



NORTH STAR

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# NEWS

# INSIDE

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### Crude sugar price drops 4% at ICE after touching three and a half years high

Crude sugar futures contracts closed down 4% on this week, with investors making profits after the sweetener reached a new high of three and a half years earlier in the session. The drop, however, was seen as temporary, considering limited offers and the appetite for funds for purchases. The March crude sugar contract closed at a drop of 4%, at USD 15.60 per pound, after reaching a high of USD 16.33, the highest level since May 2017. Traders said there was a movement to make profits by funds after nine consecutive earnings sessions. Sugar has been driven by a strong appetite for funds for purchases, with investors betting on a global economic recovery and amid widespread optimism about agricultural commodities, especially those with tight offers. Sugar offers are expected to remain tight at least until April, when Brazil's production should start to gain strength again.

### Ethanol starts 2021 with slight drop

Although economically favorable in only two states, the price of ethanol started the year 2021 with a slight fall compared to the previous week. Between the end of December and the beginning of January, biofuel cost Brazilian consumers, in the average of the sample analyzed, R\$ 3.180 per liter, a decrease of 0.09% in comparison with the previous period, when the value was R\$ 3.183 per liter. After a two-month increase sequence that ended in early December, ethanol has

undergone slight variations that form a general picture of stability at fuel pumps. In turn, the price of gasoline increased by 0.49% in the week, going from R\$ 4.495 per liter to R\$ 4.517 per liter. Thus, the ratio between the value of fossil fuel and that of biofuel was, on average, 70.4%, slightly above the line considered economically favorable to ethanol, of 70%.

### PETROBRAS breaks oil production record in 2020

PETROBRAS registered records in its annual oil production and in the total production of 2020, which considers both oil and natural gas. According to the state-owned company, in 2020, 2.28 million barrels of oil per day (BPD) and 2.84 million barrels of oil equivalent per day (BPD) were produced, exceeding the previous record of 2015. PETROBRAS he added that pre-salt production totaled 1.86 million BOED in 2020, accounting for 66% of the company's total pumping. The volumes of annual oil production and total production coincide with the center of PETROBRAS 'pumping targets, revised in October 2020, and exceed the targets originally forecast for the year by 5%. Last year, supported by strong external demand and a favorable dollar for exports, Brazil recorded a record in the volume of oil shipped abroad, with 70.6 million tons, up 18.5% compared to 2019.

### PORTS OF BRAZIL

#### Port of Paranaguá

The Port operators of Port of Paranaguá expect to handle around 6 million tonnes of solid bulk for export in the first quarter of 2021, an increase of 11% over the same period last year. Consisting of soy, bran, corn and sugar shipments, the solid bulk chain will benefit from a new interconnected terminal to the west of the pier that will start operating in the first three months of this year. In addition, there was an increase in draft (depth available for the ship to use when loaded) in two berths last year. According to APPA, i.e. Port Authority of Port of Paranaguá, with the expanded capacity and the new structure, there will be conditions to serve users and beat new export records.

### 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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