

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NEWS

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Sale of the 2019/2020 soybean crop reaches 80.6%

The sale of the 2019/2020 soybean crop in Brazil reached 80.6% of the expected production in May, with 97.72 million tons. According to industry experts, producers followed the prices driven by the exchange rate during the month of April. In the previous survey, last month, business was at 71.5%. The early commercialization of the 2020/2021 harvest reached 28.2% of production, compared to 19.9% in the beginning of April. This is a record for the period, exceeding 12% in 2016 and 6.7% of the five-year average. From a projected production of 128.90 million tons, 36.39 million tons have already been sold in advance by Brazilian producers.

Ethanol stocks approach 3 billion liters in May

With demand for fuels falling since mid-March and the beginning of the sugarcane harvest in the Center-South region in April, the volume of ethanol stored by mills in the region reached record highs. According to data from MAPA ((Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento - Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Supply), the total stock reached 2.94 billion liters on May 1, 114% above the amount registered in the same period last year. At this time of year, the usual behavior is for the growth of inventories due to the increase in supply, however, the low demand hinders the flow of the product. In addition, the plants have already started the season with tanks fuller than usual. At the end of the 2019/2020 season, the increase in stockpiled volume was 35.6%. According to UNICA (União da Indústria de Cana-de-açúcar - Sugarcane Industry Union), in April, ethanol sales fell by 29% year-on-year, totaling 1.78 billion liters. Specifically, sales of hydrous ethanol to the domestic market fell by 38.4% to 1.1 billion liters. For UNICA, the current

scenario requires the creation of a financing line by the government, with the objective of making ethanol storage by producers feasible. It is estimated that the sector needs to invest around R\$ 9 billion to increase its storage capacity by 6 billion liters.

PETROBRAS raises gasoline for the second time in a week

A week after the first rise in the price of gasoline since the start of the new coronavirus pandemic, PETROBRAS informed its customers this week that it will increase the fuel sales value at its refineries again. This time, the adjustment will be 10%. The movement follows the escalation of the dollar in Brazil and the increase in the price of gasoline in the international market. Last week, the fuel was sold at stations in the United States at a value 3.4% higher than that registered the previous week. The readjustment is valid starting this week, when gasoline will be sold at the state-owned refineries, on average, at R\$ 1.12 per liter. The transfer to the pumps depends on the commercial policy of service stations and distributors. According to the state company, the amount charged at refineries is equivalent to 19% of the final price. The rest are profit margins and resale and distribution costs, in addition to federal and state taxes. The price of diesel will be maintained at refineries, informed PETROBRAS. There was also no readjustment last week.

PORTS OF BRAZIL

Port of Paranaguá

The Port of Paranaguá ended April with the biggest movement in its history. 5.5 million tons were shipped, 30.9% more than in the same period in 2019. From January to April, the volume of the port is also impressive: 18.8 million tons. Almost a third of this volume corresponds to the soybean load, which attests that this intense movement is directly related to the grain super harvest. According to APPA, within a decade, the volume shipped annually by the Port of Paranaguá should jump from 53 million tons to 65 million tons. This increase will only be achieved if some adjustments are made, such as the expansion of rail transport to the port complex.

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.

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