



## NOTICIAS INTERNACIONALES AL 08/05/20

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## **GLOBAL**

### **FAO: Índice de Precios Mundiales de Alimentos bajó en abril**

Un mercado en Japón. 7 de mayo de 2020, Roma - Los precios mundiales de los productos alimentarios básicos disminuyeron por tercer mes consecutivo en abril, ya que el impacto económico y logístico de la pandemia de COVID-19 ha provocado fuertes contracciones de la demanda de muchos productos básicos.

El índice de precios de los alimentos de la FAO, que hace un seguimiento de los precios internacionales de los productos que se comercializan habitualmente, alcanzó un promedio de 165,5 puntos en abril, un 3,4 por ciento menos que el mes anterior y casi un 10 por ciento menos respecto a enero.

El índice de precios del azúcar de la FAO alcanzó el nivel más bajo de los últimos 13 años, con un 14,6 por ciento menos respecto a marzo, cuando registró una caída mensual aún mayor. El descenso de los precios internacionales del petróleo redujo la demanda de caña de azúcar para etanol, desviando la producción para elaborar azúcar, incrementando así las disponibilidades de exportación. Mientras tanto, las medidas de confinamiento en varios países generaron una presión adicional a la baja en la demanda.

El índice de precios de los aceites vegetales de la FAO disminuyó un 5,2 por ciento en abril, lastrado por la caída de los valores de los aceites de palma, soja y colza. La menor demanda de biocombustibles tuvo un papel importante, al igual que la contracción de la demanda del sector alimentario, junto con una producción de aceite de palma en Malasia y de trituración de soja en los Estados Unidos de América superiores a lo previsto.

El índice de precios de los productos lácteos de la FAO bajó igualmente un 3,6 por ciento, y los precios de la mantequilla y la leche en polvo registraron caídas de dos dígitos en medio de una mayor disponibilidad para la exportación, aumento de las existencias, débil demanda de importaciones y el descenso de las ventas en los restaurantes del hemisferio norte.

Por su parte, el índice de precios de la carne se redujo en un 2,7 por ciento. La recuperación parcial de la demanda de importaciones de China fue insuficiente para compensar la caída de importaciones en otros lugares. Mientras, los principales países productores sufrieron dificultades logísticas y un fuerte descenso de la demanda del sector de servicios alimentarios debido a las medidas de confinamiento.

"La pandemia está afectando tanto a la demanda como a la oferta de carne, ya que el cierre de restaurantes y la reducción de ingresos de los hogares llevan a un menor consumo, y la escasez de mano de obra para la elaboración está afectando a los sistemas de producción justo a tiempo en los principales países ganaderos", señaló el economista superior de la FAO Upali Galketi Aratchilage.

El índice de precios de los cereales de la FAO bajó solo ligeramente, ya que los precios internacionales del trigo y el arroz subieron de forma significativa, mientras que los del maíz cayeron bruscamente. Los precios internacionales del arroz crecieron un 7,2 por ciento respecto a marzo, debido en gran parte a las restricciones temporales a la exportación impuestas por Viet Nam, que fueron posteriormente derogadas. Al mismo tiempo, los precios del trigo subieron un 2,5 por ciento en medio de informes sobre la rapidez en agotarse la cuota de exportación de la Federación de Rusia. En cambio, los precios de los cereales secundarios -incluido el maíz-, bajaron un 10 por ciento, lastrados por la menor demanda en su utilización, tanto para la producción de piensos como de biocombustibles.

La producción de trigo estable, pero las existencias podrían seguir aumentando en 2020/21

En la Nota informativa de la FAO sobre la oferta y la demanda de cereales, también publicada hoy, la FAO dio a conocer sus primeras previsiones sobre la oferta y la demanda mundial de trigo en la temporada comercial 2020/21. La producción mundial se pronostica en 762,6 millones de toneladas, cifra que coincide en líneas generales con el nivel de 2019, con expectativas de cosechas más reducidas en la Unión Europea, África del Norte, Ucrania y los EEUU, que casi compensan las cosechas más abundantes en Australia, Kazajstán, la Federación de Rusia y la India.

Se prevé que la utilización mundial de trigo en 2020/21 se mantenga estable, y que los aumentos previstos en su uso alimentario superen las reducciones de los usos industriales y para piensos. Se prevé que las existencias de trigo al cierre de las temporadas agrícolas en 2021 suban hasta los 274,5 millones de toneladas, impulsadas por el considerable aumento previsto de las existencias de China, mientras que en el resto del mundo se prevé que las existencias mundiales disminuyan casi un 5 por ciento, para quedar en su nivel más bajo desde 2013.

La FAO prevé igualmente una elevada producción de maíz este año en Argentina, Brasil y Sudáfrica, donde la recolección de la cosecha comenzará en fecha próxima.

Menor utilización de cereales y mayores existencias en 2019/20

La FAO mantuvo su previsión de producción mundial para 2019 -de 2 720 millones de toneladas- pero redujo su previsión de utilización de cereales en 2019/20 en 24,7 millones de toneladas, en gran parte como resultado de los efectos de la COVID-19 en el crecimiento económico, los mercados energéticos y



la demanda de piensos. El nuevo pronóstico refleja sobre todo la reducción del uso del maíz en China y los Estados Unidos.

La FAO redujo también su pronóstico sobre la utilización total de arroz a nivel mundial respecto al mes pasado, debido en parte a la disminución del consumo de alimentos previsto en Nigeria, aunque se espera que el consumo general de arroz alcance un nuevo récord, impulsado por un aumento interanual de la ingesta alimentaria en Asia. También se prevé que la utilización de trigo en 2019/20 suba un 1,2 por ciento respecto a la temporada anterior, en previsión de un aumento del consumo alimentario.

Las menores tasas de utilización dan lugar a un aumento de las existencias mundiales de cereales al cierre de las temporadas de 2020, que ahora se sitúan en 884 millones de toneladas, es decir, 13,6 millones de toneladas por encima de sus niveles iniciales. Esto elevaría el coeficiente entre las existencias mundiales de cereales y su utilización al 31,6 por ciento, superior al 30,7 por ciento previsto por la FAO el mes pasado. El aumento de las existencias de cereales refleja mayormente el incremento previsto de los inventarios de maíz, que se espera ahora alcancen un récord histórico de 428 millones de toneladas.

Se prevé que el comercio mundial de cereales en 2019/20 aumente en un 2,8 por ciento, hasta los 422 millones de toneladas, liderado por el sorgo y el trigo. Las restricciones a las exportaciones de trigo procedente de la región del Mar Negro ya se han levantado en la mayoría de los casos, y no se prevé que afecten a los compromisos de exportación de los países productores para el conjunto del año.

## **CHINA**

### **Importaciones de carnes aumentaron 82 por ciento en el primer cuatrimestre**

Fonte: Reuters. This post was published on 7 de Maio de 2020

As importações de carne da China nos primeiros quatro meses de 2020 aumentaram 82% ano a ano, para 3,03 milhões de toneladas, de acordo com a Administração Geral das Alfândegas, ao buscar proteínas, incluindo carne de porco, com uma doença fatal dizimando seu rebanho de porcos.

As importações de carne de abril foram de 862.000 toneladas, segundo dados divulgados pela alfândega na quinta-feira (7).

A alfândega não dividiu os dados em importações de carne suína, bovina e de aves.

### **Se detectan nuevos casos de peste porcina africana en provincias de China**

04/05/2020 - Desde marzo, en China, aumentó la muerte de animales por gripe porcina.

Las autoridades chinas han vuelto a detectar la presencia de peste porcina africana (PPA), en esta oportunidad en un embarque de cerdos que estaban siendo transportados a la provincia de Sichuan, al suroeste del país.

Según publicó Faxcarne en base a Eurocarne, el Ministerio de Agricultura de China detectó dos cerdos muertos por la enfermedad entre 100 que estaban siendo transportados.

Los casos reportados por el Ministerio de Agricultura y Asuntos Rurales se habían reducido a solo un par por mes a fines del año pasado, pero 13 se han publicado en el sitio web del ministerio desde marzo.

Todos los casos, además de los encontrados en jabalíes, fueron en cerdos transportados entre provincias.

## **BRASIL**

### **Mayor oferta de hacienda para faena**

Sexta-feira, 8 de maio de 2020 - Com a seca estabelecendo-se, aumentou a oferta de boiadas para abate na maioria das praças pesquisadas pela Scot Consultoria.

Sem incremento nas escalas, as compras na praça paulista, por exemplo, estão regulares e, bovinos destinados à exportação recebem ofertas de R\$10,00 a mais por arroba, em relação as ofertas para o mercado interno.

Mesmo com a recomendação de não aglomeração, o dia das mães comemorado no próximo domingo e o pagamento dos salários deveria estimular o mercado, mas os frigoríficos estão céticos e não estão se preparando para um aumento sazonal de consumo.

### **CEPEA: exportaciones sostienen los precios**

Fonte: Cepea. This post was published on 7 de Maio de 2020

O bom ritmo das exportações tem sustentado os valores domésticos do boi gordo e da carne bovina no mercado atacadista da Grande São Paulo. No geral, o Cepea verifica que, diante do atual cenário de incertezas por conta da pandemia de coronavírus, muitos operadores estão negociando com cautela, vendendo e adquirindo novos lotes de animais quando há maior necessidade.

Entre 30 de abril e 6 de maio, o Indicador do boi gordo CEPEA/B3 subiu 0,55%, fechando a R\$ 199,95 nessa quarta-feira, 6. Quanto às exportações, tomando-se como base a média diária de embarques de



abril, de 5,814 mil toneladas, segundo dados da Secex, foram embarcadas 116,3 mil toneladas de carne bovina in natura nos 20 dias úteis do mês.

Apesar de esse volume de abril ser 7,6% inferior ao de março/2020 (com 22 dias úteis), ficou 6% acima da quantidade de abril do ano passado (com 21 dias úteis). Trata-se, também, da maior quantidade já embarcada pelo Brasil em um mês de abril.

As indústrias frigoríficas brasileiras se afastaram um pouco das compras nesta quinta-feira, 7 de maio, após conseguirem estender as suas escalas de abate por um prazo mínimo de 8 dias, relata a Informa Economics FNP.

Mesmo com o bom ritmo das exportações, a procura dos frigoríficos pela matéria-prima segue em ritmo de cautela, devido ao comportamento tímido da demanda interna por carne bovina, que sofre o impacto do isolamento social nos grandes centros urbanos e da crise financeira vivenciada por boa parte da população. Com menos dinheiro no bolso, os consumidores buscam proteínas alternativas, mais baratas, como ovo, frango e carne suína.

“O novo coronavírus afetou diretamente o consumo de carne fora de casa, que tem enorme representatividade para o setor e, portanto, não há espaço imediato para uma retomada mais expressiva no nível de abates dos frigoríficos”, avalia a FNP.

No entanto, mesmo diante do quadro de incertezas gerado pela Covid-19, os preços do boi gordo seguem estáveis na maioria das regiões pecuárias. Em São Paulo, mesmo sem grande atuação dos frigoríficos, a cotação da arroba parece ter se firmado nos R\$ 200, a prazo, tendo suporte principalmente nos prêmios mais altos pagos ao gado que tem a carne direcionada para o exterior, sobretudo para China.

**Sustentação vem de fora**

O bom ritmo das exportações tem sustentado os valores domésticos do boi gordo e da carne bovina no mercado atacadista da Grande São Paulo, destaca nesta quinta-feira o Centro de Estudos Avançados em Economia Aplicada (Cepea).

Entre 30 de abril e 6 de maio, o Indicador do boi gordo CEPEA/B3 subiu 0,55%, fechando a R\$ 199,95 na quarta-feira. Quanto às exportações, tomando-se como base a média diária de embarques de abril, de 5,814 mil toneladas, segundo dados da Secex (Secretaria de Comércio Externo), foram embarcadas 116,3 mil toneladas de carne bovina in natura nos 20 dias úteis do mês.

Apesar de esse volume de abril ser 7,6% inferior ao de março/2020 (com 22 dias úteis), ficou 6% acima da quantidade de abril do ano passado (com 21 dias úteis). “Trata-se, também, da maior quantidade já embarcada pelo Brasil em um mês de abril”, observa o Cepea.

**Giro por outras praças**

No Pará a dificuldade de compra da boiada tem contribuído para ajustes positivos na arroba, de acordo com levantamento da consultoria FNP. O volume consistente de chuvas no Estado mantém a capacidade de retenção de animais nos pastos por parte dos pecuaristas, que conseguem, assim, especular preços mais altos.

No Rio de Janeiro, o consumo de carne reduzido em função do distanciamento social gera preocupações nas indústrias, que ainda limitam consideravelmente a sua produção. A baixa procura pelo gado para abate provocou uma desvalorização da arroba.

No Mato Grosso, o preço da fêmea apresentou ajustes negativos. Mesmo com a reabertura de algumas plantas, a maior parte dos frigoríficos ainda alega instabilidade no escoamento dos cortes bovinos para o mercado interno e, diante disso, a procura pela vaca, que é tipicamente direcionada para o consumo doméstico, segue limitada. Os animais machos, por sua vez, atendem mais os requisitos para exportação e tem tido o preço valorizado pela alta demanda internacional pelo produto brasileiro.

### **Exportações de carne bovina y porcina crecieron en abril**

Fonte: Reuters. This post was last modified on 5 de Maio de 2020 10:44

As exportações brasileiras de carne bovina subiram 2,9% em abril, enquanto as vendas externas da proteína suína avançaram 17,5% e os embarques de carne de aves caíram quase 4%, informou nesta segunda-feira a Secretaria de Comércio Exterior (Secex).

A China voltou a intensificar compras das carnes bovina e suína do Brasil desde meados de março, quando a pandemia do coronavírus começou a dar sinais de controle no país.

De acordo com o Ministério da Economia, as exportações brasileiras para a Ásia cresceram 28,7% em abril ante igual mês do ano passado. Para China, Hong Kong e Macau a alta foi de 27,9%, enquanto para a Coreia do Sul o crescimento foi de 182,0%.

Em abril, as vendas externas de carne bovina in natura somaram 116,28 mil toneladas, de acordo com dados da média diária de embarques publicados pelo Secex, ante as 113 mil toneladas registradas um ano antes.

No setor de suínos, as exportações da proteína in natura alcançaram 62,9 mil toneladas, ante as 53,5 mil toneladas embarcadas pelo país em abril do ano passado.



Já no segmento de aves in natura, as vendas externas atingiram 320,82 mil toneladas em abril, queda de 3,86% versus abril de 2019.

### **ABIEC: exportaciones alcanzarán nuevo récord en 2020**

Fonte: Reuters. This post was published on 8 de Maio de 2020

As exportações brasileiras de carne bovina devem superar em 2020 o recorde de 7,6 bilhões de dólares registrado no ano passado, mesmo diante da crise do coronavírus, disse nesta quinta-feira o presidente da Associação Brasileira das Indústrias Exportadoras de Carnes (Abiec), Antônio Jorge Camardelli.

Segundo ele, quando acabar a pandemia, os países que tiverem as cadeias mais organizadas, como o Brasil, vão ter a chance de aumentar sua participação em mercados globais.

Durante participação em videoconferência, ele destacou que o país não conta com nenhuma unidade produtiva paralisada na área de bovinos, em função da pandemia.

### **ACNB: Brasil será el primer productor mundial de carnes bovinas en cinco años**

Fonte: Canal Rural. This post was published on 7 de Maio de 2020

O sólido avanço da pecuária de corte no Brasil nas últimas décadas leva Nabih Amin El Aouar, presidente da Associação dos Criadores de Nelore do Brasil (ACNB), a prever que o Brasil será o maior produtor mundial em cinco anos. “Já somos os maiores exportadores de carne bovina desde 2004, temos o maior rebanho comercial e, se o cenário se mantiver, até 2025 seremos também os maiores produtores de carne do mundo”, diz.

O Brasil assumiu a liderança das exportações de carne bovina em 2004, atingindo 1,17 milhão de toneladas, contra 1,16 milhão dos Estados Unidos. “Em 2019, exportamos 1,9 milhão de toneladas, com faturamento de US\$ 7,7 bilhões. Os EUA venderam 1,43 milhão de toneladas e a Austrália cerca de 1,3 milhão. A liderança é consolidada”, informa o presidente da ACNB. “Quanto à produção entre 2004 e 2019, o Brasil saltou de 8 milhões para 10 milhões de toneladas e os EUA cresceram de 11 milhões para pouco mais de 12 milhões de toneladas”.

Nabih Amin El Aouar destaca que o maior gargalo da pecuária de corte brasileira, hoje, é a falta de padronização das carcaças. “Infelizmente, falta conhecimento a muitos produtores. Por isso, muitas vezes não sabem qual o nível de excelência exigido pelo mercado. Superado esse desafio, tenho confiança que não haverá limites para a carne bovina brasileira”, diz o presidente da ACNB.

### **Ministerio de Trabajo firmó ya protocolos con seis industrias avícolas**

Fonte: Valor Econômico. This post was published on 7 de Maio de 2020

A estratégia adotada pelo Ministério Público do Trabalho (MPT) para que as indústrias frigoríficas se comprometam a adotar medidas contra o coronavírus está avançando.

O órgão já firmou Termos de Ajuste de Conduta (TACs) com seis empresas — a maior parte delas no Rio Grande do Sul e voltadas ao abate de frango.

Até agora, BRF, Aurora, Minuano, Agrodanieli, Nicolini e GTFoods firmaram acordos do gênero — no caso das últimas duas companhias, os TACs foram assinados ontem, afirmou, em entrevista ao Valor, a procuradora Priscila Schvarcz, gerente nacional adjunta do Projeto de Adequação das Condições de Trabalho em Frigoríficos do MPT.

No abatedouro de aves do Frigorífico Nicolini, que fica no município de Garibaldi, a produção será limitada a 25% da capacidade por 15 dias, contados a partir da próxima segunda-feira.

O acordo firmado ontem prevê que 75% dos trabalhadores da Nicolini ficarão afastados nesse período e só poderão voltar após a realização de testes para o diagnóstico da covid-19. O contingente de 25% dos trabalhadores já autorizado a trabalhar também só poderá fazê-lo após testes.

Segundo a procuradora, essa medida foi adotada porque o número de casos entre funcionários da Nicolini vem aumentando rapidamente. “Em quatro dias, passamos de dez casos para 60 casos”, afirmou.

De maneira geral, os acordos firmados pelos frigoríficos com o MPT preveem medidas como a adoção do distanciamento mínimo de 1 metro dentro e fora da área de produção, além do uso de máscaras e protetores de viseira e da implementação de anteparos entre as estações de trabalho.

Os frigoríficos são considerados pelo MPT como lugares de risco à contaminação pelo número expressivo de funcionários e às condições de trabalho “ombro a ombro”.

A temperatura interna dentro de um frigorífico também é um ponto de atenção. Em áreas úmidas, como a de lavagem de facas, há mais gotículas circulando, o que aumenta o risco de contaminação, disse a procuradora.

Mais TACs a caminho

A expectativa do MPT é que mais TACs com frigoríficos sejam firmados. De acordo com a procuradora, o setor está compreendendo a necessidade das medidas e a realidade acaba se impondo.



“Se nós deixássemos o setor produzir da forma como entende correto, o que aconteceria? Vai chegar em que determinado ponto que pessoas vão ser afastadas e vão reduzir a produção por ausência de trabalhador afastado, doente ou morto”, disse ela.

Com a maior compreensão das indústrias, a procuradora avalia que os Brasil escapará de problemas graves como os enfrentados pelos Estados Unidos, onde dezenas de frigoríficos fecharam após a contaminação de centenas de funcionários, prejudicando o abastecimento de carnes no país.

### **Covid es reconocida como enfermedad laboral**

Fonte: Agora Folha. This post was last modified on 6 de Maio de 2020 10:34

Pouco mais de um mês após ser criada a medida provisória 927/2020, o Supremo Tribunal Federal decidiu, em liminar julgada no dia 29 de abril, que o fato de o trabalhador ser contaminado por Covid-19 é considerado como doença ocupacional, o que, por sua vez, equipara-se a acidente de trabalho.

Na sessão virtual, feita por videoconferência, os ministros do Supremo julgaram em conjunto sete ADIs (Ações Diretas de Inconstitucionalidade), apresentadas por partidos políticos e confederações de trabalhadores para discutir dispositivos da MP do governo. A maioria dos ministros votou a favor do relator, Marco Aurélio Mello, e suspendeu os artigos 29 e 31 da medida provisória do governo. O primeiro artigo restringia as possibilidades de considerar a contaminação por Covid-19 como doença ocupacional. Já o artigo 31 tratava da atuação de auditores fiscais do trabalho.

A norma flexibilizou as regras trabalhistas no período de enfrentamento da pandemia e definiu no seu artigo 29 que os casos de contaminação pelo coronavírus “não serão considerados ocupacionais, exceto mediante comprovação do nexo causal [quando precisa comprovar que se pegou o vírus em razão do trabalho]”.

Embora o artigo não tivesse proibido caracterizar a Covid-19 como doença ocupacional, pois é admissível se provado o nexo causal, a redação do texto dificultava a luta pelo direito.

Com a decisão do STF, ficará mais fácil que o empregado contaminado ou familiares de vítimas fatais sejam reparados pela perda.

Não é que a decisão do STF permita reconhecer o direito automaticamente, mas diminui o obstáculo quando classifica a doença como acidente de trabalho sem necessariamente precisar provar o nexo causal, principalmente a depender da categoria profissional.

Por exemplo, empregados da área de saúde terão maior facilidade em serem ressarcidos pelos danos. Segundo o ministro Roberto Barroso, é uma prova diabólica exigir a comprovação do nexo causal de quem se contaminou por coronavírus. “Eu penso que a maior parte das pessoas que desafortunadamente contraíram a doença não são capazes de dizer com precisão onde e em que circunstâncias adquiriram”, votou.

A decisão do STF ajuda, mas não dá para confiar só nela. É preciso que se leve em consideração outros fatores da relação de trabalho, a exemplo do fornecimento de equipamento de proteção individual (máscara, álcool e luva), histórico ocupacional do trabalhador e a identificação dos riscos.

Mesmo durante a pandemia, não se deve relaxar as medidas de segurança no trabalho por ser direito fundamental, sob pena de o empregador arcar pelo adoecimento do empregado. As principais implicações jurídicas são garantidas nas áreas trabalhista (ressarcimento de despesa médica e hospitalar, FGTS, dano moral e pensão civil) e previdenciária (estabilidade de 12 meses e influência positiva no cálculo do benefício).

### **Aftosa: Rio Grande y otras áreas dejarán de vacunar**

05/05/2020 - El MAPA publicó la normativa en el Diario Oficial de Brasil.

Brasil apura ampliar su zona libre de fiebre aftosa sin vacunación y ahora prohibió la fabricación, comercialización y uso de las dosis en Rio Grande do Sul. El Ministerio de Agricultura, Pecuaria y Abastecimiento (MAPA) publicó en el Diario Oficial la instrucción normativa prohibiendo el uso de vacunas en los estados que componen el bloque 1 del Plan Estratégico 2017-2026 del Programa Nacional de Erradicación de Fiebre Aftosa, donde están Acre y Rondonia, además de algunos municipios y parte de Amazonas y Mato Grosso.

A su vez, como una medida adicional, la Secretaría de Defensa Agropecuaria publicó otra normativa, complementando la restricción y el control de ingreso de animales vacunados contra fiebre aftosa en los estados y regiones antes citadas anteriormente.

Esas nuevas áreas se juntarán con Paraná en el proyecto de ampliación de zonas libre de fiebre aftosa sin vacunación, que cuenta con el apoyo y la participación de los sectores público y privado.

Brasil pretende que la Organización Mundial de Sanidad Animal (OIE) le otorgue el nuevo estatus sanitario a las zonas y estados mencionados en mayo del año que viene.

“La OIE exige la supresión del uso de la vacunación y la prohibición de ingreso de animales vacunados en las zonas que pretenden estar libres, por lo menos durante 12 meses”, explicó el director del Departamento de Salud Animal del MAPA, Geraldo Moraes.



Además de Acre y Rondonia, el bloque 1 lo integran los municipios de Apui, Boca do Acre, Canutama, Eirunepé, Envira, Guajará, Humaitá, Itamarati, Ipixuna, Lábrea, Manicoré, Novo Aripuanã, Pauini, así como parte del municipio de Tapuauá en Amazonas. En Rondônia se incluyen los municipios de Aripuanã, Colniza, Comodoro e Juína, en Mato Grosso.

### **Cobertura vacunal contra aftosa supera 80% en Rio Grande do Sul**

PORTAL DBO 07/05/2020

Dados ainda estão sendo computados e serão finalizados até 29 de maio; estado poderá ser declarado zona livre sem vacinação em 2021

A Secretaria da Agricultura, Pecuária e Desenvolvimento Rural (Seapdr) apresentou nessa quinta-feira, 7 de maio, os resultados preliminares da campanha antecipada de vacinação contra a febre aftosa, realizada de 16 de março a 24 de abril, e os próximos passos para o Rio Grande do Sul ser declarado zona livre de aftosa sem vacinação.

Segundo informações da secretaria de comunicação da Seapdr, os pecuaristas gaúchos vacinaram ao menos 90,09% do rebanho de 11.254.305 de animais – no total, são 12.492.170 milhões de bovinos e bubalinos de todas as idades. “O percentual de 85% já é considerado satisfatório, e a cobertura vacinal deve ser maior”, afirmou o secretário Covatti Filho, em live no Facebook.

Também participaram o secretário adjunto da Seapdr, Luiz Fernando Rodriguez Junior, o diretor do Departamento de Defesa Agropecuária, Antonio Carlos de Quadros Ferreira Neto, e o coordenador estadual do Programa Nacional de Erradicação e Prevenção da Febre Aftosa, Fernando Groff.

Em maio, inicia-se a contagem de um ano da Organização Mundial da Saúde Animal (OIE) para a certificação. No mês de agosto, o Ministério da Agricultura, Pecuária e Abastecimento (Mapa) fará a supervisão de acompanhamento do plano de ação e marcará nova auditoria para setembro. Em seguida, o Mapa deve realizar nova auditoria e encaminhar pedido para deliberação da OIE, em outubro. Em maio de 2021, a OIE pode reconhecer o Rio Grande do Sul como livre de aftosa sem vacinação.

A Seapdr elaborou plano de ação com 18 medidas para atender às ações apontadas em relatório final de auditoria do Mapa. De acordo com a secretaria de comunicação da pasta, os dois principais apontamentos dizem respeito à contratação de 150 auxiliares administrativos para ampliar o quadro de pessoal e de fiscalização e a aquisição de 100 veículos, sendo 72 pelo estado e 28 pelo governo federal.

A secretaria também já publicou instrução normativa proibindo venda e aplicação da vacina e impedindo o ingresso de animais vacinados em território gaúcho nos próximos 12 meses. O prazo para digitação e envio dos relatórios oficiais da campanha de vacinação termina em maio.

## **URUGUAY**

### **Oferta de ganado gordo “es escasa”, productores “aprovechan lluvias”**

06/05/2020 -

En el norte, las lluvias de las últimas horas “han sido buenas” y los productores “aprovechan de la ayuda del clima para retener la hacienda y especular con el futuro del mercado del gordo”, comentó Juan Pablo Helguera.

El director del escritorio Del Norte Agronegocios contó a Rurales El País que la oferta de ganado es “muy escasa”, mientras los frigoríficos ofrecen entre US\$ 3,20 y US\$ 3,25 por novillos kilo carcasa, entre US\$ 3,05 y US\$ 3,10 por vacas y US\$ 3,15 a US\$ 3,20 por vaquillonas.

Explicó que “todas las plantas manejan los mismos valores”, aunque “por algún lote muy grande y de calidad superior se puede llegar a pagar algún centavo más”. A futuro, comentó que “las expectativas para el ganado son buenas, en la medida que se reactive rápido la demanda internacional de carne”.

Por otro lado, Helguera dijo que la exportación de ganado en pie “está operando cautelosamente” sobre los terneros, ya que Turquía está embarcando de otros porque logra mejores precios. “Pensamos que pronto se va a reactivar la demanda porque el ganado uruguayo es muy valorado en Turquía”, dijo.

Señaló que se están comprando terneros de 250 kilos a un precio promedio de US\$ 2,15 a US\$ 2,20 por kilo en pie.

### **Exportaciones de carne a la UE de abril fueron las más bajas en 18 años – Japón principal destino de carne enfriadas**

07 de mayo de 2020

Exportaciones de carne a la UE de abril fueron las más bajas en 18 años

Las exportaciones de carne vacuna a la Unión Europea en abril fueron las más bajas desde fines de 2001 y en lo que va de mayo no se realizaron envíos, afectadas por el cierre de restaurantes en Europa debido al covid-19.





En el cuarto mes del año se exportaron apenas 1.119 toneladas peso canal, un 74% menos que el mes pasado (4.341 toneladas) y un 64% menos que en el mismo mes del año pasado (3.118 toneladas). En valor, totalizaron US\$ 6,7 millones, una caída de 63% interanual y de 77% respecto a marzo, según los datos del Instituto Nacional de Carnes.

El precio alcanzó un promedio de US\$ 6.002 la tonelada peso canal, US\$ 640 menos que en marzo y US\$ 220 por encima que en igual mes del año pasado.

Las ventas totales de carne en abril sumaron 27.519 toneladas, un 40% menos que las 45.941 de igual mes del año pasado. Todos los destinos bajaron en la comparación interanual.

China se mantuvo como el principal destino con 19.145 toneladas, un 38% menos que las 30.871 de un año atrás.

Brasil fue el destino que más bajó. Se enviaron apenas 173 toneladas, una caída de 85% respecto a un año atrás.

06/05/2020 - Compras de Japón demuestran una estabilidad, aseguró el Director de Tardáguila Agromercados.

En un contexto “muy particular” para la carne enfriada en el mundo, debido a la fuerte baja de compra de la Unión Europea, “Japón se posicionó en abril como el principal destino para las exportaciones uruguayas de carne bovina enfriada”, explicó a Rurales El País Rafael Tardáguila, director de Tardáguila Agromercados.

El especialista dijo que en el cuarto mes del año se enviaron al país asiático 147 toneladas de cortes de alto valor comercial, un “volumen bajo pero que lideró los negocios de Uruguay en el mundo”. El precio promedio de venta fue levemente superior a los US\$ 9.200 por tonelada.

Las empresas encargadas de las exportaciones de abril fueron Frigorífico BPU (NH Foods), Marfrig y Ontilcor S.A.

Tardáguila explicó que los volúmenes enviados demuestran cierta estabilidad en el mercado japonés, ya que en el primer trimestre del año se exportaron por mes unas 150 toneladas en promedio. “Las industrias uruguayas han encontrado en Japón una opción interesante que se mantiene constante”, agregó.

Por último, dijo que las ventas de carne uruguaya enfriada a los mercados de la Unión Europea totalizaron 265 toneladas, solamente un 10% de un mes promedio.

### **Fiebre Aftosa: se vacunan bovinos menores de dos años este mes**

03/05/2020 - Período empieza el 15 de mayo y llegará hasta el 15 de junio.

Desde mitad de mes y hasta el próximo 15 de junio, se desarrollará el segundo y último período anual de vacunación de los bovinos contra fiebre aftosa. En este caso, es el turno de los bovinos menores de dos años, una categoría muy especial a la que hay reforzarle la inmunidad contra la enfermedad.

Ante la actual situación de pandemia y a los efectos de disminuir los riesgos de transmisión del Covid-19, las Comisiones Departamentales de Salud Animal (Codesas) y los Servicios Ganaderos zonales, han elaborado los cronogramas y lugares de entrega de vacuna para cada departamento, siguiendo las pautas recomendadas (puede verse en [Mgap.gub.uy](http://Mgap.gub.uy)).

La vacuna será entregada al titular, presentando la Declaración Jurada de existencias de DICOSE de 30 de junio del 2019, la Planilla de Control Interno de existencias y Planilla de control sanitario actualizadas, según los calendarios de entrega que se adjuntan.

Es importante recordar que al momento del retiro de las dosis, es necesario poseer elementos apropiados para que las vacunas no pierdan la cadena de frío y por ende su efectividad. Esto es: conservadora con hielo o refrigerante en cantidad suficiente.

Como ya es tradicional, entre el 15 y 31 de mayo de 2020, no se podrá realizar movimientos de bovinos menores de dos años, ni eventos de concentración de bovinos (remates feria, exposiciones, etc). Las dosis deben ser aplicadas en el ganado en forma subcutánea y en las tablas del cuello, evitando decomisos durante la faena y problemas en cortes valiosos.

Es importante evitar la formación de abscesos y para eso hay que usar las agujas correspondientes y aplicar bien las vacunas, así como cuidar la cadena de frío de las dosis, llevando al tubo al momento de vacunar sólo las dosis que se van a aplicar.

### **Todavía no se define un protocolo de acción contra Covid-19 en frigoríficos**

01/05/2020 - Solo se definió un protocolo de prevención.

Los trabajadores, la industria frigorífica y las carteras de Trabajo y Salud, hasta el momento, no han definido un protocolo de acción contra el coronavirus en las plantas, ya que existe una distancia entre la posición de la Federación de Obreros de la Industria de la Carne (FOICA) y el resto de las partes.

Según informó el periodista Yonnatan Santos, la FOICA pretende parar por completo las actividades si llega a surgir un caso positivo, mientras las industrias y el Gobierno pretenden que se realice un aislamiento de la persona afectada y de la sección de trabajo.



Santos explicó que la próxima semana, lunes o martes, habrá una reunión en la Dirección Nacional de Salud en el Trabajo para avanzar en las negociaciones y llegar a un acuerdo. Hasta el momento el único protocolo definido es de prevención de ingreso de coronavirus.

### **La UE no ampliará el plazo de solicitud de la cuota Hilton**

05/05/2020 La Unión Europea ha rechazado la solicitud hecha por Uruguay para extender el plazo de solicitud de la cuota Hilton de cara a la exportación de cortes premium hacia la Unión Europea, informa Rosgan.

Previamente, Uruguay había solicitado a la UE que se contemplaran tres escenarios: postergar el envío por 90 días, pasar el cupo como un agregado a la cuota del próximo ejercicio 2020/2021 o enviar carne de la cuota 481 como si fuera de la cuota Hilton.

Para INAC, si Uruguay no logra completar las 1.700 t podría perder entre 4 y 5 millones de dólares. En la actualidad, de la cuota Hilton de 6.376 t que Uruguay tiene asignada, ha cubierto el 73%.

## **UNIÓN EUROPEA**

### **Lanzan medidas excepcionales para sostener la agricultura y la industria de alimentos**

05 May 2020 The European Commission takes action by enacting exceptional measures to support the agriculture and food sectors affected by the COVID-19 crisis.

The exceptional measures, originally announced on 22 April, include private storage aid for the dairy and meat sectors, the temporary authorisation to self-organise market measures by operators in hard hit sectors, and flexibility in the implementation of market support programmes. On top of these market measures, the Commission proposed to allow Member States to use rural development funds to compensate farmers and small agri-food businesses with amounts of up to €5,000 and €50,000, respectively.

Agriculture and Rural Development Commissioner Janusz Wojciechowski said: “We have acted swiftly to have all necessary measures available as quickly as possible to support farmers and those in need. Some agricultural and food markets have been hit hard by the crisis. However, I am now confident that the adoption of these measures will provide tangible support, send the right signal to markets, and soon provide some stability. This package and the previous support measures show that the Commission is ready and will act as the situation demands it. We will continue monitoring the situation in close contact with stakeholders, the European Parliament and Member States.”

The exceptional market measures proposed on 22 April and now fully adopted and published include:

Private storage aid: the Commission will support private storage aid for dairy (skimmed milk powder, butter, cheese) and meat (beef, sheep and goat meat) products. This measure allows the temporary withdrawal of products from the market for a minimum of 2 to 3 months, and a maximum period of 5 to 6 months. Applications to participate in the scheme will open from 7 May 2020. This measure aims to stabilise the market by temporarily reducing available supply.

Flexibility for market support programmes: the Commission will allow flexibility in the implementation of market support programmes for wine, fruits and vegetables, table olives and olive oil, apiculture and the EU's school scheme (covering milk, fruit and vegetables). This flexibility aims to limit available supply in each sector to lead to a rebalancing of markets. In addition, it will allow the reorientation of funding priorities towards crisis management measures.

Temporary derogation from EU competition rules: Article 222 of the Common Markets Organisation Regulation (CMO) allows the Commission to adopt temporary derogations from certain EU competition rules in situations of severe market imbalances. The Commission adopted such derogations for the milk, flowers and potatoes sectors. These derogations allow operators to self-organise and implement market measures at their level to stabilise their sector and in the respect of the functioning of the internal market for a maximum period of 6 months. For example, the milk sector will be allowed to collectively plan milk production and the flower and potatoes sector will be allowed to withdraw products from the market. Storage by private operators will also be allowed. Consumer price movements and any possible partitioning of the internal market will be monitored closely to avoid adverse effects.

In addition to the above, the Commission proposes that Member States with remaining rural development funds can use this money to provide support to farmers and small agri-food businesses in 2020. This should provide immediate relief to those most impacted by the crisis. Member States can offer support of up to €5,000 per farmer and €50,000 per small business. This comes on top of the de-minimis aid for the agricultural sector and the increased state aid ceiling previously adopted. This proposal needs to be submitted to the Council and the Parliament for approval.

These measures follow a wide-ranging package of measures adopted earlier on by the Commission. These measures provided support to the agri-food sector in these challenging times with increased



amounts for state aid, higher advanced payments, and extended deadlines to submit payment requests. The increased flexibility regarding Common Agricultural Policy rules aims to alleviate the administrative burden on farmers and national administrations.

### **COVID-confirman 19 casos en plantas frigoríficas irlandesas**

04 May 2020 Ireland's agriculture minister reports six infection clusters at plants.

According to reporting in The Irish Times and RTE (Ireland's national broadcaster), staff in the three meat plants are self-isolating. The infection clusters are stoking fears for the country's agrifood sector.

A spokesperson for Meat Industry Ireland, an industry group who represent producers, said production levels and processing throughput for the Irish beef industry is down about 20 percent on equivalent weeks in 2018, and down 30 percent compared to early March 2020, before lockdown measures were announced.

He says that the reduction, "is due to market disruption and the loss of demand from the food service market rather than any limitation on operational capacity."

The Dawn Meats plant in Kilbeggan announced on 1 May that it would idle operations, "out of an abundance of caution," after four confirmed cases of COVID-19.

"Dawn Meats takes the health, safety and welfare of employees, suppliers, contractors and visitors extremely seriously," it said. "We have implemented a detailed series of measures to manage risks associated with Covid-19, and to maintain social distancing in our facilities in line with procedures recommended by the Health Service Executive (HSE) and other government agencies.

"When we became aware of four confirmed cases of Covid-19 amongst workers in Kilbeggan we decided to defer production in the plant yesterday."

The company reports that the cases represent less than two percent of staff at the plant.

Dawn Meats said the decision would have "no impact" on its ability to supply customers or receive cattle from farmers throughout its network of plants across the country.

Members of the Dáil, Ireland's parliament, raised concerns on 30 April in relation to other plants.

Sinn Féin agriculture spokesman Brian Stanley said he had received a number of complaints from factories of Rosderra Irish Meats.

"...That factory, there are around 350 workers on the factory floor. There was up to 140 of those out sick throughout last week and 120 tested positive."

A spokeswoman for Rosderra Irish Meats Group said co-ordinated testing of all staff at its Roscrea plant has been taking place.

"A number of employees had a positive result from that testing, and they are self-isolating per HSE protocols," it said. "We have reconfigured the process with the remaining staff who have been tested and are clear of Covid-19 and are continuing with a scaled-down process in the short-term until the staff return.

"We expect those staff will be returning over the next number of weeks having adhered to HSE protocols."

Minister for Agriculture Michael Creed said his department was "aware of six clusters [of Covid-19], five in processing plants and one in a deboning plant"

IFA response

IFA President Tim Cullinan said the presence of clusters of COVID-19 in meat processing plants is concerning.

"The priority must remain the safety of everybody working in the sector, both inside the farmgate and outside it. It's important that measures are in place to protect those working in plants. The processors should continue to work closely with the HSE," he said.

"While there are very real concerns regarding clusters of COVID-19 in some plants, the vast majority of processing facilities have had few or no cases. Processors are going to great lengths to ensure the safety of their workers," he said.

"It's important that the processing sector continues to function. The food chain needs to stay moving and provide fresh produce to consumers. We need to avoid a build-up of animals on farms which could result in animal welfare challenges," he said.

"Farmers also need income during this very difficult time. While prices have been dropping, with beef prices being particularly badly hit, it is important that farmers can still sell their animals and have some form of income," he said.

"Given the importance of the food chain, there would be merit in making workers in the sector a priority for testing, after health care workers," he said.

## **ESTADOS UNIDOS**

### **COVID-19 Crisis en la industria de carnes**



### ***Feed-Lots abarrotados de hacienda por falta de demanda. Margenes afectados***

May 7, 2020 04:02 PM

Cattle feedlots are running out of space, and several processing plants are running at a low capacity or closed. Washington D.C. could soon take action.

Drovers reports there's a proposal developed by Beef Alliance that would fund placing feedlot cattle on a maintenance diet for 75 days. The proposal, called the Fed Cattle Set-Aside Program, would seek to alleviate the risk of massive economic collapse in the beef cattle industry.

It is an organization of commercial cattle feeders with members in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska, Texas and the Pacific Northwest. According to Farm Journal Washington Correspondent Jim Wiesemeyer the proposal is floating around Washington and the cattle industry.

"They are calling it a concept paper even though the title when you get it says final," says Wiesemeyer. "It just got to the House and Senate Ag Committee a few days ago. A lot of people are not commenting on whether they agree or disagree with it. I will tell you the key barometer will supposedly come later this week. We want to see what the National Cattlemen's Beef Association has to say about this proposal."

Wiesemeyer says the program may need legislative authority. The proposed payment rate for cattle in the Set-Aside program will be fixed at \$2.90 per head per day. It is intended to offset additional feed and operating costs incurred by holding cattle back from slaughter for 75 days.

A new report from CoBank says even if the reduced processing capacity at the nation's beef and pork plants is temporary, the effects will likely have a lasting impact on the entire meat industry.

The company's economist estimates meat supplies at grocery stores could shrink nearly 30% by Memorial Day, leading to prices rising by as much as 20%. However, some cattle producers say they are barely hanging on due to futures prices.

Iowa feed yard operator Jeff Pruess has been in the business for decades but says it was hard to prepare for 2020.

"It has always been a tough business but it's never been worse than it is now," says Pruess, based in Clarence, Iowa.

COVID-19 is complicating issues in the cattle market. Plants are significantly slowing down production or closing down as well.

"On the beef side, over the last three weeks, we have produced about 300 million pounds less beef than we did in the same period one year ago," says Oklahoma State University Extension specialist Derrell Peel.

Feedlots are staying full and cattle are getting larger with limited places to go.

"It's been really hard to sell any cash cattle in this area for about five weeks," says Pruess. "We are burning up equity at a fast rate. If something doesn't change, it's going to force us out of business."

Live cattle futures contracts are trading less than a dollar as boxed beef values continue to break records due to retail buying at the grocery store.

According to CZ CattleMarket Analytics, the daily spot choice box beef cutout ended the week on Friday, May 1, at \$377.45— that's \$84.08 higher compared to the previous Friday. On the same Friday last year, boxed beef was \$227.36. On Thursday afternoon, the Choice cutout was \$458.54.

Pruess says, "[Boxed beef is] over \$3.60 per hundred and the best bid you can find is \$1? That's limited, [that price] is more like 93 cents, 94 cents or 95 cents. At what point is something going to be done?"

It's severe enough [where] there's people generally concerned about their livelihood. People I thought I'd never have to worry about," says Phil Reemtsma, a cow-calf producer, feedlot operator and veterinarian in eastern Iowa.

The creators of the Sterling Profit Tracker, which estimates packer and producer margins saying they will not release a report this week because the model used "does not adequately account for those added costs."

According to hedgersedge.com, packer profit margin estimates are well over \$700 per head. However, that estimated number may not be exact because it doesn't account for changes as plants aren't running at full capacity and changing labor costs.

"We can lose between \$200, \$300 or even \$400 per head," says Pruess. "[It] depends on how we end up selling these cattle the next few weeks."

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) says the cattle market could lose more than \$13 billion due to the coronavirus. Relief is on the way for producers. There is agriculture relief money through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES). The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced it would issue payments to producers affected by the virus.

Many want the packers to pay what they feel is a fair price.

Reemtsma says, "How about instead of paying 95 cents and boxed beef is \$360, how about [the packer pays] a \$1.20 or \$1.25 [to make producers whole] rather than the government bailing [producers] out?"

The wide margin is gaining attention.



Drovers reported President Donald Trump told reporters on Wednesday he has asked the Justice Department to look into allegations that U.S. meat packers broke antitrust laws because the prices paid to farmers and ranchers have declined even as meat prices rose, Reuters reports.

"I've asked the Justice Department to look into it. ... I've asked them to take a very serious look into it, because it shouldn't be happening that way and we want to protect our farmers," the president said at a White House event attended by Secretary Perdue and Iowa governor Kim Reynolds.

Before the president's words, many organizations sent a letter to the Department of Justice last month asking for an investigation on price fixing by the meat packing industry. The letter alleges four companies control more than 80 percent of beef processing.

USDA already lumped the COVID-19 crisis into the Holcomb, Kansas, investigation.

"Rest assured, if the investigation yields any evidence of any violation of the Packers and Stockyards Act, we will begin immediate and necessary enforcement action and appropriate initial referrals to the Department of Justice for further consultation," Sonny Perdue told the Commodity Futures Trading Commission in April.

There are concerns contracts at the CME are not reflective of the cattle market on a day-to-day basis. Reemtsma says the pricing tools are dysfunctional because of market volatility. He says increased fund participation doesn't help.

Reemtsma says, "You have the funds in there using it as their own personal playground to drive the market one way or another all to make a bunch of money for themselves."

NCBA says the risk management tool needs to return to being a good producer risk-management tool.

"The futures markets were put in place to try to help producers hedge their risk," Colin Woodall, CEO of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, said on AgDay this past March. "You need liquidity in the market, you need people that are speculators, somebody [who] doesn't actually own or produce a commodity to jump in and to help make those markets work. What we see right now, we have a number of hedge funds, a number of entities that are utilizing an algorithmic or formula-based trading. When they do that, they no longer worry about a Cattle on Feed report, they no longer worry about a weather report. They no longer look at demand because that computer is looking at a formula of when it should buy and when it should sell."

In a statement, the CME Group says, "CME Group is actively engaged with market participants and trade organizations to ensure that our products remain effective hedging tools for the commercial hedger during this time of unprecedented market conditions. CME Group operates a comprehensive surveillance program to ensure our markets function as designed, provide price discovery, and facilitate risk transfer."

The CME Group says prices do not determine packer margins and futures price represents the price of live cattle delivered to the packer. Therefore, the price of boxed beef and packer margins are determined by the packer and the price at which they sell the finished product.

In the meantime, feed yards continue to feed cattle and will see where the industry lands after COVID-19.

### ***Fuerte contracción de la oferta genera crisis en el sector minorista***

08 May 2020 As COVID-19 shuts slaughterhouses and processing plants, cattle are left on-farm, leaving retailers hungry for beef.

Reporting from Reuters finds that farmers in the US and Canada have nowhere to ship their cattle, following shuttered slaughterhouses and the moribund food service sector.

Previous reporting from Reuters has shown that fast-food chain Wendy's is running out of beef, while Kroger and Costco limit sales of some meat items, underlining the growing dislocation in the meat supply chain.

Canada and the United States are among the world's biggest beef exporters, but outbreaks have forced plants owned by Cargill Inc, JBS SA and Tyson Foods to temporarily close or slow production, as they balance worker safety with food security.

"It's a horrible situation for us to watch," said Leighton Kolk, who normally ships 500 head of cattle to slaughter per week from his feedlot at Iron Springs, Alberta.

Last week, he moved 40 and is not sure there will be a single bid this week, at a time when he normally sees the highest prices of the year ahead of barbecue season. Each head of cattle that stays on his farm costs \$4 CAD per day to feed.

"The consumer is going to pay a huge price and we could approach financial insolvency because these animals are dropping in value," Kolk said.

Ryan Kasko, chairman of the Alberta Cattle Feeders' Association, estimates there are up to 80,000 Canadian cattle awaiting slaughter, and the number may reach 250,000 head by July.

"A month ago, I couldn't even imagine this," Kasko, a feedlot operator, said.

But beef buyers are seeing anything but glut conditions.



"From time to time, there could be some items that we're out of stock on," Wendys Chief Executive Todd Penegor told analysts on Wednesday. "It's probably a couple of weeks of challenging tightness that we'll have to work through."

Victor Colello, director of meat and fish at New York City grocery chain Morton Williams, said he has not had any trouble getting meat but that "prices are crazy."

"In the past two weeks, prices have gone up anywhere from \$3 to \$5 per pound. I find myself changing prices every two or three days."

"I'm 56 years old, I've been doing this all my life and I've never experienced something like this," Colello said.

Beef prices are jumping higher

The average unit price of fresh beef at US tracked retailers was 6 percent higher in the week ended 25 April than a year earlier, according to market research firm Nielsen.

Those prices are not reaching cattle farmers, however. Some packers offer no bids for cattle, while others offered prices that were 30 percent lower from January, Kasko said.

With packers offering low prices for cattle and meat prices high in stores, 11 Midwestern states on Tuesday urged the federal Department of Justice to investigate suspected price fixing by meat packers.

Kolk and Kasko normally ship to two Alberta plants that together supply two-thirds of Canada's beef, but are now coronavirus hotspots.

Cargill resumed production this week at High River, Alberta after a two-week shutdown, and JBS is producing more slowly at its Brooks, Alberta plant.

Tyson Foods has shuttered cattle slaughterhouses in Dakota City, Nebraska, and in Pasco, Washington, which partially reopened on Tuesday. US President Donald Trump has ordered meat processors to keep plants open.

Canada and the United States have both announced aid packages for the food and agriculture sectors.

Alberta rancher Kelly Smith-Fraser sees a long crisis ahead.

Price estimates for the calves she will sell in autumn are less than half of the usual price, as the feedlots who buy them cope with big cattle backlogs.

"Each day we are on pins and needles to make sure those plants stay open."

### ***Presión sobre los precios de carnes porcinas, bovinas y aves***

07 May 2020 The reduced meat production capacity has long-term implications for producers, retailers and consumers.

The reduction of meat processing capacity caused by US plant closures and slowdowns has created a massive bottleneck in the nation's meat and livestock supply chain. Nearly two dozen plants that process beef and pork products closed in April due to the COVID-19 outbreak, while many others have had to slow their production as a result of the disease.

According to a new report from CoBank's Knowledge Exchange division, even if the reduction of processing capacity is temporary, it will likely have a lasting impact on meat processors, livestock producers, retail stores and consumers. Meat supplies for retail grocery stores could shrink nearly 30 percent by Memorial Day, leading to retail pork and beef price increases as high as 20 percent relative to prices last year.

"Margins for cattle and hog farmers have fallen to multi-year lows," said Will Sawyer, lead animal protein economist with CoBank. "As meat plants have closed, farmers are left with few options for their livestock, requiring herds to be culled. Shrinkage in the US livestock herd will likely make the food supply shortage more acute later in the year."

Pork and beef production is down approximately 35 percent compared to this time last year, making retail shortages and price inflation nearly assured, Sawyer added.

While pork processing is expected to pick up in the coming weeks, hog producers may still be forced to euthanise as many as 7 million pigs in the second quarter alone, worth nearly \$700 million at historical average prices. This would further diminish meat supplies this fall and add to the billions of dollars of losses from lower livestock prices.

Declining meat production in April will likely lead to reduced grocery store supplies in May and June. Grocery stores are likely already rationing their current meat supplies. The supply chain and inventory from the meat plant to local grocery store meat cases is less than a few weeks.

"Significant contractions in meat supplies have often led to substantial inflation of retail beef and pork prices," said Sawyer. "In the past 20 years, retail pork prices experienced inflation of more than 10 percent just twice. And neither of those times did we see inflation climb to 20 percent, which may be coming in the months ahead."

President Trump's executive order to reopen closed meat plants could help stem the tide of additional plant closures and pave the way for closed plants to reopen. Meat processors have instituted several measures to ensure employee safety, reduce the spread of COVID-19 and keep protein supplies moving. However,



attracting enough workers to fill the thousands of vacant positions at meat plants across the US may be challenging in the near-term.

For consumers, closed meat plants means less meat in the grocery store in the weeks ahead. Up to this point, US consumers have been able to rely on grocery stores as many restaurants across the country have closed in response to “stay-at-home” orders in many cities and states.

As communities reopen with only about one week of meat supply in cold storage, shortages and stockouts in the meat case could not come at a worse time. Food inflation and a weak US economy is a combination that will leave many consumers in greater financial strain.

### ***Alzas en precios de la carne y en los requerimientos de importación***

07/05/2020 - En Europa la realidad es “opuesta”, los importadores “piden que no se compre carne”, aseguró Alejandro Olivera, director de Campo Meat.

La pandemia de coronavirus impactó en la producción de carne bovina y de cerdo en Estados Unidos, debido al surgimiento de varios brotes dentro de plantas frigoríficas que se vieron obligadas a detener sus actividades, a pesar que recientemente decretó la reapertura.

Esta situación generó un desabastecimiento de productos cárnicos en el mercado interno, a tal punto que en algunas regiones del país norteamericano las cadenas de supermercados están limitando la compra de carne a dos piezas por persona, comentó a Rurales El País Alejandro Olivera, director de Campo Meat, tienda de carne que opera cercana a Miami.

Olivera dijo que la faltante de carne “disparó los precios” de los cortes americanos y provocó un “aumento de la importación”, como también un incremento en el consumo de carne ovina. Además agregó que con la suba de valores “se podría llegar a vender carne bovina fuera de cuota, pero no me animo a decir que se podrá cuando el mercado se normalice”.

Por el contrario, Alejandro Olivera, que también cuenta con una tienda boutique en Italia, dijo que en Europa “está sucediendo todo lo contrario y nos piden que no se compre carne”.

Aseguró que la Unión Europea está en “estado crítico” y en el mercado italiano hay “cero ventas” desde que inició la epidemia, que se suman a dificultades políticas y económicas que ya arrastraba el país. “El coronavirus fue el tiro de gracia en Italia”, cerró.

### ***Mejora en el Mercado a futuro por reducción de la oferta***

08 May 2020 US live cattle futures surged by their daily trading limits for a second straight session on 7 May on soaring beef prices and concerns of meat shortages due to packing plant closures due to COVID-19.

Reuters reports that idled slaughterhouses across North America due to coronavirus have left ranchers without a place to ship their animals, and major outlets and retailers including Kroger and Costco have limited sales of beef items.

Wholesale boxed beef prices have surged to historic highs, taking with them meat packer margins, which have also swelled.

The price of cattle in the cash market has rebounded after US President Trump on 6 May said he had urged the Department of Justice to look into allegations that the meatpacking industry broke antitrust law.

Cash cattle traded earlier this week at \$95 per cwt, but prices paid by at least one large packer have since jumped to \$110 in the southern Plains.

"You can't turn on the news today without hearing about meat shortages and all-time-high prices," said Jeff French, analyst with Top Third Ag Marketing. "The packers got the call."

Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) June live cattle futures jumped to 93.975 cents per pound, rising by an expanded 4.5-cent daily limit following Wednesday's 3-cent limit gain. The daily limit will remain at 4.5 cents on Friday, the CME said.

Feeder cattle futures followed live cattle higher, with the actively traded August contract ending up 5.4 cents at 138.150 cents per pound.

Trump has declared meat processing essential, but some workers have said they are afraid to return, even with safety measures and limited production.

### ***President Trump solicita la intervención del Departamento de Justicia***

07 May 2020 President Trump said on 6 May that he had asked the Justice Department to look into allegations that the meat packing industry broke antitrust law due to price disparities in meat markets.

According to Reuters, the price slaughterhouses paid farmers for their animals continued to drop despite escalating retail prices for meat.

"I've asked the Justice Department to look into it. ... I've asked them to take a very serious look into it, because it shouldn't be happening that way and we want to protect our farmers," the president told



reporters at a White House event attended by Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue and Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds.

"Are they dealing with each other? What's going on?" the president asked.

As COVID-19 continues to spread in the United States, multiple large meat processing plants have idled production because of infected staff members. As a result, fewer markets are available to sell livestock and meat prices have risen due to restricted supply.

Trump issued an executive order last week labelling meatpacking plants "critical infrastructure" that must remain open.

Still, the supply shortage has led retailers Costco Wholesale Corp and Kroger Co to limit meat purchases and Wendy's Co to announce on Wednesday it would focus on marketing chicken, having taken its signature hamburgers off the menu at some restaurants.

Agriculture Secretary Perdue told reporters that US meatpacking plants shut down because of coronavirus outbreaks would be fully back in production in a week to 10 days.

He said in April the agency would investigate diverging prices for cattle and beef during the outbreak. He expanded a probe into the market that USDA began last year after beef prices paid by wholesalers soared and cattle prices paid to farmers tanked when a fire shut a Tyson Foods Inc slaughterhouse.

Unions have been calling for companies to provide more protective gear for slaughterhouse workers and ensure daily coronavirus testing.

Cattle producers complained that profits for meat processors like Tyson, Cargill Inc, JBS USA and National Beef Packing Co climbed during the pandemic as cattle prices have dropped due to closures of slaughterhouses.

"I'm glad outsiders are finally seeing the issues that the cattle industry has been dealing with for a long time," said Lee Reichmuth, a Nebraska cattle producer and board member for the United States Cattlemen's Association.

Asked about price-fixing allegations, Cargill spokesman Daniel Sullivan said that "the assertions lack merit, and we are confident in our efforts to maintain market integrity and conduct ethical business."

Tyson had no immediate comment, while JBS USA and National Beef Packing did not immediately reply to a request for comment.

### ***Denuncian por inhumanos métodos utilizados para sacrificar animales***

05 May 2020 Members of Congress urge Secretary Perdue to stop mass suffocation and prolonged animal deaths at US slaughterhouses.

As the COVID-19 pandemic places unique pressures on food supply chains in the United States, US Representative Lloyd Doggett (D-Texas), Chairman of the House Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, led Members in urging the Department of Agriculture to curb the extreme measures for "depopulation" at some animal slaughter facilities. Their letter raises concerns about mass suffocation of animals who are being quickly cleared from facilities and urges use of more humane practices.

"While remaining acutely focused on the safety of meat processing industry workers, I am also alarmed by the use of heat exposure, mass suffocation, and drowning, which cause animals unnecessary suffering," said Congressman Doggett. "How we treat animals is a reflection of our humanity. Every effort should be made to get food to those in need instead of wasting it. If depopulation of these farm animals is necessary, the USDA should act promptly to prevent the use of these most inhumane methods."

The Members detail the concerns with ventilator shutdown and water-based foam methods: "When executed with heat, ventilation shutdown for poultry and pigs causes animals to die by hyperthermia. However, ventilation systems often fail, instead causing animals to slowly die from suffocation caused by the high levels of carbon dioxide and other gases that quickly accumulate in the barns. The process is inhumane, distressing, and painful for the animals who can take many hours to die."

### ***Estiman que fue exagerada la reacción del sector ante el COVID 19***

Tempos tumultuosos no setor frigorífico vinculados à nova pandemia de coronavírus, provocaram pedidos de mudanças na estrutura do setor, mas dois economistas agrícolas da Universidade Estadual do Kansas estão alertando contra as reações exageradas a uma estrutura que já está sendo construída há anos.

Centenas de casos de COVID-19 foram confirmados em alguns dos maiores frigoríficos do país, causando interrupções na cadeia de suprimentos, pois as empresas lidam com trabalhadores ausentes e fecham temporariamente as fábricas, criando uma perda de capacidade de 40% no setor.

O fechamento deixou os produtores de gado com uma reserva de animais prontos para serem comercializados, o que significa custos mais altos de alimentação e animais potencialmente mais pesados. Do outro lado da cadeia de suprimentos, as interrupções significam disponibilidade irregular de carne no supermercado, com alguns supermercados temporariamente impondo limites à quantidade de compradores de carne que podem comprar.





A situação levou o presidente Donald Trump em 28 de abril a considerar os frigoríficos como “infraestrutura crítica” que deve permanecer aberta.

A pandemia e seus efeitos sobre todos os membros da cadeia de suprimentos de carne, além dos consumidores, provocaram pedidos de mudanças na estrutura da indústria frigorífica, que está amplamente concentrada em quatro empresas: Smithfield Foods, Tyson Foods, JBS e Cargill Meat Solutions. Esses quatro controlam cerca de 80% da capacidade de abate de carne nos EUA.

“Estamos em uma situação em que não acho que nossa indústria ou nossa sociedade realmente tenha enfrentado ou realizado os desafios associados a um evento como esse”, disse o professor de economia agrícola da Universidade Estadual do Kansas, Ted Schroeder.

A saúde dos funcionários dos frigoríficos, o suprimento de gado e as mudanças na demanda relacionadas ao fechamento de escolas e restaurantes estão acontecendo ao mesmo tempo e cada segmento da indústria está tentando cumprir seu papel da melhor maneira possível”, disse ele. “Isso cria uma indústria que está sob muito estresse, mas não é apenas essa indústria; é toda a sociedade.”

A professora do Estado de Kansas e especialista em marketing de gado, Glynn Tonsor, disse que os EUA estão no pior momento em termos de perda de capacidade e acrescentou que, em 4 de maio, a capacidade de processamento dos EUA era cerca de 40% menor do que na mesma semana do ano passado. “Espero que seja o mais baixo possível – mas não há garantia”, disse ele.

Diferentemente dos grãos, que podem ser armazenados a longo prazo, a carne é uma mercadoria perecível, o que complica a tomada de decisões em situações como essa, quando existem grandes interrupções no fluxo da cadeia de suprimentos

A situação, disse Tonsor, reacendeu as conversas sobre a concentração dos frigoríficos, mas alertou contra grandes mudanças em meio à atual crise.

“Em geral, quando você faz um procedimento cirúrgico, o médico aconselha quando você chegar em casa ou nas próximas semanas, mas não diz para você parar de se exercitar pelo resto da vida”, disse Tonsor.

A concentração atual no acondicionamento de carnes ocorreu devido a economias de escala, explicou Tonsor, que permitem que essas empresas produzam volumes mais altos a custos mais baixos por animal do que uma empresa menor poderia fazer. Essa eficiência, disse ele, significa preços mais baixos para os consumidores.

“Além disso, o valor das exportações de carne dos EUA aumentou notavelmente nas últimas duas décadas”, disse ele. “A indústria da carne bovina está se tornando cada vez mais dependente do mercado de exportação para sustentar o tamanho atual da indústria”.

Com isso em mente, Tonsor disse que é mais fácil para um comprador estrangeiro negociar com uma empresa do que com 30 empresas. “Uma reação exagerada à nossa estrutura atual pode significar uma perda de competitividade global”, acrescentou.

Schroeder apontou que o acondicionamento de carne é um segmento da indústria que exige muita mão-de-obra e precisa de um número significativo de pessoas altamente qualificadas, independentemente de quem é o proprietário desse segmento.

“A natureza de nossas plantas, o tamanho de nossas plantas, evoluíram para onde a produtividade do trabalho é tão alta quanto qualquer outra alternativa que temos atualmente”, disse ele.

A pandemia pode levar as empresas frigoríficas a olhar mais de perto para automatizar mais partes do processo, em vez de depender tanto do trabalho humano, disse Tonsor.

A pandemia do COVID-19 também reacendeu discussões sobre a descoberta de preços em bovinos de corte, que mudou nos últimos sete anos, principalmente com uma mudança no preço das fórmulas e no afastamento do comércio negociado, disse Schroeder.

Embora alguns acreditem que haja maior transparência nos negócios negociados, o meio de uma crise não é o momento de fazer mudanças radicais e de longo prazo, acrescentou.

“Sempre há espaço para melhorias, mas acho que é perigoso pular do penhasco sem estudar o que está do outro lado, por assim dizer”, disse Tonsor.

Schroeder sugeriu que é melhor analisar como e por que o sistema atual surgiu e se as informações sobre ele podem ser aprimoradas para fazê-lo funcionar com mais eficiência e eficácia.

“A maneira como estamos comercializando e valorizando o gado hoje evoluiu porque eles oferecem uma grande oportunidade para aumentar os sinais de valor enviados ao setor”, observou ele.

Quaisquer mudanças significativas, sejam elas relacionadas à pandemia ou não, devem ser feitas com vistas aos benefícios para o produtor de gado, o frigorífico, o varejista e o consumidor.

“Esses atos de equilíbrio são muito emocionais no meio de uma crise. Não quero nos ver exagerando no meio de uma crise para causar danos indevidos no futuro”, disse Tonsor.

Fonte: BEEF Magazine, traduzida e adaptada pela Equipe BeefPoint. This post was published on 7 de Maio de 2020



### ***Prevén dificultades para retomar un nivel de ocupación del 80%***

40% of the pork packing capacity is currently idled, and even with the President's Executive Order, increased safety measures and social distancing at plants means processing capacity won't be back to 100% anytime soon. ( AgWeb.com )

Packing plants either slowing or shuttering production are proving to be a painful bottleneck for the protein sector. Pork producers are now going to extreme measures as market-ready hogs have nowhere to go.

"It's an incredible strain and it's really unprecedented," says Nick Giordano, National Pork Producers Council (NPPC) VP and counsel, global government affairs. "This week we've had about 40 percent of our pork packing plant capacity out, it's been backing up hogs and prices have dropped to virtually nothing. Hogs are being euthanized."

Congressman Colin Peterson (D-Minn.) spoke about the dire situation earlier this week. The House Agriculture Committee Chairman said 160,000 hogs need to be euthanized per day at this point, as declined packing plant capacity causes massive backups.

The issue even grabbed the attention of President Donald Trump. He announced earlier this week an executive order for meat packing plants to stay open. NPPC called the move a step in the right direction.

It's absolutely a step in the right direction because job number one has been to cease to stop the plants from going down," says Giordano. "You also need to have an orderly process with more coordination between the federal government, the state and local governments."

Giordano says the executive order still requires packing plants to follow CDC and OSHA guidelines when keeping plants operations, but he says it also make sure state and local officials realize the food supply is critical infrastructure.

However, the President's order doesn't mean all shuttered packing plants will immediately come back online.

"Ordering a state packing plant to stay open and for that packing plant to operate are two very different things," says Lee Schulz, an economist with Iowa State University. "It is very reliant on the labor force to operate that packing plant, and we can't necessarily make those workers work. But if they are available to do work, I think the more attention [and] the more resources that we can get to help resolve the situation in the form of safety measures, in the form of testing, will allow us to potentially move to getting these packing plants either back on line or getting up to capacity level that allows us to move more hogs through this."

Dan Basse with AgResource Company says the executive order isn't the magic ticket in getting packing plants back to 100% operational. He thinks the packing industry could see lingering production strains.

"If you look at the processors, they're having to space out workers," says Basse. "We used to be shoulder to shoulder, elbow to elbow. Now we've got Plexiglass. We've got six feet spacing, the chain speeds will not be up to snuff. I'll be happy if we make it back to 80% to 85%."

He says getting back to at least 80% of normal processing capacity will be an improvement from today. Basse says with the current plant closures and slowdowns, the U.S. pork processing capacity is currently 60 to 65% of normal, and in cattle, it's 70% to 74%.

"I'm not anticipating we're going to get back to where we were, and then the question becomes, will there be shortages even going forward, and how did the workers respond to all of this," says Basse. "Those are questions that are open-ended, but the packing industry is not structurally set up to get back to 100%."

Smithfield Foods posted pictures on Twitter this week, saying they were they are protecting their people and showing how. The company added plexiglass and other safety measures that follow CDC and OSHA guidelines.

Even with the increased effort in stopping the spread of COVID-19 at plants, NPPC acknowledges that getting packing capacity back to 100% will be a challenge in the foreseeable future.

"I think that the plants have made it clear that health and safety comes first," says Giordano. "We're not going to see all these plants just come back on stream. They're going to come back on stream when people are confident that they're ready to come back on stream."

If plants don't come back online soon, pork producers will be facing a similar predicament in searching for solutions on places to take their animals. However, any relief in the processing portion of the food chain would be a welcome change, could help relieve the growing pressure put on producers today.

"That is the critical bottleneck that right now," says Schulz. "We have a monumental challenge of getting hogs off the farm and into the packing plants at the moment. Now, it's not the only bottleneck, but it's really the bottleneck that is having ramifications up and down the supply chain."

NPPC says it knows the President's Executive Order this week won't be the only solution to help pork producers right now.

"This is an unmitigated disaster," says Giordano. "Producers need cash. So, we're working to get them payments without limitation."

Giordano says the pork industry learned some key lessons in the late 1990s, which includes why payment limitations, and restrictions based on size, will hurt many operations.



"What happened after 1998 was the government didn't provide very much relief in the industry to consolidate it," he says. "One of the great ironies here is you hear about payment limitations and 'let's not take care of the big guys', but my recollection is some of the largest producers didn't survive the late 1990's. The way the industry is structured - that there's a lot of big players that utilize contract growers, but the big players are the ones that own the hogs and take the risk."

He says NPPC and other organizations have been striving to help Congress understand that the pork industry isn't structured like it was in the 1990s, and any financial help needs to cover all of the pork industry, without payment or size limitations.

### ***Tres inspectores del USDA fallecieron a causa de la enfermedad***

05.07.2020 By Ryan McCarthy

WASHINGTON — USDA federal meat inspectors look to be the latest victims of the coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading inside processing plants in the United States.

Tim Kaufmann, spokesperson for the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), a union representing 6,500 federal food inspectors, confirmed that three inspectors have died – one from Illinois, one from Mississippi and one from New York City.

A USDA Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) spokesperson said, about 197 field employees were absent from work as of May 5 and another 120 were under self-quarantine.

FSIS also said that it now has enough masks and face coverings on hand to keep its inspection personnel supplied for the next few months.

"The safety and well-being of our employees is our top priority," a USDA spokesperson said in a statement. "We thank those working on the front lines of our food supply chain for remaining on the job and for making sure the American people have access to safe food."

The association also said it has supplemented its inspection personnel by increasing the number of hours part-time workers can work and by calling on other USDA employees who have been trained in inspection from other parts of FSIS, the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

Following President Donald Trump's executive order to keep meat processing plants open last week, the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW) urged the administration to strengthen COVID-19 testing and worker safety measures in order to keep the supply chain moving.

According new estimates from the union released on May 6, more than 8,000 meatpacking workers have been hospitalized or are showing symptoms, and at least 27 have died.

### **Exportaciones de carne bovinas firmes en el mes de marzo**

USMEF May 7, 2020 Underpinned by record production, U.S. pork exports completed a tremendous first quarter with new March records for volume and value, according to data released by USDA and compiled by the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF). Beef exports also trended higher year-over-year in March, establishing a record first quarter pace.

"March export results were very solid, especially given the COVID-19 related headwinds facing customers in many international markets at that time," said USMEF President and CEO Dan Halstrom. "Stay-at-home orders created enormous challenges for many countries' foodservice sectors, several key currencies slumped against the U.S. dollar and logistical obstacles surfaced in some key markets - yet demand for U.S. red meat proved very resilient."

Some recent events, including temporary closures of several U.S. processing plants, are not reflected in the first quarter export data. Halstrom cautioned that April and May exports could slow as a result, but his outlook for 2020 remains positive.

"These are truly unprecedented circumstances, creating an uncertain global business climate," Halstrom explained. "The U.S. meat industry has spent decades developing a loyal and well-informed customer base throughout the world, which has embraced the quality and value delivered by U.S. red meat. Their commitment to U.S. products during this crisis is much-appreciated."

Strong demand from China/Hong Kong continued to drive U.S. pork exports to new heights, but March exports also increased significantly to Mexico, Japan and Canada. Export volume reached 291,459 metric tons (mt), up 38% from a year ago and topping the previous record set in December 2019. Export value increased 47% to \$764.2 million. Through the first quarter, pork exports increased 40% from a year ago to 838,118 mt, valued at \$2.23 billion (up 52%).

Pork export value per head slaughtered reached \$63.99 in March, up 32% from a year ago. The January-March per head average was \$64.66, up 40%. March exports accounted for 31.6% of total pork production and 28.4% for pork muscle cuts - each up about six percentage points from a year ago, even as March production increased by 12%. Through the first quarter, exports accounted for 31.4% of total pork production and 28.5% for muscle cuts, up from 24.4% and 21.3%, respectively, in 2019. U.S. pork



production was up 9% in the first quarter, with industry expansion fueled by strong international demand, especially in several key Asian markets still battling African swine fever (ASF).

Driven by solid growth in Japan, where U.S. beef is benefiting from reduced tariffs under the U.S.-Japan Trade Agreement, as well as South Korea, Mexico, Canada and Taiwan, March beef exports totaled 115,308 mt, up 7% from a year ago, valued at \$702.2 million - up 4% and the highest monthly value since July. First quarter beef exports climbed 9% from a year ago to 334,703 mt, valued at \$2.06 billion (up 8%). Beef export value per head of fed slaughter was \$308.21 in March, down 8% from the very high March 2019 average. For the first quarter, per-head export value increased 2% to \$317.06. March beef exports accounted for 13.9% of total production and 11.3% for beef muscle cuts, down from 14.8% and 12%, respectively, a year ago. Exports accounted for 14% of first quarter beef production and 11.4% for muscle cuts, each up slightly year-over-year. U.S. beef production increased by 14% in March and 8% in the first quarter as export growth continued to make a critical contribution to carcass value even as the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the global foodservice sector.

### **Trump evalúa el cumplimiento de la Primera Etapa del acuerdo firmado con CHINA**

08 May 2020 President Trump told reporters that he would be able to report whether China is fulfilling its obligations under a Phase 1 trade deal between the two countries within two weeks.

Reuters reports that Phase 1 of the trade deal was signed in January before COVID-19 spread globally.

The Trump administration is weighing putative actions against Beijing over its early handling of the pandemic as economic damage increases. The President said he was "watching closely" whether China would meet its commitments to increase purchases of US farm goods.

He said China was buying a lot of American farm products, but questioned whether the purchases were at the levels needed to meet the deal's commitments on US agricultural and manufactured goods, energy and services.

"I'll be able to report in about a week or two as to - not only with the farmers, but with many other industries also," Trump said.

"They understand they have a deal and hopefully they're going to get with the deal and we'll see. They may. They may not. We're going to find out," Trump added.

Under the trade deal, China agreed to increase its purchases of US goods from a 2017 baseline by \$200 billion over two years, with about \$77 billion in increased purchases in the first year and \$123 billion in the second year. But the health crisis dealt a sharp blow to Chinese demand and its economy is only starting to recover.

Trump's promise to check on Chinese purchases of US goods comes as both sides lock horns over the origins of the new coronavirus, which has infected over a million people in the United States.

"The rapport that seemed to have developed between the two countries during their trade talks is now just a distant memory," the state-controlled China Daily wrote in an editorial on Thursday.

Washington has pledged to launch negotiations with Beijing on a Phase 2 trade deal tackling government subsidies and thornier technology transfer issues, but there has been no effort to start these talks since the coronavirus has locked down large parts of the US economy.

US officials have said they are weighing actions against China, including possible tariffs and moves to shift supply chains away from China.

Asked about these at a White House briefing, Trump said, "We're in the midst of some very big things, so I just don't want to talk about that now."

But comments by White House press secretary Kayleigh McEnany on Wednesday highlighted a deepening rift between Washington and Beijing.

"Right now it's a relationship of disappointment and frustration because the president has said how frustrated he is that some of the decisions of China put American lives at risk," McEnany said.

## **AUSTRALIA**

### **Recesión mundial afectará las exportaciones de carnes rojas?**

07 May 2020 The outlook for the world economy has continued to be revised lower in recent months, as the realities of COVID-19 have set in. In April, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) revised their forecast for global GDP growth in 2020 to a 3.0% contraction – a stark contrast to the 3.3% growth forecast back in January or the 2.9% estimated for 2019. Other pundits are even more pessimistic on the prospects for global growth in 2020.

11 of Australia's top-15 most valuable red meat export markets are now expected to enter recession in 2020 and those that are still expanding have had the growth rates slashed. Australia, still the industry's single largest market, is also expected to enter recession after three decades of uninterrupted growth.



GDP on its own doesn't determine demand for Australian red meat. It does, however, reflect the broader health of economies around the world and correlates with unemployment, consumer confidence and income – factors which do directly impact red meat sales.

So, what is the impact of a 3.0% contraction in the global economy? Some inferences can be drawn from history however the very nature and breadth of the current crisis is unprecedented.

The Global Financial Crisis (GFC) is the most recent example of a global contraction however it was mostly limited to developed economies – notably the US, EU and Japan. During the GFC much of Asia continued to expand, supported by the economic weight and massive stimulus from China. According to the IMF, China's economy is expected to grow at just 1.2% in 2020, compared to 9.4% in 2009.

In addition, COVID-19 is simultaneously impacting the economy and changing the way people purchase and consume products. Both consumer purchasing power and behaviour will change in ways previous economic downturns have not seen.

**GFC impact on red meat exports**

The contraction in the world economy from the GFC lasted from Q4 2008 to Q3 2009, but high unemployment and low inflation persisted for a number of years after. Europe was still grappling with a sluggish economy going into the current crisis.

Average Australian beef export prices (deflated and converted to US dollars) declined sharply at the start of 2009 and didn't return to their pre-crisis trend until the end of 2010, as illustrated below. If export prices had remained on trend over the period of the GFC, and assuming export volume was unaffected, the lost beef export revenue from the economic downturn equates to just over US\$1 billion FOB (2015 dollars). That's comparable to the value of Australian beef exports to Korea.

The price impact from the GFC on sheepmeat was more modest. Average export prices cooled between Q4 2008 and Q2 2009, but the softening of the market pales in significance compared to the strong price acceleration amidst a very wet 2010 and 2011, which sparked a flock rebuild. If export prices had remained on trend over the period of the GFC and assuming export supply was unaffected, the lost sheepmeat export revenue from the economic downturn was just under US\$120 million FOB (2015 dollars). That's roughly the same size as sheepmeat exports to Malaysia, Australia's fourth most valuable sheepmeat export market in 2019.

Beef exports were likely more affected by the GFC than sheepmeat due to market mix and the overbearing influence the US has on world beef markets. In 2009, Australia's top three beef export markets – Japan, the US and Korea, which accounted for 77% of export revenue – all dipped into recession. By contrast, Australia's sheepmeat export footprint was far more diversified and China was just emerging as a major buyer. In addition, lamb relied on a sizable domestic market, which was largely unaffected over the period of the GFC thanks to the mining boom.

**GDP growth important but not the only driver**

The figure above illustrates the impact of the GFC on export pricing but it also highlights the influence other market forces – such as the rise in beef prices from 2003 after the US was banned from Japan and Korea due to BSE, or the added support China has lent to beef and sheepmeat markets in recent years. Seasonal conditions, market access changes and currency movements may be equally important factors driving pricing through the uncertainty ahead.

GDP growth isn't the best, or only, measure of market health. Japan, for instance, has had notoriously sluggish growth for the last decade but it remains a critical beef market for Australia. That said, the impending contraction in key economies around the world will act as a handbrake to export demand. The economic slowdown is expected to be deeper, broader and may last longer than the GFC and, simultaneously, COVID-19 impacting supply chains and consumer behaviour in many ways.

### **Exportaciones de carnes aumentaron por encima de lo esperado en Abril**

Jon Condon, May 5, 2020 AUSTRALIA'S April beef exports to all markets declined somewhat – but not as much as what some trade identities anticipated, in the wake of COVID-19 market and logistics disruptions.

In fact much of the reduction in export tonnage can be explained by lower rates of slaughter brought on by herd rebuilding following summer rain across large parts of eastern Australia.

Total volume shipped during April, according to Department of Agriculture figures released yesterday, reached 92,476 tonnes, down about two percent on March figures, and back 6.3pc on April last year.

Key features in April export trade included a sharp rise in exports to China, and a somewhat dramatic decline in exports to the US, which may include some COVID-19 impact.

In fact, reduced rates of processing during the month appears to largely account for the overall reduction in exports. The past four weeks of April has seen eastern states beef kills averaging 121,000 head – virtually the same as the four-week March period, but about 10,000 head per week below the same period last year, when cow slaughter was still happening at full throttle due to drought.

Worth noting, also, there were 19 working days in April, as opposed to 22 in March, which inevitably reduces total available meat for export or domestic consumption.



### Country-by-country

Japan remained Australia's single largest export market for the month of April, but only by the narrowest of margins.

Total exports to Japan last month reached 23,850t, down 10pc on March, but 8pc stronger than this time last year. Calendar year to date exports have reached 92,600t, about 5pc better than the same four-month period last year.

China exports mounted a solid recovery last month, after slipping in March due to issues surrounding COVID-19. Total volume for April reached 23,788t – just short of volume to Japan – and up almost 30pc on March figures. Year-on-year trends were also higher, up 15pc on April last year.

Trade sources say the April figure contains some residual tonnage from shipments made earlier, when Australian exports intended for China were temporarily diverted to other destinations due to COVID-related port clearance difficulties. Some of those shipments only found their way to their original intended destination during April, apparently.

Beyond that, China imported beef demand continues to rebuild to closer to normal, following the dramatic price collapse seen in late-December and January, followed by the broader market impacts brought on by coronavirus. The lifting of some people movement restrictions in parts of China is again seeing more people eating out, and food service demand for beef again starting to build.

Calendar year to date, China has now taken 79,900t of Australian beef, up 10pc on the same period last year. However the dramatic market surge that took place in China last year did not really start to surface until around mid-year.

Biggest export market impact seen this month is arguably the United States, where Australian export volumes to east and west coast ports reached only 15,536t during April. While that figure is down only 9pc on March, it is in fact down 28pc on April last year.

There's a suite of Covid-related reasons for the reduction, but one of the key factors, analysts tell Beef Central, is the move that's been seen among consumers from food service into retail.

Australian frozen lean trim that forms the largest part of Australia's exports into the US is ideal for blending with fattier US domestic trim, to form the ideal burger patty used for food service operations.

But as consumers have swung heavily to retail beef purchasing for home consumption, demand patterns have changed. US consumers expect the grinding beef they purchase through retail supermarkets to be chilled only – not frozen – which makes it virtually impossible for Australian supply to accommodate. That challenge is reflected in the frozen portion of Australia's April exports, at barely 70pc – unusually low.

Calendar year to date, exports to the US have reached 67,900t – down a significant 15pc from the same four-month period last year. Lower cow slaughter this year in Australia (i.e. grinding beef) is contributing to that trend.

South Korea, which has been held up as a model for COVID-19 containment around the world, has been among Australia's most stable export markets so far in 2020.

Volumes shipped in April reached 12,704t, down just marginally from March, but 12pc lower year-on-year. Exports year-to-date have reached 48,700t, a little below the 52,900t exported for the same period last year.

### Other markets trend lower

Export beef trade into secondary volume markets was mostly down during April.

Indonesia took 4225t last month, a big 27pc decline from March exports, which can be explained by the arrival of Ramadan festival period, for which stock built up during March. Year to date, Indonesia has accounted for 18,800t of Australian beef, virtually the same as last year.

The Middle East region accounted for 2061t of Australian beef in April, down 15pc on March, and 30pc lower than this time last year, as cheap Brazilian exports continue to out-compete Australian product. Year to date volume is just short of 9000t, down 4pc from last year.

Australian beef trade into the European Union region continues to be very flat, with just 567t consigned in April, down another 8pc on March, and 39pc below April last year. For the first four months of the year, volume has reached 3429t, down 23pc on last year.

Trade to Singapore last month reached 2643t, while Taiwan took just short of 2000t.

### Offals sharply down

While the above summary records trade in muscle meat and manufacturing meat only, trade in offals appears to be sharply impacted by COVID-19.

Total edible beef offal ('fancy meat') exports in April reached 14,553 tonnes, and year to date, 53,000t.

## **Suben precios de las menudencias y retroceden los cueros**

07 May 2020

Key points:

Demand for lower value red meat products has seen offal prices surge.

Tightening cattle supply and African Swine Fever should support the offal market.



Hide prices remain flat as suppliers wait on end markets and tanneries to reopen.

Beef offal prices have found support across several categories, as offshore demand for lower value red meat products remains strong. Since the start of the year, more lucrative Asian markets have shifted towards cheaper alternatives as consumers face financial pressures and popular dining outlets continue to be impacted by social restrictions. Premium products such as tongue and thickskirt have failed to find support, easing close to 15% year-on-year. However, lower cost products such as kidney, cheekmeat and liver prices rallied substantially on year-ago levels.

Elevated prices have also been exacerbated by Australia's tightening cattle supply. As outlined in MLA's April Cattle Projections report, adult cattle slaughter is forecast to fall nearly 20% in 2020, with beef production forecast to drop 16%, further impacting offal volumes available for export. This could see offal prices move higher, underpinned by reduced supply. Looking beyond international lockdowns, large parts of Asia continue to be affected by outbreaks of African Swine Fever. Subsequently, demand for offal products is unlikely to ease over the next 12 months, despite the impact of COVID-19 on global demand.

The hide market has continued to come under pressure, with tanneries in China and Europe closed, and excess inventory still a challenge. Some movement has resumed in China, with several tanneries resuming operations and moving product through the supply chain. However, with end markets such as furniture and automotive factories still closed, output remains subdued. Premium hides could start to see movement in the coming months with the leather industry pushing for tanneries to re-open in Italy however, for lower valued hides it could be at least 6 to 12 months before buyers generate more activity.

### **Australia pierde competitividad: retención ganadera y movimientos cambiarios**

Beef Central, May 6, 2020

THE slump in cattle prices in the US as COVID-19 forces processing plant closures and a large buildup of slaughter-ready cattle has helped push Australia back to the top of the rankings in terms of world cattle prices.

Foreign exchange movements have also contributed to the trend, with the A\$ appreciating by about US9c, or 14 percent, since its low-point in mid-March. This is making Australian cattle (and beef exports) look relatively more expensive, when measured in US dollar terms.

Independent analyst Simon Quilty last week plotted Australian, Brazilian, US, Uruguan and Argentinean trade/feeder steer values in the graph below.

As can be seen in the graph, Australia slipped past the US in the comparison during week 15. Australia last went past the US for the most expensive trade/feeder cattle in the world back in 2016.

As of last week, Australia's feeder steers prices became the most expensive in the world, surpassing US feeder prices at US224c/kg.

But the real concerning factor for Australia, Mr Quilty says, is the price difference that has emerged between Australian feeder cattle and South America's feeder steers. The table below shows that Australian prices are now 31 percent above Uruguay levels, and 75pc above both Brazil and Argentina's pricing.

"It is an important reminder of how uncompetitive Australia's pricing is against our major beef export competitors and how unsustainable these levels are," Mr Quilty said.

"Australia having record global steer prices may not be sustainable given the downturn that's been seen in global food service markets. Slaughter capacity in Australia is likely to fall in coming months as current cattle prices become unsustainable. The quality end of the global food service beef and lamb markets is struggling, and will take at least six months to recover," he said.

In the meantime re-stockers might well be the 'only game in town', and without overseas markets paying good money for middle cuts and food service items, then Mr Quilty believes paying these current high prices for feeder steers is unsustainable.

Foreign Exchange is working against Australia and the US

One of the key reasons for Australia's feeder steers being so expensive currently is the high A\$ value – as much as 34pc higher in value against Uruguay's Peso, 38pc higher than the Brazilian Real the 69pc higher than the Argentinian Peso. This was intensified last month when the A\$ rallied 9pc against the US\$, while the Argentinian and Brazilian currencies fell 3-5pc – making Australian livestock even more uncompetitive. US exports are also trying to compete with South American meat products, and like Australian are at a clear disadvantage.

Currency movements create challenges in China market

"When looking at Australia, New Zealand and US competitiveness into China against South America, both in terms of foreign exchange and cattle prices, it shows the challenges that lie ahead given South America's combined market share into China is 78pc," Mr Quilty said.

"South America's cattle prices are on average 36pc cheaper than Australia's, and 34pc cheaper than US prices. South American currencies keep falling against the US\$ and A\$, making their cattle and meat exports even cheaper," he said.



Much of the reason for Australia's high cattle and sheep prices was the fact that Australian cattle herd and sheep flock are in the process of rebuilding after being decimated for two years by severe drought.

"Both breeders and re-stockers are taking advantage of the grass and looking to buy anything that's suitable," Mr Quilty said. "In recent weeks, re-stockers have been outcompeting both lotfeeders and processors for cattle, as 'green fever' set in."

As a result, Australian re-stockers were banking on putting more weight on their cattle at a faster rate than cattle prices fall.

"Given that Australian feeders are now the most expensive in the world and global beef markets have fallen in value, I am not sure if this is a winning strategy. Next year might be different," Mr Quilty said.

Should good rains continue, as expected, then the rebuild in Australia could continue in earnest for the next two to three years, he suggested.

The last six months of the drought was particularly devastating when a record number of females were slaughtered, Mr Quilty said. He estimated the national herd size by mid-2020 would reach around 24 million head, but given the likely good seasons ahead, it was likely to rebuild to 29.2 million head by 2024.

Short-term pain, for long-term gain

The cost of COVID-19 on global markets had been significant and in particular, on the food service sector where market failure is occurring, he said.

"Meat supply to markets I believe needs to slow down in volume for them to have a chance of recovery. I expect a fall in feeder steer prices over the next six months in the range of 20-25pc compared to March levels, as it will take time to recover.

"The impact on the global cow market will be significantly less given China's role in giving support to the global cow market in the third and fourth quarter of 2020. I expect a milder fall of 10-15pc, which will occur within the next 2-3 months," he said.

The long-term gain would be in improved pricing in 2021, Mr Quilty said, as global markets shake-off the shackles of COVID-19 and quickly recover, producing a rebound effect in global growth.

"Recent forecasts by the International Monetary Fund support this view, with a 3.4pc growth in the first half of 2021 and a 5.8pc increase in the second half.

Mr Quilty anticipates the Eastern Young Cattle Indicator to fall from its 704c/kg high recorded on its last reported day on 28 March, to around 640c/kg by November/December, before recovering to a new record level of around 850c/kg in March/April next year. The EYCI may then fall away again to around 610c/kg around August next year, he predicts.

## CANADA

### **Autoridades sanitarias dejan en manos de las empresas la decisión de cerrar ante casos de COVID**

04 May 2020 Reporting from Reuters finds that Canada's public health officials are allowing decisions on meat plant closures to be made by packing companies, despite provincial authority to enforce stoppages.

According to analysis from Rod Nickel of Reuters, Canada's health officials are deferring to meat packing companies when deciding when to suspend operations, even though provincial health officials have the power to close plants.

Nickel reports that in Cargill Inc's High River, Alberta plant, supplier of more than one-third of Canada's beef, 391 workers were sick with coronavirus when the company suspended operations.

However, Alberta Health Services (AHS) has the power to close plants with unsafe conditions, spokesman Tom McMillan said.

The impact of such decisions extends beyond plant walls. They are at the heart of Alberta's two largest community outbreaks and could foreshadow dilemmas likely to emerge as other industries restart.

Canada's approach serves as a stark contrast with the US's active political role with processing plants, which are experiencing their own coronavirus outbreaks. Workers in numerous North American plants have fallen ill or walked off the job. President Trump issued an executive order stipulating that meat plants remain open, and state and local officials successfully petitioned for some to close, including Smithfield Foods' South Dakota abattoir.

Jon Nash, President of Cargill Protein North America, said Cargill reduced production at its Alberta plant on 13 April and remained open before closing entirely a week later to avoid wasting food, and because ranchers needed a market for cattle.

Factors outside the Cargill plant, such as crowded households and carpooling, contributed to the spread in High River, health officials said.

Cargill said on 29 April that High River would resume reduced production on 4 May after a two-week closure for cleaning and additional safety measures.

Cargill's decision to operate as long as it did before the temporary closure rankled some workers.





"It absolutely pisses me off," said Jamie Welsh-Rollo, a single mom who seals meat in plastic in the High River plant and is a United Food and Commercial Workers Union (UFCW) shop steward. "We're looked at as numbers."

At least eight meat plants across Canada have temporarily closed due to the pandemic. As of 29 April, 821 workers at High River, nearly 37 percent of the workforce were infected with coronavirus. One worker has died.

And Cargill is not alone. A JBS SA beef plant in Brooks, Alberta slowed production but remains open after 276 infections and one death.

In High River, Welsh-Rollo feared passing the virus to her four-year-old son, who has an auto-immune deficiency, and saw problems with Cargill's precautions.

According to Welsh-Rollo, Cargill asked health screening questions in English to workers entering the plant. However, many staff members are immigrants or foreign workers. Welsh-Rollo also reports that the 31-year-old plant was too cramped to make distancing measures effective.

Cargill's Nash said the company has worked closely with AHS on safety protocols, including face masks for workers.

Adrienne South, spokeswoman for Alberta's Labour Minister, said multiple ministries helped ensure the plant's safety but added that "the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is responsible for the plant."

CFIA said in a statement that it cannot suspend plant operations over coronavirus, since its authority to stop food production over health risks is limited to food safety concerns.

The decisions to prolong operations baffle Sylvain Charlebois, director of the Agri-Food Analytics Lab at Dalhousie University, an institute that analyses food and agriculture issues.

"I don't understand why it took so long [to close] at High River," he said.

### **Aprueban presupuesto para sostener el sector agropecuario**

06 May 2020 Canada will invest \$252 million CAD to help farmers and food processors weather the coronavirus slump.

According to Reuters, industry groups say the funding falls short of what is needed. The Canadian Federation of Agriculture (CFA), one of the country's biggest farm groups, asked last week for 10 times the amount that was approved, an initial \$2.6 billion CAD in emergency funding, to cover industry losses and costs.

While some of Canada's 10 provinces are beginning to reopen after lockdowns to fight the coronavirus, demand for many food products has dropped since mid-March, with most restaurants and bars shuttered.

"We will continue to work... to ensure that our food capacity in this country and these people who work so incredibly hard every single day to feed Canadians get the support that they need," Trudeau told reporters, adding that the government could provide more money if needed.

Industry groups immediately called for more aid.

"If your house is burning down and I offered you a bucket of water to put it out, you're probably going to have an issue," said CFA President Mary Robinson in an interview with CTV News.

About 40 percent of small- and medium-sized businesses in the farm and food sector have seen a significant demand drop, Canadian Chamber of Commerce President Perrin Beatty said.

Tuesday's announcement, he said, was a "first step," but falls "short of what the sector needs and will lead to delays in the ability of agriculture firms to address the impacts of COVID-19." Canada's total coronavirus death toll rose to 3,915 on 5 May, up about 4 percent from 3,766 on the previous day, according to official data.

Several food processing plants, have had to temporarily shut down after workers became infected with COVID-19.

Trudeau said beef and pork producers, who have been forced to keep livestock on farms longer because of processing shutdowns, will receive \$125 million CAD in disaster relief funding.

Food processors will get \$77 million CAD to help buy personal protective equipment for workers, adapt to health protocols or increase processing capacity, while the Canadian Dairy Commission will see its credit increased to \$200 million CAD.

## **EMPRESARIAS**

### **Tyson retoma actividades en un establecimientos**

PORTAL DBO 05/05/2020

Termômetros infravermelhos, clínica médica móvel e verificações de bem-estar são algumas das novas medidas de proteção contra a Covid-19 adotadas pela empresa norte-americana

6:11 PM

A norte-americana Tyson Fresh Meats, subsidiária de carne bovina e suína da Tyson Foods, anunciou nesta terça-feira, 5 de maio, que está retomando a produção em sua unidade de carne bovina em Pasco,



Washington. A instalação, que pode processar 2.200 cabeças por dia, ficou temporariamente inativa para que fossem tomadas todas as medidas adicionais de prevenção ao novo coronavírus, segundo reportagem do portal norte-americano Feedstuffs.

“A saúde e a segurança dos membros de nossa equipe são nossa principal prioridade”, disse Shane Miller, vice-presidente sênior da empresa. “Enquanto a planta estava ociosa, realizamos uma limpeza e higienização profunda da instalação e adotamos medidas proativas para complementar os nossos esforços de prevenção existentes”, acrescentou.

As medidas de proteção adicionais são: o uso de termômetros infravermelhos para verificar a temperatura dos membros da equipe antes de entrar nas instalações da empresa; fornecimento de coberturas faciais protetoras para todos os funcionários; verificações de bem-estar para detectar sintomas relacionados ao vírus mortal, como tosse e falta de ar; e instalação de monitores de distância social em toda a instalação para garantir que os membros da equipe estejam aderindo aos protocolos de segurança e requisitos de distanciamento social.

Continue a leitura após o anúncio

A Tyson também fez parceria com a Matrix Medical Network, uma empresa líder em serviços clínicos médicos, para fornecer uma clínica de saúde móvel nas instalações de Pasco. A clínica móvel fornecerá serviços como os testes de diagnóstico para o COVID-19, além de exames clínicos diários.

Tyson fecha unidade de porcos

A Tyson Foods suspendeu as operações em sua fábrica de carne de porco em Madison, Nebraska, anunciou a empresa na segunda-feira, 4 de abril. A unidade de Nebraska, no nordeste do país, estava operando com capacidade reduzida na sexta e no sábado, enquanto testava sua força de trabalho para a COVID-19, informou o portal porkbusiness.

A fábrica em Madison abate 8.000 porcos por dia e produz 10,6 milhões de libras de carne suína por semana. A planta emprega cerca de 1.200 pessoas.

A Tyson contratou um médico para avaliar a saúde de todos os membros da equipe na fábrica de Madison. O porta-voz disse que a unidade não reabrirá até que os resultados dos testes para Covid-19 estejam disponíveis. Enquanto isso, os funcionários estão realizando uma limpeza profunda da instalação durante o seu fechamento.

O Departamento de Saúde de Elkhorn Logan Valley disse que Tyson tem 96 casos confirmados, informa o Norfolk Daily News. Mais resultados de testes são esperados para esta semana.

Na última sexta-feira, a Tyson anunciou planos para retomar a produção limitada em suas instalações em Logansport, Indiana, ainda nesta semana, após uma visita à fábrica com autoridades locais de saúde e governo, um representante do sindicato e profissionais médicos. Fonte: Feedstuffs (texto adaptado por Dênis Cardoso)

## **Tyson Foods advierte sobre ineficacia de la orden presidencial que obliga a mantener abiertos los establecimientos**

05 May 2020

The COVID-19 crisis will continue to idle US meat plants and restrict production, Tyson Foods Inc says, signalling additional disruptions to the US food supply after President Trump ordered plants to stay open.

According to Reuters, Tyson reported lower-than-expected earnings and revenue for the quarter ended on 28 March, before processors shut massive slaughterhouses as the coronavirus spread among workers. Shares fell more than 8 percent as Tyson also said meat sales will fall in the second half of the year because the outbreak has reduced restaurant demand.

Trump last week deemed meatpacking plants "critical infrastructure" that must stay open, in an executive order to protect the nation's food supply.

"There have been some shortages in some specific categories," Chief Executive Noel White told analysts on a conference call.

Tyson is working with government officials to resume operations at a massive beef plant it closed in Dakota City, Nebraska, White said. The company over the weekend was receiving results for COVID-19 tests it performed on employees of another shuttered beef plant in Pasco, Washington, he said.

Retail demand for Tyson's meat has increased 30-40 percent as consumers stay home, but the company said sales will decline in the second half of the year because of lost foodservice and restaurant business.

Before Trump's order, the company warned that millions of pounds of beef, pork and chicken would vanish from US grocery stores because of plant shutdowns. Its chairman said the US "food supply chain is breaking," as farmers began euthanising pigs because they lost markets for them.

Sales rose 4.3 percent to \$10.89 billion, in the second quarter ended 28 March. Analysts had expected revenue of \$10.96 billion, according to IBES data from Refinitiv.

Excluding items, the company earned 77 cents per share, missing estimates of a profit \$1.04 per share.



### **Costco y Kroger limitan compras de carnes en sus locales**

05 May 2020 Costco Wholesale Corp announces limits on the number of beef, pork and poultry products customers can buy.

According to Reuters, the move comes as grocery stores prepare for massive meat shortages following COVID-19-related supply disruptions.

Some of the biggest slaughterhouses in the United States closed over the last few weeks as COVID-19 spread widely through meat processing facilities where large groups of employees often work shoulder to shoulder in difficult conditions.

Costco said it would temporarily limit fresh beef, pork and poultry purchases to a total of 3 items per Costco member, following Kroger Co, which has put purchase limits on ground beef and fresh pork at some of its stores.

Starting 4 May, the retailer will also require all shoppers to wear face masks or face coverings to reduce the transmission of the virus.

John Tyson, chairman of the United States' largest meat processing company Tyson Foods Inc said last week the food supply chain was "breaking" and millions of pounds of meat would vanish from grocery stores in the country.

President Trump later ordered meat processing plants to stay open to shore up food supplies, a move that drew criticism from unions, saying that at-risk workers needed more protection.

04 May 2020

On 1 May, supermarket chain Kroger Co put purchase limits on ground beef and fresh pork at some of its stores in response to growing fears over meat shortages.

According to reporting in Reuters, the concerns over meat shortages are related to COVID-19-induced supply disruptions.

Global meat processing giants like Smithfield Foods, Cargill Inc, JBS USA and Tyson Foods have halted operations at nearly two dozen slaughterhouses and processing plants in North America as workers fall ill, compounding fears of a global meat shortage.

Last week, President Trump ordered meat-processing plants to stay open to shore up the US food supply.

"There is plenty of protein in the supply chain. However, some processors are experiencing challenges," a Kroger spokesperson said.

The news of the purchase restrictions was first reported by CNN, and the report added Walmart Inc does not expect it will have to set product limits on meat.

Walmart did not respond to a Reuters request for comment.

### **Minerva confirma entrada en Ibovespa**

Fonte: Valor Econômico. This post was last modified on 4 de Maio de 2020 11:38

A brasileira Minerva Foods, maior exportadora de carne bovina na América do Sul, confirmou, em comunicado ao mercado, que fará parte do índice Ibovespa a partir de hoje. O peso da empresa na nova composição do índice é de 0,22%.

As ações que compõem o Ibovespa representam cerca de 80% do número de negócios e do volume financeiro do mercado de capitais brasileiro.

### **Marfrig incrementa ventas de carne vacuna a Estados Unidos**

03/05/2020 - Se favorece por cierre de plantas en Estados Unidos a causa del Covid-19.

El grupo Marfrig Global Foods retoma las ventas desde Brasil de carne bovina hacia Estados Unidos, con una intensificación de la demanda en medio del cierre de frigoríficos por causa del Covid-19, según contó el presidente de la compañía, Miguel Gularte.

Estados Unidos le abrió las puertas a la carne brasileña en febrero luego del cierre de 2017, debido a problemas sanitarios y los primeros embarques deberían registrarse este mes, según Gularte.

Según el ejecutivo, el aumento de las compras de carne desde Estados Unidos se detectó primero desde las unidades productivas de la compañía de Argentina y Uruguay. La demanda de carne brasileña se intensificó luego de los recientes cierres de frigoríficos debido a casos de Covid-19 en Estados Unidos.

Gularte afirmó que la compañía no tiene previsto ningún otro cierre en Estados Unidos y dijo que las operaciones en América del Norte están en sinergia con las de América del Sur. "En este contexto, la proteína bovina es importada de América del Sur para complementar la oferta de materia prima que será procesada para atender la demanda local", dijo el ejecutivo.

Agregó que "las carnes brasileñas, uruguayas y argentinas son usadas para complementar un mix de productos hechos por los estadounidenses". [En base a Reuters]



## **Friboi y ACNB renueva Programa Nelore Natural**

Fonte: Friboi. This post was last modified on 4 de Maio de 2020 13:31

A Friboi e a Associação dos Criadores de Nelore do Brasil (ACNB) renovaram a parceria para dar continuidade, ao longo de 2020, às ações de promoção do gado Nelore por todo o país. Neste ano, o Circuito Nelore passará de 23 para 40 etapas, sendo 37 nas unidades produtivas da Friboi localizadas em dez estados brasileiros: Acre, Bahia, Goiás, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Minas Gerais, Pará, Rondônia, São Paulo e Tocantins.

A expectativa é de que, até o fim do ano, mais de 25 mil animais de pecuaristas de todo o Brasil sejam avaliados ao longo de todo o calendário, o que representa um crescimento de 25% na comparação com o ano passado. Por se tratar de uma competição democrática, todos os produtores, independentemente de seu tamanho e sistema de produção, podem participar do Circuito, pois se trata de uma importante ferramenta de avaliação de carcaças e do trabalho realizado em cada fazenda.

“Ficamos muito felizes por renovar a parceria com a ACNB em 2020 e de promovermos a raça Nelore, responsável por 80% do rebanho de corte brasileiro, por mais lugares do país. Os resultados obtidos no ano passado foram acima das nossas expectativas e estamos confiantes de que teremos um Circuito ainda mais positivo junto à associação e aos pecuaristas que vêm nos ajudando a elevar o nível do gado brasileiro a um patamar cada vez mais alto”, afirma o presidente da Friboi, Renato Costa.

A mesma percepção positiva é compartilhada pela ACNB. “É muito gratificante o crescimento do Circuito Nelore de Qualidade, especialmente nos últimos dois anos. Saltamos de 8 mil para 25 mil animais avaliados, ressaltava Nabih Amin El Aouar, presidente da ACNB. “Essa evolução representa para a ACNB o reconhecimento do árduo e consistente trabalho de melhoramento da genética Nelore, além da nossa convicção em estimular os pecuaristas a produzir animais de melhor qualidade com maior padronização de carcaças”, complementa o executivo.

Novidades 2020

Para este ano, o Circuito Nelore, já considerada a maior iniciativa de avaliação e promoção da carne Nelore no país, contará com algumas novidades. Na composição da nota final, por exemplo, a maturidade dos animais passa a ter ponderação de 30%, contra 25% no ano passado. Assim, a nota final será composta 35% peso, 35% acabamento de gordura e por 30% maturidade.

Além disso, foram criadas duas premiações Especiais: Melhor Lote de Carcaças de Animais Terminados em Pastagens e Melhor Lote de Carcaças de Machos Castrados. Estas categorias não são avaliadas a cada etapa, mas somente ao final do ano. Em cada etapa, continuarão sendo premiados os melhores lotes de macho e fêmea, com a entrega de troféus para os três melhores de cada sexo.

As categorias do campeonato ao final do ano serão divididas em: Melhor Lote de Carcaças de Machos e de Fêmeas, com entrega de premiação para os três melhores de cada sexo, além das premiações especiais de Melhor Lote de Carcaças de Animais terminados em pastagens e Melhor Lote de Carcaças de Machos Castrados.

## **Marfrig tendrá en 2020 el mejor ejercicio de su historia según Credit Suisse**

Fonte: Valor Econômico. This post was published on 8 de Maio de 2020

Os analistas do Credit Suisse iniciaram a cobertura de Marfrig com recomendação “outperform” — acima da média do mercado, o equivalente a recomendar a compra das ações.

Em relatório assinado pelos analistas Victor Saragiotto e Felipe Vieira, o preço-alvo em doze meses para os papéis da Marfrig é R\$ 16,00, o que embute um potencial de valorização de quase 20% sobre as atuais cotações.

Às 12h15 desta quinta-feira, as ações da Marfrig registravam alta de 5,54% na B3, negociadas a R\$ 13,39. O Ibovespa recuava 0,68%.

Segunda maior indústria de carne bovina do mundo, a Marfrig está bem posicionada para se beneficiar do bom momento do negócio de carne bovina, nos Estados Unidos e no Brasil, de acordo com os analistas do Credit Suisse. Em 2020, a companhia pode ter o melhor ano da história, segundo eles.

Nos EUA, o fechamento temporário de diversos frigoríficos por causa do espalhamento de covid-19 entre funcionários impulsionou as margens da indústria de carne bovina para os maiores níveis da história — até agora, os abatedouros de bovinos da Marfrig no mercado americano foram pouco afetados.

No caso da operação na América do Sul, a Marfrig conta com o bom momento das vendas para a China. Na região, nenhuma empresa tem mais unidades habilitadas a exportar ao país asiático do que o grupo brasileiro.

A exposição ao dólar — cerca de 90% do faturamento — também é um dos trunfos da Marfrig, destacaram os analistas do Credit Suisse. A desvalorização do real é positiva para a receita da companhia no exterior. A expectativa dos analistas é que a companhia tenha uma receita de mais de R\$ 60 bilhões em 2020.



Os analistas ressaltaram, ainda, que as ações da Marfrig são negociadas com desconto expressivo em relação aos concorrentes, mesmo com a forte valorização dos papéis nos últimos meses. Neste ano, as ações acumulam alta de quase 35%

Considerando a projeção do Credit Suisse para o lucro antes de juros, impostos, depreciação e amortização (Ebitda, na sigla em inglês) da Marfrig em 2020, de R\$ 6,2 bilhões, as ações da Marfrig embutem um múltiplo (relação entre valor de firma e Ebitda) de 3,8 vezes, desconto de 22% sobre os pares, segundo os analistas.

Na B3, o valor de mercado da Marfrig é de R\$ 9,4 bilhões.

### **Wendy y McDonald's enfrentan escasez para abastecer de carne**

Stephens analyst James Rutherford said an analysis of online menus for every Wendy's location nationwide revealed that 1,043 restaurants have listed beef items as out of stock.

The national beef supply is under pressure as meatpacking plants slow production or even shutter temporarily due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Shake Shack said Monday that beef prices are significantly higher.

Nearly a fifth of Wendy's U.S. restaurants are out of beef, according to a Stephens Inc. study.

Stephens analyst James Rutherford said that a study of online menus for every Wendy's location nationwide revealed that 1,043 restaurants — or 18% of its national footprint — have listed beef items as out of stock. More than 100 locations are still selling Wendy's chili, which contains beef.

The shortages vary by state. Hundreds of Ohio, Michigan, Tennessee and New York restaurants are out of beef, while other states' menus do not indicate any supply chain issues.

"A short outage is not material in our view," Rutherford said in a note to clients Tuesday.

Shares of the company fell 2.5% Tuesday. The stock, which has a market value of \$4.28 billion, has fallen 13% in 2020.

"It is widely known that beef suppliers across North America are currently facing production challenges," Wendy's spokeswoman Heidi Schauer said in a statement to CNBC. "We continue to supply hamburgers to all of our restaurants, with deliveries two or three times a week, which is consistent with normal delivery schedules. However, some of our menu items may be temporarily limited at some restaurants in this current environment."

Schauer said the company is working to minimize the impact to its customers and restaurants and monitoring the issue.

Since its beginning, Wendy's has touted its use of fresh beef as a way to differentiate from McDonald's and Restaurant Brands International's Burger King, although McDonald's began using fresh beef in its Quarter Pounder burgers in 2018. Neither fast-food rival reported any supply-chain disruptions during their earnings calls last week.

But the national beef supply is under pressure as meatpacking plants slow production or even shutter temporarily due to the coronavirus pandemic. A 10th of national beef production has been affected by closures, according to estimates from the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union in late April.

Shake Shack, which also uses fresh beef in its burgers, said Monday that beef prices are significantly higher, but it has not experienced any shortages. The U.S. Department of Agriculture expects that meat prices for consumers will tick up slightly in 2020, with beef prices forecast to rise as much as 2%.

BY EMILY CZACHOR ON 5/7/20 AT 12:55 PM EDT

As restaurants and supermarkets across North America confront protein supply shortages triggered by the coronavirus pandemic, McDonald's, the nation's largest fast-food chain, has taken preventive steps to preserve its resources.

Last week, McDonald's implemented a controlled allocation policy for beef and pork shipments, which asks members of its supply chain to send goods to restaurants based on calculated demand. The policy allows for increased distribution oversight across the company's U.S. network and was designed to ensure one location or region does not obtain an excess of supply at the cost of another. Previously, individual restaurants directly placed orders with McDonald's supply chain in quantities they determined themselves.

The restructured allocation procedure is not a result of interruptions already reported by McDonald's suppliers. During a CNBC interview on April 30, CEO Chris Kempczinski said his company had not experienced "a single supply chain break" since the onset of the pandemic, although he noted some concern about the possibility of a changing situation in the future.