



NOTICIAS INTERNACIONALES AL 19/06/2020

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GLOBAL

FAO: Producción mundial de carnes sufrirá una caída del 1,7%

15/06/2020 - 2:30 AM La baja abarcará 333 millones de toneladas.

La producción total de carne en el mundo disminuirá en un 1,7% en 2020, debido a las enfermedades de los animales, las perturbaciones del mercado relacionadas con COVID-19 y los efectos persistentes de las sequías, según las previsiones del organismo de Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación (FAO). Se estima que la producción total mundial de carne en 2020 caerá a 333 millones de toneladas — equivalente en peso de la canal—, será 1,7% más baja que el año pasado, marcando el segundo año consecutivo de caída.

Se espera una fuerte caída en la producción mundial de carne de cerdo, concentrado en gran medida en los países asiáticos afectados por la peste porcina africana, reduciendo este tipo de producción en un 8% hasta los 101 millones de toneladas, pero también de carne vacuna, especialmente en los Estados Unidos y Australia, lo que haría que cayera la producción en un 0,8% hasta los 72 millones de toneladas.

A su vez, la producción mundial de carne aviar crecerá en un 2,4% hasta los 136,8 millones de toneladas y la ovina subirá un 0,9% hasta los 16,2 millones de toneladas, según estudio de la FAO.

El ritmo de expansión de todos los sectores cárnicos ha sido afectado negativamente por las interrupciones del mercado de COVID-19, agravando los efectos de las enfermedades animales.

Se pronostica que el comercio internacional de carne crecerá a 37 millones de toneladas en 2020, un 2,4% más año con año, pero considerablemente más lento que el 6,8% registrado en 2019. Esa lentitud se deberá, en gran parte, a una posible reducción en consumo mundial de carne, consistente con las expectativas de recesiones económicas generalizadas

También es probable que las limitaciones en el envío y la acumulación en los puertos, lograría frenar el crecimiento del comercio mundial de carne.

El análisis de FAO anticipa que China proporcionará gran parte del impulso comercial, ya que se ven importaciones aumentando en un 24% interanual. La demanda de importaciones de carne se satisficará principalmente a través del aumento de las exportaciones de Brasil, Estados Unidos, la UE y Reino Unido.

La combinación de los problemas económicos relacionados con la COVID-19, cuellos de botella logísticos y un fuerte descenso en demanda del sector de servicios alimenticios debido a bloqueos, ha llevado a una caída global en la demanda de importaciones, causando una reducción en los precios internacionales de la carne, medidos por la FAO Meat Index Prices. La mayor caída se registra en el precio de la carne de ovino seguida por la de aves, cerdos y vacuno. La caída de las ventas en el canal foodservice ha llevado a un incremento de los stocks de carne sobre todo en categorías premium, abaratando los precios internacionales del producto

OIE actualizó status sanitarios

17 June 2020 Fifteen new disease status have been granted to OIE Members and an official disease control programme has been endorsed.

Due to the global exceptional circumstances linked to the COVID-19 pandemic, the OIE General Session has been cancelled this year. Nevertheless, specific Resolutions have been proposed for adoption by the World Assembly of OIE Delegates, by virtue of the establishment of an adapted procedure.

The Resolutions pertaining to the recognition of OIE official status and the endorsement of official control programmes for eligible diseases have been maintained, considering the very important role that they play in the import-export economy of OIE Members. By reflecting the level of transparency and the quality of national Veterinary Services, OIE official disease status contribute to increase the value of the livestock sector in countries. They facilitate regional and international trade of animals and animal products, notably in the context of negotiations according to the SPS Agreement of the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

OIE Members can apply for these disease status on a voluntary basis for six priority diseases. For this year, they could also submit their official control programmes for endorsement for three of these diseases.

In addition, the official control programme for FMD of Kyrgyzstan was endorsed.

Towards the endorsement of official control programmes for dog-mediated rabies

Having an OIE endorsed control programme for dog-mediated rabies will pave the way for Members to self-declare freedom from dog-mediated rabies. This is a key step towards the elimination of human deaths from dog-mediated rabies.

The adoption of the first list of endorsed programmes is expected during the OIE General Session in May 2021. The deadlines for applications from Members will be communicated in the upcoming days. An online questionnaire provides OIE Members with guidance on the preparation of their dossiers.

OIE Members are highly encouraged to apply for such endorsement



CHINA

Mercado mayorista en Beijing Nuevo foco de COVID 19

15 June 2020 Chinese authorities have temporarily shut a major wholesale agricultural market following a spike in locally transmitted COVID-19 infections in Beijing.

Reuters reports that the closure of the Xinfadi wholesale market on Saturday 13 June came after two men who had recently visited the market were reported as having been infected with the novel coronavirus. However, it was not immediately clear how the men had been infected.

Concern is growing of a second wave of the new virus, even in many countries that seemed to have curbed its spread. It was first reported at a seafood market in Wuhan, the capital of central China's Hubei province, in December.

Beijing authorities had earlier halted beef and mutton trading at the Xinfadi market, alongside closures at other wholesale markets around the city.

Beijing authorities said more than 10,000 people at the market will take nucleic acid tests to detect coronavirus infections. The city government also said it had dropped plans to reopen schools on Monday for students in grades one through three because of the new cases.

Health authorities visited the home of a Reuters reporter in Beijing's Dongcheng district on Saturday to ask whether she had visited the Xinfadi market, which is 15 km (9 miles) away. They said the visit was part of patrols Dongcheng was conducting.

China reported 11 new COVID-19 cases and seven asymptomatic cases for Friday, 12 June, the national health authority said on Saturday. And all six locally transmitted cases were confirmed in Beijing.

Autoridades chinas deciden realizar muestreos sobre carnes y alimentos congeladas

16 June 2020 Multiple Chinese provinces are stepping up inspections of fresh and frozen meat and seafood, including imported goods, after new cases of the novel coronavirus are linked to a Beijing food market.

Reuters reports that the tougher checks are stoking fears of possible delays in handling cargoes, or potential halts to imports.

China is the world's top meat buyer, bringing in almost 4 million tonnes in the year to date.

Beijing has reported 79 novel coronavirus cases over the past four days, the biggest concentration of infections since February, with most linked to Xinfadi, the biggest wholesale food market in Asia.

Media reports raised concerns that produce at the market could have been contaminated with the virus, after it was found on a chopping board used to handle salmon.

Though Beijing officials said on Sunday that samples taken from food products sold at markets across the city had so far all tested negative for the virus, provinces including Guangdong, Henan, Hebei and Yunnan as well as the municipality of Tianjin all announced they would step up food safety checks.

The Guangdong Administration for Market Regulation said in a notice on its Weibo page on Sunday that nucleic acid testing should be done on key foods including fresh and frozen pork, beef, lamb, chicken and seafood, and especially imported frozen foods.

Farmers' markets, refrigerated warehouses, supermarkets and catering services should all be inspected, it said.

An industry source said Tianjin had begun doing Covid-19 tests on meat imports arriving at port but it was not clear what portion of cargoes were being checked.

Tianjin customs could not be reached for comment.

The stricter checks could make buyers nervous about purchasing goods from abroad. A manager with a poultry importer said he was worried that the government could suspend imports in the short-term.

Checks on frozen meat are pushing up the price of live pigs, as the inspections could increase demand for fresh meat, a Henan-based trader said.

Preocupación de importadores chinos de carne por retrasos en los puertos

18 de junio de 2020

Los importadores de carne de China están preocupados por retrasos y un golpe en la demanda a raíz de que uno de los principales puertos del país comenzó a exigir pruebas de covid-19 para todos los contenedores de carne y mariscos para evitar la contaminación.

Tianjin, el principal puerto de Beijing, comenzó a analizar lotes de cada contenedor que llega. "Cada lote de carne de carne vacuna, o toda la carne producida en la misma fecha, debe analizarse para detectar el virus. Cualquier carne almacenada en frío que haya llegado después del 1 de marzo también debe analizarse antes de que pueda salir del puerto", dijo un gerente de Haiyunda Trading.

El gobierno de Shanghai, otro puerto importante para la importación de carne, dijo que fortalecerá las inspecciones de carne, mariscos y frutas y verduras frescas importadas.



Estas medidas surgen a raíz de la aparición de un nuevo brote de covid-19 en el mercado mayorista Xinfadi de la capital China el pasado viernes.

17 June 2020

China's meat importers fear clearing delays and reduced demand after one of China's major ports began screening for COVID-19 for all meat and seafood containers to prevent contamination.

Reuters reports that Tianjin, Beijing's primary port, started testing batches from every arriving container on 15 June, two importers and an official briefed on the matter said.

Tianjin port and customs officials did not respond to calls seeking comments.

China is the world's top meat importer and many meat exporting nations, including the United States and Brazil, have seen thousands of cases of COVID-19 among meat plant workers.

Authorities usually conduct food safety tests on a random sample of about 10 percent of frozen meat shipments, Grace Gao, manager at Dalian-based meat importer Goldrich International, said.

Now, every container is inspected and boxes pulled out for coronavirus tests, she said.

The move by Tianjin, 110 km (70 miles) from Beijing, follows a new coronavirus outbreak linked to a wholesale food market.

"Each batch of beef, or all beef produced on the same date, must be tested for the virus," a manager at Haiyunda Trading, who only gave his surname Fu, said.

Any meat in cold storage that arrived after 1 March must also be sealed and tested before it can leave the port, Fu said.

Gao, who has shipments arriving this week in Guangzhou, Tianjin and Shanghai, is worried the tests will cause a backlog, particularly given the large volume of pork that has arrived in China in recent weeks.

The United States Meat Export Federation said so far it had seen minimal disruption of US shipments.

The US Food and Drug Administration was aware China would begin testing seafood and meat, spokesman Peter Cassell told Reuters.

But he said the regulator did not know of any cases of COVID-19 linked to these foods or of any transmission from food or packaging.

"The FDA is not currently aware of any evidence to suggest that food produced in the United States or imported from countries affected by COVID-19 can transmit this respiratory virus," he said.

Two customs brokers in Shanghai said on 16 June the city's port, which also handles large volumes of food imports, had not implemented new tests.

Importers fear other ports may follow Tianjin and Gao said any positive test would destroy consumer demand.

Fu said he was trying to import from regions and countries where COVID-19 is less severe, such as northern Europe and Kazakhstan.

"If test results for products from certain countries or factories turn out to be problematic, imports from those places could be suspended," he said.

Medidas de mayor higiene en mercados y cadena de distribución de alimentos

18 June 2020 Following a new COVID-19 outbreak, members of China's Communist Party say that low standards of hygiene in China's wholesale food markets and supply chain vulnerabilities need to be urgently addressed.

Reuters reports that a resurgence of coronavirus cases in Beijing over the past week has been linked to the city's massive Xinfadi food centre. The outbreak has infected more than 100 people and is raising fears of wider contagion.

The Communist Party's top disciplinary body said the outbreak underlined the urgent need to improve sanitation standards and minimise health risks at markets.

"The epidemic is a mirror that not only reflects the dirty and messy aspects of wholesale markets but also their low level management conditions," the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI) said in a report published on its website on Wednesday.

China's sprawling food markets have emerged as an ideal breeding ground for the coronavirus, which has now infected more than 8 million people worldwide. The first major cluster of infections was traced to the Huanan seafood market in Wuhan, where bats and other wild animals were believed to be on sale.

The CCDI report noted that most of the markets were built 20 to 30 years ago, when drainage and wastewater treatment was relatively undeveloped.

An Yufa, a professor at China Agricultural University, was cited in the report as saying the markets must follow international practice and implement origin tracing systems as well as documentation on storage, transport and sale.

Officials in Wuhan province took 3,000 samples from tools, chopping boards and drains in 114 farmers' markets and 107 supermarkets this week to check for potential new sources of infection. All came up negative, they said.



China has promised to ban the trade and consumption and wildlife in a bid to minimise disease transmission, though the use of wild animal products in traditional medicine will still be permitted.

Hay bajo riesgo de que los alimentos propaguen el coronavirus, dicen expertos

Fuente: Bloomberg 18 de junio de 2020

Los alimentos presentan poco riesgo de propagar el coronavirus, dijeron expertos en salud de todo el mundo, tranquilizando a los consumidores luego de que un brote del covid-19 en Beijing fuera atribuido al salmón importado.

La Administración de Alimentos de Estados Unidos dijo que "no tiene conocimiento de ninguna evidencia" que sugiera que los alimentos pueden transmitir el virus. Kate Grusich, portavoz de los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades de EEUU explicó que la baja supervivencia de los coronavirus en las superficies significa que "existe un riesgo muy bajo de propagación en productos alimenticios o envases".

"No hay evidencia hasta ahora que muestre que el salmón sea el origen o los hospedadores intermedios del coronavirus", dijo Shi Guoqing, experto de la Comisión Nacional de Salud, en una sesión informativa en Beijing el martes.

Wu Zunyou, epidemiólogo jefe del Centro para el Control y Prevención de Enfermedades de China, dijo en una entrevista el lunes que un resultado positivo de una tabla de cortar salmón "no indica mucho", ya que podría haber sido contaminado por trabajadores o compradores rociando gotas.

Solo hay un par de ejemplos de personas que han contraído el coronavirus de animales. La Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación dice que la carne cocida de ganado sano es segura, y advierte que se evite consumir carne de animales salvajes.

BRASIL

Precios del novillo firmes

Sexta-feira, 19 de junho de 2020 -

A oferta restrita de boiadas, que tem provocado um menor ritmo nos abates e a diminuição dos estoques de carne nas indústrias, e o cenário positivo das exportações são os fatores de firmeza no mercado do boi gordo, apesar da segunda quinzena do mês, período no qual naturalmente há uma desaceleração do consumo interno de carne bovina.

Segundo levantamento da Scot Consultoria, na última quinta-feira (18/6), em São Paulo, a arroba do boi gordo ficou cotada em R\$208,00, bruto e à vista ou R\$205,00, descontados os impostos (Senar e Funrural) e à vista.

Para o boi jovem até 30 meses, que atende à demanda chinesa, os negócios chegaram a R\$215,00 por arroba.

Para as fêmeas, vaca e novilha, as referências ficaram em R\$190,00 e R\$200,00, respectivamente, preços brutos e à vista.

China suspendió una planta alemana. Alerta en Brasil

18/06/2020 Pequim reforçou as inspeções de carnes importadas nesta semana, depois de surto de Covid-19 registrado em mercado atacadista chinês

A China suspendeu importações de carne suína provenientes de uma unidade de processamento que pertence à alemã Toennies, informou a agência Reuters, com base em documentos alfandegários de Pequim divulgados nesta quinta-feira. O bloqueio à fábrica alemã ocorreu um dia depois de a empresa relatar um surto de coronavírus entre trabalhadores da unidade – a Toennies disse na quarta-feira que paralisou o abate em uma de suas plantas após cerca de 400 funcionários testarem positivo para o vírus.

A suspensão das importações provenientes da unidade alemã pode indicar um risco para outros exportadores, incluindo grandes fornecedores da China, como Brasil e Estados Unidos, onde houve registros de surtos da Covid-19 entre trabalhadores de frigoríficos, alerta a reportagem da Reuters. "Agora isso parece ser um fator real de risco para os EUA, Brasil ou outros exportadores", disse, em nota, Darin Friedrichs, analista sênior da INTL FCStone.

A Administração Geral de Alfândegas da China atualizou uma lista de frigoríficos aprovados para exportar ao país nesta quinta-feira, indicando que a unidade da Toennies, em Rheda Wiedenbrück, havia sido suspensa.

A China reforçou as inspeções de carnes importadas nesta semana, depois de um novo surto de infecções pelo coronavírus ser relacionado ao enorme mercado atacadista de Xinfadi, em Pequim.

China auditará cuatro plantas brasileñas

Fonte: Valor Econômico. This post was published on 19 de junho de 2020



Medidas adicionais de prevenção que estão sendo adotadas pelo governo chinês para combater o ressurgimento da covid-19 em Pequim poderão afetar as exportações brasileiras de carnes, segundo relato enviado ao Itamaraty pela embaixada do Brasil no país asiático, apurou o Valor.

Em decorrência das novas exigências, que geram mais custos e incertezas, alguns importadores da China já suspenderam compras e pediram que cargas já contratadas não sejam embarcadas, segundo a mensagem da embaixada brasileira em Pequim.

Procurados, os grandes frigoríficos exportadores brasileiros preferiram não se manifestar. Fontes da indústria garantiram que ainda não há problemas com suspensões. As mesmas fontes afirmaram, porém, que de fato os chineses ficaram mais exigentes.

Nesta semana, por exemplo, os compradores passaram a exigir dos exportadores a assinatura de um compromisso garantindo que a carne é livre de covid.

De acordo com o relato da diplomacia brasileira, pesquisadores do Centro para Prevenção e Controle de Doenças (CPCD) chinês anunciaram que, segundo resultados preliminares, o vírus que voltou a se espalhar por Pequim seria de uma variedade que passou por mutação na Europa.

O CPDC estuda a hipótese de que a contaminação tenha ocorrido por meio de salmão importado. Embora pescados não sejam vetores da doença, o argumento em Pequim é que o produto poderia ter sido contaminado durante captura ou transporte.

A embaixada brasileira em Pequim relata que, como medida preventiva, o Bureau Municipal para Regulação de Mercado anunciou que reforçará a inspeção de alimentos frescos e carnes congeladas. Por sua vez, vários municípios chineses determinaram a suspensão da importação e da comercialização de pescados e carne bovina vindos do exterior.

O relato enviado a Brasília também diz que, segundo empresários brasileiros, a orientação fornecida pelo governo chinês a grandes empresas importadoras tem sido realizar testes de ácido nucleico em amostras de carnes importadas, durante o processo de desembarço aduaneiro.

A conclusão é que, a depender dos resultados da investigação sobre a origem da contaminação no mercado de alimentos de Pequim, as autoridades chinesas poderão impor restrições à importação de carnes brasileiras e/ou pedir mais informações sobre medidas preventivas adotadas pelos frigoríficos para evitar problemas.

Enquanto isso, o Ministério da Saúde chinês combate o novo foco da infecção em Pequim. No total, 258 novos casos foram registradas desde a semana passada na capital. Mas as autoridades dizem que a situação “está sob controle”.

Em maio, a China absorveu 56,5% do volume dos embarques brasileiros de carne bovina, somando-se as entradas pelo continente e por Hong Kong, segundo dados compilados pela Associação Brasileira dos Frigoríficos (Abrafrigo). No total, as vendas alcançaram 183 mil toneladas e renderam US\$ 780,1 milhões.

O país asiático também é o principal destino dos embarques de carne de frango do Brasil, que totalizaram 399,4 mil toneladas, ou US\$ 546,3 milhões, conforme a Associação Brasileira de Proteína Animal (ABPA). Via continente e Hong Kong, a participação chinesa no volume vendido foi de 26,5%. No caso da carne suína, cujas exportações chegaram a 102,4 mil toneladas em maio (US\$ 227,9 milhões), a fatia foi de 73,1%.

As fontes da indústria ouvidas pelo Valor também informaram que nesta sexta-feira autoridades chinesas farão inspeções virtuais em quatro frigoríficos brasileiros.

Dois deles já estão habilitados a exportar ao país asiático, e dois estão na fila para começar a vender. Minerva Foods e JBS tem plantas entre as quatro que passarão pela inspeção — localizadas em Paranatinga (MT) e Iturama (MG), respectivamente.

Proyectan aumento en exportaciones para los próximos tres años.

16/06/2020 Segundo analista do Itaú BBA, País deve ser favorecido com possível menor participação da Austrália no mercado global e lenta recuperação do plantel doméstico da China

A recuperação do plantel de suínos da China após a epidemia da peste suína africana, que atinge o país desde agosto de 2018, não será suficiente para o abastecimento doméstico do país até os próximos três anos. A avaliação é do analista de Agronegócio, Alimentos & Bebidas do Itaú BBA, André Hachem.

“A dinâmica de exportação de proteínas para a China ainda é muito favorável. A importação de carne bovina e suína pela China deve perdurar por, no mínimo, dois a três anos até a reconstrução do plantel doméstico”, disse o analista em coletiva de imprensa realizada pelo banco na manhã de segunda-feira, 15 de junho.

Ele acrescentou que o rebanho de suínos do país está 50% menor que o nível antes da epidemia, levando a uma redução de 20 milhões de toneladas no volume produzido da commodity.

Hachem pontuou, ainda, que mesmo com a migração para outras carnes, um terço da proteína animal consumida no país continua sendo de carne suína. “A produção de outras proteínas registrou aumento expressivo, mas a demanda por carne suína é significativa. Com isso, o governo afrouxou restrições sanitárias e abriu mercados para estimular as importações”, explicou.



Segundo o analista, a indústria brasileira de proteínas vai continuar se beneficiando de exportações muito fortes para a Ásia, pelo menos, nos próximos três anos, com a China mantendo importações expressivas.

“Exportações de carnes da América do Sul para a China devem continuar muito fortes em 2021. Nesse cenário, Minerva e Marfrig têm dinâmica favorecida com vendas significativas para a China”, explicou Hachem.

O Brasil também deve ser favorecido no mercado global por uma possível menor participação da Austrália, especialmente nas exportações de carnes bovinas, que deve ser menor nos próximos dois a três anos.

“A dinâmica dos próximos três anos ainda refletindo os impactos da peste suína africana é uma janela única para a indústria brasileira de proteína, que sempre enfrentou volatilidade. Ao fim deste ciclo, devemos ter empresas mais sólidas e com menor endividamento”, prevê Hachem.

Em compensação, o consumo doméstico de carnes no País ainda apresenta um cenário incerto, de acordo com o analista. “A conjuntura local pós pandemia do novo coronavírus é desafiadora para o consumo de proteínas. Em caso de forte recessão, podemos ter migração de demanda de carnes de maior valor agregado, como a bovina, para proteínas de menor valor agregado, caso dos frangos. Mas ainda é muito difícil precisar esse cenário”, avaliou Hachem.

Ele considerou também que as empresas devem ter dificuldade em repasse de possível alta do custo para os preços do produto final em virtude do cenário de retração econômica.

Exportação de carnes do Brasil para a China (em bilhões de dólares)

2015= US\$ 1,078

2016= US\$ 1,752

2017= US\$ 1,790

2018= US\$ 2,592

2019= US\$ 4,545

Dados: Agrostat

Rabobank prevé mejora en la segunda mitad de 2020

15/06/2020 De acordo com o banco, além de manter o ritmo forte de crescimento das exportações, o Brasil pode registrar uma melhora no consumo doméstico

Em postcast divulgado nesta segunda-feira, 15 de junho, Wagner Yanaguizawa, analista de proteína animal do Rabobank Brasil, fez uma previsão otimista para o setor brasileiro de carnes ao longo do segundo semestre. Especialmente sobre a carne bovina, na visão do analista, além de manter o ritmo forte de crescimento das exportações da proteína, o Brasil pode registrar uma melhora no consumo doméstico do produto a partir do último trimestre do ano. “Sazonalmente, a demanda interna pela carne bovina cresce nos meses mais quentes do ano”, observa Yanaguizawa.

Segundo o analista, o esperado retorno no consumo doméstico de carne bovina ocorrerá justamente num período de menor impacto da Covid-19, doença que tem contribuído para o baixo consumo da proteína vermelha no Brasil. Em sua análise, ainda neste mês de junho, o País conviverá com picos de casos da doença. Nos próximos dois a três meses, diz ele, passará por um processo de flexibilização da quarentena e, a partir do último trimestre do ano, iniciará um processo de normatização da demanda interna de carne bovina – ou seja, em sua análise, a Covid-19 já não terá tanta força para reter o consumo da proteína.

No postcast, o analista ressalta que o Brasil é o novo epicentro da Covid, mas descarta a possibilidade de paralisações generalizadas nos abatedouros brasileiros por conta da propagação do vírus mortal. Segundo ele, diferentemente dos EUA – onde muitas fábricas de carne permaneceram temporariamente fechadas após a disseminação da Covid entre os funcionários –, o Brasil possui frigoríficos menores, com menos trabalhadores, e mais pulverizados geograficamente – obedecendo a própria característica da pecuária nacional, marcada pelo sistema extensivo de produção de boiadas, espalhadas por quase todo o Brasil.

Além disso, diz Yanaguizawa, mesmo antes da Covid, a indústria brasileira de carne estava habituada ao processo de flexibilização momentânea dos abates – em caso de fechamento de uma determinada planta, é possível direcionar a produção para uma unidade vizinha, sem grandes prejuízos de produtividade, destaca ele.

URUGUAY

Mercado del gordo “con demanda pero sin firmeza”, y plantas “complicadas”

18/06/2020 Novillos cotizan hasta US\$ 3,25 y vacas US\$ 3,12 el kilo carcasa.



El mercado del ganado gordo “tiene demanda pero no es firme”, y si se quiere salir a colocar novillos a los valores actuales “se hace difícil”, salvo para lotes especiales y buenos, explicó Juan Bocking.

El Director de Bocking Negocios Rurales señaló que la colocación de vacas “es más fácil”, y lo mismo sucede con las vaquillonas para el mercado local, dado que “no hay mucha oferta” y el consumo interno “se mantiene con estabilidad”.

Ubicó al novillo entre US\$ 3,20 y US\$ 3,25 el kilo carcasa, referencia “muy similar” para las vaquillonas, mientras que la vaca cotiza US\$ 3,10 a US\$ 3,12 en cuarta balanza.

Las perspectivas del mercado para las próximas semanas “no depende de la oferta de ganado gordo”, sino que responde a la “demanda del exterior y en cómo se posicionan los frigoríficos”, sumó.

Bocking afirmó que la industria está viviendo una “situación complicada”, en momentos donde “no hay nada claro”. Y agregó: “Se tienen serios problemas con los contratos, lo único que funciona con demanda fluída es el mercado local”.

En ese sentido, Bocking explicó que entre el 60 y 70% de la carne que se comercializa para el consumo interno proviene de Brasil, y en menor medida de Paraguay.

La vaca sigue siendo la categoría más demandada y cotiza entre US\$ 3,10 y US\$ 3,15 o algún centavo más dependiendo la cercanía a planta, la calidad, peso y el volumen del lote. Los ganados con destino al abasto mantienen la firmeza de precios, las vaquillonas especiales cotizan en el eje de los US\$ 3,25.

Consultado por la faena de carne kosher con destino a Israel y Estados Unidos, Schauricht explicó que “No hay una gran incidencia de la presencia de las cuadrillas en el precio del novillo gordo. Son solo tres las que están trabajando y algunas plantas están faenando ganados propios de encierro”.

Exportación en pie complicada

En la reunión semanal de la Asociación de Consignatarios de Ganado se planteó que la exportación de ganado en pie está activa, proponiendo valores por los terneros entre US\$ 2,15 y US\$ 2,25 pero con plazos de pago de hasta 90 días y en algunos casos con pedidos de extender depósitos de cheques por parte de las principales empresas exportadoras.

Entre terneros, precios y frigoríficos

14/06/2020 Los terneros cerraron la zafra con precios en baja, pero con una diferencia abultada con Brasil, en momentos que Turquía anuncia la emisión de nuevos permisos y la compra de 200 mil cabezas desde Sudamérica. Además, los rabinos en el país y su impacto, el interés inversor en frigoríficos y los detalles de la Junta del INAC.

La zafra de terneros cerró su capítulo 2020, unos tres meses aproximados donde se comercializa más del 40% de esta categoría en el país. Y los precios se alejaron de las expectativas de los criadores. En febrero, en la segunda entrega del año del Suplemento Rurales El País con una edición especial sobre la zafra de terneros, los ganaderos criadores aspiraban a lograr una referencia de US\$ 2,50 por kilo en pie, y al cierre de la campaña las cotizaciones se ubicaron US\$ 0,31 y US\$ 0,36 por debajo de ese valor, si tomamos como ejemplo los resultados de ventas de Plazarural de mayo y junio, respectivamente.

El miércoles, el consorcio vendió 5.783 terneros, 66,3% más que el remate de junio del 2019, a un precio promedio de US\$ 2,14; frente a los US\$ 2,41 que hicieron de media el año pasado. Más allá que en marzo, con 5.063 cabezas vendidas, el precio promedió US\$ 2,49, con el paso de las semanas la cotización fue acompañando, pero no copiando, a la baja del ganado gordo.

En la comparación anual, junio 2019 versus junio de 2020, el ternero se desvalorizó 11,2%, mientras el ganado gordo, en los mismos periodos, pasó de US\$ 3,87 a US\$ 3,19 por kilo carcasa, una baja del 17,6%.

El jueves, Turquía anunció la emisión de los permisos 2020 para la importación de animales en pie y, a su vez, que pretende comprar 300 mil animales, 200 mil de Sudamérica (Brasil y Uruguay) y la cifra restante de Europa. Ese mismo día, el gerente general de Gladenur, la principal empresa exportadora de animales vivos desde Uruguay, Mohammed Montasser, informó en Valor Agregado que la compañía está planificando dos barcos, uno que saldría pronto con 19.000 cabezas, con destino a Turquía en base a las nuevas habilitaciones. Más allá que los terneros para el primer barco están comprados y en cuarentena, para el segundo están saliendo a la compra y ofreciendo US\$ 2 por kilo en pie para un animal de 200 a 220 kilos.

En la región exportadora de Brasil el ternero cotiza US\$ 1,20, US\$ 0,95 centavos menos frente al precio de venta en pantalla y US\$ 0,80 en comparación con los valores de compra de Gladenur. A pesar que los compradores turcos tienden a pagar más por el ganado uruguayo debido a su calidad, Montasser dijo que la distancia de precio viable no puede superar los US\$ 0,50 por kilo vivo, y hoy la diferencia de valor es 20,9% a 33,3% mayor al máximo dispuesto por los importadores.

Para tener referencias, entre enero y abril del 2020 Uruguay ha exportado 48.673 animales en pie, mientras en todo el 2019 se enviaron 137.088 cabezas. Al cerrar el año, la exportación de ganado vivo va a finalizar muy lejos de las 423.525 cabezas embarcadas en 2018.



Carne kosher y el mundo.

El arribo de cuatro cuadrillas de rabinos al país, anuncio que realizó el canciller Talvi en su cuenta de Twitter, genera entusiasmo en el sector privado, ya que favorece a una “mejor integración exportadora”, según dijo el CEO de San Jacinto, Christian Angio. Entrevistado por Valor Agregado, comentó que la presencia de Israel “nos permite integrar con China un mejor escenarios de precios”, mientras esperan por la reactivación del mercado europea.

El CEO de San Jacinto, una de las cuatro plantas donde están operando los equipos de faena kosher, tres especiales con vacunos de corral para envíos a Estados Unidos y una tradicional con animales de campo para Israel; aseguró que estas faenas “pueden afirmar la demanda del novillo y empujar para arriba la cotización”.

Hoy, al igual que en las últimas tres semanas, el precio del ganado gordo continúa estable en un mercado poco ofertado. El novillo cotiza US\$ 3,20 y la vaca especial US\$ 3,10 por kilo carcasa. En la hembra sí hay un mayor interés, respondiendo a la demanda china.

Mientras tanto, los exportadores siguen esperando la reactivación de los mercados de Europa, en Argentina manifiestan optimismo, dado que los precios de cortes que integran la Cuota Hilton empiezan a superar la línea de los US\$ 10.000 por tonelada.

Y no nos podemos olvidar de China, el principal mercado, el que todos quieren estar presentes, y el que hoy muchos miran con cautela. El consultor argentino Víctor Tonelli dijo, también en Radio Carve, que en el último mes los importadores asiáticos empezaron, nuevamente, a renegociar contratos, debido a los altos volúmenes de carne que están en stock y en viaje vía marítima. Estimó el descenso de precios en un 20% y aseguró que en la actual semana muy pocos exportadores cerraron nuevos negocios. “El mercado chino está paralizado para nuevos contratos”, resaltó y agregó: “A excepción de Brasil que ha tomado una actitud diferente, la de embarcar la carne e ir cerrando el negocio a medida que llega al puerto”.

Hablando de Brasil, en la semana experimentó un fuerte aumento del precio del novillo gordo. En el promedio de los estados exportadores, según datos de Faxcarne, pasó de US\$ 2,32 la semana pasada a US\$ 2,55 en la actual. Todo en respuesta del fortalecimiento del real frente al dólar, un 17% desde mediados de mayo a la fecha, y de la escasez de animales terminados. En Argentina la cotización se mantiene estable en US\$ 2,52 y en Paraguay subió US\$ 0,10 hasta los US\$ 2,10 por kilo al gancho.

Entre frigoríficos.

El miércoles, en una reunión convocada por el Instituto Nacional de Carnes (INAC) en sus oficinas, estuvieron presentes las gremiales de los frigoríficos, los distribuidores que trabajan para el mercado interno, los carniceros y los importadores de carne. En una charla íntima, y sin integrantes del sector productor, el INAC planteó a los presentes estudiar herramientas que permitan adecuar o bajar el precio de la carne en el mercado local y evitar que se dispare la inflación, como también promover el consumo de carne.

Dos puntos más sobre los frigoríficos. El primero, la intención del Grupo Esmeralda de Bahía Blanca, Argentina, de comprar Clademar SA (Frigorífico Florida), hoy propiedad del empresario venezolano César Zambrano. La planta había sido habilitada a finales del año pasado para exportar a China, fecha en la que retomó la actividad de faena. Y el segundo respecto a la posesión Frigorífico Caltes de Paso de los Toros por parte de Bamidal, actualmente evaluando el estado de las instalaciones de la planta para iniciar próximamente la faena de ovinos y, en un mediano plazo, analizar la posibilidad de incorporar una playa de procesamiento de bovinos.

Más allá que el INAC dijo, hace tres semanas en su informe del Novillo Tipo, que “en las actuales circunstancias, el Valor Agregado Industrial en promedio no alcanza a cubrir los costos industriales” y las “dificultades o retrasos en el cobro de los créditos en el exterior complican la liquidez de las empresas y conllevan a aumentar el endeudamiento”; queda demostrado en estas dos acciones, y en algunas otras que más adelante hablaré, del interés inversor en el sector industrial nacional.

Cambio.

Sobre el INAC también, mañana se oficializa el cambio de la delegación de la Federación Rural en la Junta. Emilio Mangarelli se retira, tras un largo periodo, y dejará lugar a Joaquín Martinicorena, que será el representante suplente de la gremial de productores. La titularidad la ocupará Guillermo Villa.

En lo que refiere a la Ley de Urgente Consideración (LUC), que pasó del Senado a Diputados, las autoridades del Ministerio de Ganadería y del Instituto Nacional de Carnes se reunieron con la Comisión Especial de Diputados para conocer las modificaciones previstas con relación a las nuevas potestades del INAC, otro tema que estará presente en el orden del día de la Junta.

Reacciones ante medidas adoptadas en CHINA por rebrote de COVID-19

Ministros de Salud, Ganadería y Cancillería enviaron mensajes a sus pares de China

18 de junio de 2020

Los ministros de Salud Pública, Ganadería y Cancillería de Uruguay han enviado mensajes de tranquilidad a sus pares en China, ante los crecientes temores generados por la posibilidad de que el rebrote de



COVID-19 pueda haber sido causado por importación de salmón envasado, informó a Tiempo de Cambio de radio Rural Fernando Mattos, presidente del Instituto Nacional de Carnes (INAC).

Los mensajes de las autoridades locales se basaron en las condiciones especiales y favorables que está transitando Uruguay en cuanto a la incidencia del nuevo coronavirus en el territorio nacional.

China ha intensificado los controles de ingreso de los alimentos al país y hay gran preocupación de la industria por los costos que pueda traer aparejado estas realidades logísticas en el gigante asiático.

Aún no hay una versión oficial sobre cuál será el protocolo al que deberán someterse los contenedores en puertos chinos, y se está requiriendo esa información, dijo Mattos, luego de haber estado en contacto en la mañana de este miércoles con el embajador uruguayo en China, Fernando Lugris.

Las informaciones internacionales, agencias marítimas e importadores señalan que existe una inspección mucho más detallada, inclusive doble inspección por parte de Aduana y Ministerio de Salud, señaló el presidente de INAC.

“De continuarse va a generar un problema logístico gigantesco. Solamente en carnes son más de 1.100 contenedores que llegan diariamente. Tenemos expectativas y esperanza de que haya una flexibilidad una vez que se haga un estudio epidemiológico del caso detectado en este mercado”, apuntó.

Uruguay “tiene una posición privilegiada”, dijo Mattos, destacando los poco más de 20 casos activos de COVID-19 en Uruguay y que no se han registrado hasta el momento casos positivos en la cadena productiva o industrial vinculado a la carne. “Uruguay tiene mejores garantías que otros para ofrecer como garantía de inocuidad”, remarcó.

“Quieren comprar barato” Demoras y encarecimiento logístico”

15/06/2020 - 1:51 PM

16/06/2020 - El broker de carnes Daniel Castiglioni dijo que en el último mes el precio de la carne bovina importada bajó en US\$ 1.000 por tonelada.

Luego del rebrote del coronavirus en un mercado de carnes en la capital de China y que el Gobierno atribuya el problema a un salmón proveniente de Noruega, están comenzando en los puertos del país los controles sanitarios a los alimentos importados, confirmó a Rurales El País Daniel Castiglioni.

El broker de carnes uruguayo radicado en China, Director de la empresa Casti Trading, dijo que “se buscan sistemas para agilizar los controles”, además agregó que “no me llama la atención que hagan un monitoreo de las cargas cuando actualmente se está realizando con los humanos”.

Con respecto al rebrote, señaló que “el sentimiento de la calle es que el Gobierno tiene bastantes herramientas para controlar el virus”, mientras que en el negocio de la carne “hay incertidumbre, se frenaron los negocios y se espera para ver dónde termina todo”.

Castiglioni comentó que el consumo de carne post coronavirus “venía muy flojo y se juntó mucho stock”. Explicó que, en las últimas semanas, los importadores tomaban posición de compra “al precio actual o más bajo”. Y agregó: “Quieren comprar barato, en el último mes el precio de la tonelada bajó en US\$ 1.000, y está la intención de renegociación”.

A pesar de esto, el empresario dijo que cada año China está comprando más carne pero Uruguay está bajando su participación. “China empieza a suplantar el producto uruguayo de otros proveedores que ofrecen precios más competitivos”, cerró Castiglioni.

Marcelo Secco dijo, entrevistado por Rurales El País, que la información obtenida es a través de clientes chinos y agencias internacionales, pero al momento no hay una declaración oficial. “Hemos pedido a nuestras autoridades oficiales para que actúen y consigan detalles con sus pares asiáticos”, agregó.

Este hecho se suma a una “situación compleja” que los exportadores vienen sufriendo por la realidad del mercado chino de “no pago por adelantado y renegociación de precios”, explicó Secco y agregó: “En los últimos cuatro días los importadores no ejecutan negocios”.

La determinación de realizar controles a los alimentos nacionales e importados en los puertos “complicaría el tránsito” y “habría un encarecimiento de los costos logísticos”, lo que “termina incidiendo en el valor del producto, en este caso la carne”.

El Ejecutivo consideró importante “esperar 24 a 48 horas” para validar la información y saber cómo empieza a impactar en el negocio. Sin embargo, remarcó que “está demostrado que la fuente de contaminación no es el alimento, sino que son otras”.

Ministro Uriarte dijo que dificultades pueden pasar a ser “oportunidades”

17/06/2020 - Uruguay emprendió diversas gestiones para brindarle tranquilidad a sus exportadores y conocer, detalladamente, cuál será el protocolo que aplicará la Aduana de China para controlar sanitariamente los alimentos importados en sus puertos, tras el rebrote de Covid-19.

El nuevo brote de la enfermedad surgió en el mayor mercado al por mayor de Xinfandi, en sur de Beijing. Se relacionó con la contaminación de salmón noruego, pero el gobierno asiático decidió controlar todos los alimentos importados.



“Todavía no tenemos mucha información oficial sobre los controles que se aplicarán”, afirmó el presidente del Instituto Nacional de Carnes (INAC), Fernando Mattos, cuando Uruguay tiene en viaje hacia China alrededor de 2.000 contenedores con carne y menudencias, con un valor estimado de US\$ 200 millones (serían unas 32.000 toneladas).

Exportadores y autoridades están preocupadas porque se puede complicar la logística si se establecen más controles al ingreso de alimentos. La incertidumbre crece, porque no está claro si los controles serán por muestreos de todas o algunas mercaderías.

Mattos entendió que por más que China dispone de muchos medios, “sería impracticable que se hiciera un muestreo total de todos los alimentos que entren a los puertos. No habría estructuras suficiente para analizar miles de contenedores y miles de cajas”.

Por un lado, las autoridades y los exportadores uruguayos están preocupados por los contenedores que están en viaje. Por el otro, también se genera incertidumbre y preocupación “con el normal flujo de negocios. Cualquier entorpecimiento del flujo comercial afecta el negocio y el propio abastecimiento de China, donde muchos países están intentando hacer un abastecimiento normal”, dijo Mattos.

Visión. Por primera vez se establece la asociación entre el Covid-19 y los alimentos, pero lo que más preocupa es la falta de evidencias científicas.

“China tampoco demostró que esté vinculada la contaminación del mercado con los alimentos. Se supone que fue por contaminación de origen noruego”, sostuvo Mattos. Sin embargo, también “está la posibilidad de que haya sido una contaminación por humanos. Eso cambiaría totalmente el análisis que se pretende realizar, porque hasta ahora no hubo comprobación en el mundo que los alimentos sean transmisores del Covid”.

En caso de Uruguay, ese alimento es mucho más seguro, no sólo por los controles que se realizan para garantizar su inocuidad, sino por el tiempo de viaje hacia los puertos chinos.

Por su parte, el ministro de Ganadería, Agricultura y Pesca, Carlos María Uriarte, afirmó que las dificultades generadas en China, “se pueden convertir en una ventaja comparativa para Uruguay”, ya que “muy pocos países ofrecen la inocuidad que ofrece Uruguay”. Además, “haciendo hincapié en la evolución de control del Covid-19, no existe ningún caso en la cadena industrial uruguaya”.

El ministro consideró que “los alimentos ofrecidos por Uruguay a China tienen una absoluta seguridad de su inocuidad”. Lo mismo sucede con los exportados al resto de los mercados.

Uriarte comentó a Rurales El País que “estamos en plena comunicación con el Embajador de Uruguay en China y nuestros pares asiáticos para ofrecer las mayores garantías posibles en inocuidad”.

Según la visión del jerarca de gobierno, “sería lógico” que en China se “prioricen los controles en embarques que provienen de países que ofrecen más riesgos” y se haga menos énfasis en proveedores como Uruguay. De todos modos, Uriarte reconoció que la situación que se generó en el principal mercado para las carnes uruguayas “está provocando trastornos y gastos adicionales”, sumado a las “renegociaciones de contratos que se están dando”.

Al mismo tiempo, el titular del MGAP dijo ser consciente de “la situación difícil” de los frigoríficos, pero “percibimos que en los últimos dos meses hubo un cambio en la tendencia en el Valor Agregado Industrial con una recuperación en los resultados”.

Incertidumbre. Por otro lado, el broker de carnes uruguayo radicado en gigante asiático, Daniel Castiglioni, dijo a Valor Agregado que “se buscan sistemas para agilizar los controles”. El director de Casti Trading, dijo no llamarle la atención que las autoridades chinas hagan un monitoreo de las cargas, como se están realizando actualmente con los humanos.

Con respecto al rebrote de Covid-19, señaló que “el sentimiento de la calle es que el gobierno tiene bastantes herramientas para controlar el virus”, mientras que en el sector de la carne “hay incertidumbre, se frenaron los negocios y se espera para ver dónde termina todo”, explicó el broker.

Castiglioni comentó que el consumo de carne post coronavirus “venía muy flojo y se juntó mucho stock”. Explicó que, en las últimas semanas, los importadores tomaban posición de compra “al precio actual o más bajo y quieren comprar barato”, En el último mes el precio de la tonelada bajó en US\$ 1.000

China realiza inspecciones en dos plantas frigoríficas locales

18 de junio de 2020

Se están llevando adelante dos auditorías virtuales chinas en dos plantas frigoríficas locales y en la región. Las inspecciones están vinculadas al rebrote de COVID-19 en China y en la búsqueda de mitigar posibles contaminaciones dentro de las plantas, informó el presidente del Instituto Nacional de Carnes, Fernando Mattos, entrevistado por el programa Tiempo de Cambio de radio Rural.

Se trata de frigorífico BPU y La Trinidad, éste último aún no habilitado para exportar carne a China, pero con la posibilidad de avanzar en ese sentido luego de esta inspección.

Dos funcionarios de la agregaduría agrícola en la embajada uruguaya en Beijing están participando como facilitadores en el proceso de estas auditorías en Uruguay.



“Se quieren establecer normas básicas de procedimiento y verificación respecto a la disminución del riesgo de contaminación adentro de las plantas y dejar fuera de lista, de forma momentánea, en el caso de aquellas industrias que registren casos positivos. Y Uruguay en ese sentido tiene una posición privilegiada”, dijo Mattos, apuntando a los poco más de 20 casos activos en Uruguay y que no hay registros en la cadena productiva o industrial vinculado a la carne. “Uruguay tiene mejores garantías que otros para ofrecer como garantía de inocuidad”, remarcó.

Las autoridades de Aduanas de China también están inspeccionando plantas en Brasil y Argentina. “Entendemos que es una buena señal de las autoridades chinas, que han reaccionado rápidamente”, dijo.

Precio de la carne vacuna a China cayó por cuarta semana consecutiva

18 de junio de 2020

El precio de exportación de la carne vacuna uruguaya a China registró en la última semana su cuarta caída consecutiva. En un mes bajó 13%, pasando de US\$ 4.443 la tonelada peso embarque a US\$ 3.858 de acuerdo a los datos de Aduanas.

En lo que va de junio, el precio de la carne a China promedió US\$ 3.902 la tonelada peso embarque, un ajuste de 17% respecto al mismo período del año pasado y con casi un 70% menos de volumen exportado.

En la semana cerrada el 13 de junio China fue el principal destino de la carne vacuna uruguaya, se enviaron 3.325 toneladas peso embarque por un total de US\$ 12,8 millones. Lo siguió Estados Unidos, con compras de 1.530 toneladas peso embarque por un total de casi US\$ 10 millones. Canadá fue el tercer destino en importancia con 638 toneladas por casi US\$ 3 millones.

Lautaro Pérez Rocha, gerente de marketing del Instituto Nacional de Carnes publicó en su cuenta de Twitter que Uruguay mostró una pérdida importante de participación en las importaciones de carne vacuna de China así como pierde participación "dominante" en la importación de carne vacuna de Brasil.

UNIÓ EUROPEA

Brote de coronavirus en una industria cárnica alemana deja más de 650 infectados

18 de junio de 2020

Brote de coronavirus en una industria cárnica alemana deja más de 650 infectados

Un brote de COVID-19 golpeó a una industria cárnica alemana y dejó, al menos, 657 infectados, informó El País de Madrid este miércoles. Fue en la empresa Tönnies en Renania del Norte-Westfalia.

En las inmediaciones de esa industria, 7.000 personas fueron puestas en cuarentena.

La planta cesó su actividad y genera preocupación. El distrito de Gütersloh exigió el cierre inmediato del frigorífico.

Las autoridades decretaron el cierre de los colegios y las escuelas en Gütersloh, el distrito afectado, hasta el inicio de las vacaciones escolares el 29 de junio, para evitar la propagación, según explicó un portavoz del Gobierno local. Muchos empleados son padres jóvenes con hijos en edad escolar.

Los brotes en las plantas frigoríficas y procesadoras de carne en Alemania vienen registrándose desde hace semanas, aunque a nivel país la aparición de nuevos casos positivos continúan a la baja comparado con semanas anteriores.

BREXIT

Inician nueva ronda de negociaciones

15 June 2020

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson will begin a fresh round of negotiations with EU leaders on 15 June, keen to finalise the future of the EU-UK relationship.

However, Reuters reports that officials in Brussels expect no breakthrough in the Brexit deadlock. The UK's Mail on Sunday reported that PM Johnson would likely use the video conference to “bang the table”, pressing the EU trading bloc to aim for an agreement by the end of the summer. UK negotiators have suggested that the EU is using the coronavirus pandemic as an excuse to drag its feet.

Officials in Brussels said the afternoon discussion with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and the heads of the European Council and European Parliament was a long-scheduled stock-taking exercise, not a negotiation.

“No one expects any breakthrough unless Boris Johnson decides to surprise us,” said one senior official.

“This meeting was scheduled in the withdrawal agreement, so it is happening but no one expects much.”

The UK left the EU in January and its relationship with the trading bloc is now governed by a transition agreement that keeps previous rules and regulations in place while the two sides negotiate a new agreement.



Last week, Johnson's government confirmed that it had no intention of extending the transition period beyond the end of 2020. This has caused many to fear that a no-deal Brexit is likely. Leaving the trading bloc without a formal agreement could compound the economic damage already caused by the ongoing COVID-19 crisis.

London and Brussels remain far apart on issues such as fair competition guarantees and fishing rights.

In earlier talks this month, negotiators made little progress towards a free trade agreement, however they agreed to ramp up negotiations as the transition period progresses. The hope is that today's talks between the UK and EU will mark a renewed political push.

One EU official said the conference would be an opportunity for the bloc's leaders to emphasise that the insistence of their chief Brexit negotiator, Michel Barnier, on a broad deal that would keep Britain closely aligned with the EU reflected the will of all member states and not his intransigence.

Another said that despite plans to speed up negotiations, major progress was unlikely until after the summer when London would "scramble to get something done" in the eleventh hour, as it did last year to clinch a deal on its withdrawal agreement.

Johnson estima que podría estar finalizadas en julio

16 June 2020

Leaders from the UK and EU agreed on 15 June that talks on their future trading relationship should be stepped up to close a deal, with Boris Johnson suggesting a formal agreement could be reached in July with, "a bit of oomph".

Reuters reports that as the existing status-quo transition deal is set to expire at the end of 2020, the UK and EU are seeking a free trade agreement. However, businesses on both sides are being told to prepare for a no-deal outcome which raises fears of trade and employment complications.

"I don't think we're actually that far apart but what we need now is to see a bit of oomph in the negotiations," Johnson said, adding that he had told the EU's top representatives that there was a need to "put a tiger in the tank" of the talks.

"The faster we can do this the better, and we see no reason why you shouldn't get this done in July."

Earlier, after a video conference between Johnson, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and the leaders of the European Council and European Parliament, the two sides said they "agreed ... that new momentum was required".

Britain left the EU on 31 January and its relationship with the bloc is now governed by a transition arrangement that keeps previous rules in place while the two sides negotiate new terms.

Negotiators have made very little progress towards a trade pact, however, and the talks have all but stalled over issues such as fair-competition guarantees and fishing rights.

London confirmed last week that it had no intention of extending the transition period beyond 2020.

Some fear that, with the two sides so far apart and little time left to negotiate, London's decision not to extend may lead to a cliff edge that could compound the economic damage caused by the coronavirus crisis.

One EU diplomat said that, despite plans to speed up talks, major progress was unlikely until after the summer, when London would "scramble to get something done" at the 11th hour, as it did last year to reach a withdrawal agreement.

Jill Rutter, an expert at the UK in a Changing Europe think-tank, told a Brexit panel discussion on Monday that a "very thin and unambitious deal" was likely, but a no-deal scenario couldn't be ruled out.

"I think it would be totally wrong to think that the UK will be so desperate that it will move heaven and earth to avoid no deal," she said

Productores de UE y RU piden acuerdo de libre comercio

17 June 2020 Farming organisations from across the EU have joined the UK's NFU in its call for an urgent breakthrough in trade talks in order to establish a UK/EU free trade agreement.

The call came at a webinar on 17 June which highlighted the importance of agri-food trade between the UK and EU, as well as the significant impact that not reaching an agreement would have on farming businesses.

More than 150 politicians, food and farming groups and stakeholders attended the discussion, which was jointly hosted by the NFU and six other UK/EU farming organisations.

Speaking after the event, NFU President Minette Batters said: "It is disappointing that there has been little progress in UK/EU trade talks to date, but I'm encouraged to hear that negotiators have agreed to increase the intensity of trade talks over the next couple of months to try and break the impasse.

"Farmers in the EU and UK rely on trade to support their businesses. The EU takes more than 70 percent of the UK's agri-food exports, and it is essential this relationship is maintained through a zero tariff, zero quota agreement.



“This event has shown that we, as colleagues and competitors across the UK and EU, are united in our call for free trade. We all stand to benefit from a close trading relationship and from a thriving and competitive marketplace, and we all stand to lose if our relationship reverts to trading on hugely unsatisfactory WTO terms and barriers are erected across borders.

“It is crucially important that we get this right for farmers, and for the public who want to buy safe, traceable and affordable food. British farmers want to see a trade deal with the EU that sets a precedent for how we intend to trade on the global stage – especially when it comes to ensuring high standards of animal welfare, environmental delivery and food safety on food imports.

“The UK government needs to show it is serious about encouraging a progressive and profitable food and farming sector, and that means pulling out all the stops to reach a good deal with our largest and closest trading partner.”

No-deal podria tener consecuencias catastròficas

17 June 2020

Increased animal testing, supply problems for veterinary medicine and animal food, border hold-ups and chlorinated chicken imports could accompany a no-deal Brexit.

The UK’s leading animal welfare organisations are warning of the potential catastrophic toll on animal welfare as a no-deal becomes an increasing reality.

As face-to-face trade talks resume between the UK and EU, the Animal Welfare Taskforce (AWT) is urging the government to understand the wider consequences of failing to agree a deal.

As well as lower welfare imports and the destruction of the UK’s farming industry which are already widely increased animal testing

disruptions to supply chains for veterinary medicine, animal and pet food

long delays for live animals at border controls

David Bowles, AWT member and Head of Public Affairs for the RSPCA said: “A no-deal could have a catastrophic toll on animal welfare - but we’re not sure the government has grasped the full implications yet.

“Many of the non-EU countries jostling to provide us with food we currently import from the EU, use production methods with animal welfare standards that are illegal in the UK. These include practices such as keeping hens in barren battery cages, pigs in cruel sow stalls and beef cattle injected with hormones. But it’s not just issues such as chlorinated chicken imports or the destruction of UK farmers’ livelihoods that may result if we cannot agree a deal.

“Other knock-on effects could include increased animal-testing, because data-sharing with the EU will decrease. Disruption to supply chains of animal feed and pet food could mean farmers and pet owners may be unable to feed their animals properly and this threat could lead to stock-piling. Imported veterinary medicines could face delays in supply, reducing the UK’s ability to prevent and control disease outbreaks, and new regulations and border control posts could increase delays, potentially putting severe stress on livestock.

“While we recognise that there are some possible actions that could be taken to mitigate the effects of a no deal, none are ideal. For example, while lower welfare animal products could have tariffs slapped on them, a ban would be far preferable; polling by YouGov shows two-thirds of UK people wanted a ban on food produced elsewhere to standards that are illegal in Britain.”

The AWT is calling for proper resources to be provided to the UK’s Veterinary Medicines Directorate so it can cope with the expected increase in regulatory demand and a clear strategy developed so that all relevant British companies hold the necessary testing data for chemicals by the end of the year to prevent duplicate animal testing. It is also pressing for the development of appropriate infrastructure and properly trained personnel to help to reduce the damaging effects of hold-ups at ports.

David Bowles continued: “No deal is far from ideal. However, if that is the outcome, we must make the best of what is a bad situation, and to ensure that animals do not pay a heavy price for the UK Government’s failure to reach an agreement.

“Time is precious and short and there is a lot that needs to be done. We urge the UK Government to make a firm commitment to safeguarding animal welfare.”

Règimen para exportar del Reino Unido a UE

18 June 2020 Britain hasn’t exported to Europe for 46 years - but we’re about to start.

Most people think that the UK currently "exports" goods to Europe. But this is not actually correct.

In 2020 and for the previous 46 years, delivering a lorry load of product to Berlin has been exactly the same as delivering it to Birmingham. No special export certificates, customs declarations or border inspections are needed. And no duties are paid. Goods travel anywhere in the EU with a simple invoice. They’re "delivered" rather than "exported".



But this is about to change on 31 December 2020 and, as Nick Allen, CEO of the British Meat Processors Association explains: "Regardless of whether the Government secures a trade deal or not, British companies are going to be hit with a tsunami of red tape and extra costs. It really doesn't matter what agreement is reached on tariffs or quotas or standards; once we're out, the UK becomes a 'Third Country' at which point we have no choice but to introduce border checks and additional customs declarations."

Mr Allen added: "The alarming fact is that, despite having known this for some time, the Government still has no plan for exactly how this will be implemented. Even preparations for 'no deal' vastly underestimate the additional 'boots on the ground' this will require and the sheer scale of delays, disruption and extra cost that will hit our supply chains."

How will this affect trade?

Let's use the meat industry as an example. British companies currently send between 15 percent and 40 percent of the products they produce abroad (depending on the type of meat). Of that, 90 percent of beef, 97 percent of sheep meat and 50 percent of pork is sold to the EU.

For true exports to "third countries" companies need to get an Official Veterinarian (OV) to inspect every consignment and issue an Export Health Certificate to verify its origin and content. That workload is currently being managed by the available number of OVs in the UK. But it only covers 10 percent of the beef trade, 3 percent of the sheep meat trade and 50 percent of the trade in pork.

After 31 December 2020 the same OVs will have to cover 100 percent of that trade and Government can't tell us how they are going to make this happen. The National Audit Office "UK border: Preparedness for EU Exit" report published in October 2019 stated that Defra estimated the number of Export Health Certificates might increase by 500 percent. This is probably a conservative estimate considering they are needed for all products of animal origin, not just meat.

Even if a new army of vets are found, it will still add cost, time and expense to trade with the UK's biggest (and nearest) trading partner. And, while some bigger companies may be able to better absorb that extra expense, the smaller businesses, for whom the single market has opened-up a world of opportunity up to now, will be hit disproportionately hard.

For small businesses, the cost of an Export Health Certificate or a Customs Declaration is the same for a pallet load of their product as it is for a lorry load of product from a bigger company. An added barrier will be that these businesses will also need to get third country approval and listing of their factories before they're approved to export to the EU.

The way the supply chain works currently makes use of the fact that small, regular consignments can be grouped together into big ones and sent off, on a daily basis, to customers all over the EU. Inventories and waste are kept low but, more importantly, British businesses (big and small) can offer a service to our EU customers that competitors halfway around the world cannot.

After 31 December 2020, deal or no deal, the UK's competitive advantage is reduced. The simple fact is that no trade deal the UK has or will ever have outside the EU Single Market will replace it.

What's needed?

The Official Veterinarian and certification issues along with several others are going to be a problem whether or not the UK gets a "deal". This means that Government shouldn't be waiting to find out the result of trade talks before it sets about solving those issues.

BMPA is offering to work with Defra, the Department for International Trade and the Food Standards Agency to help formulate and implement a plan to address these issues now, so the UK has a chance of being prepared by the time the transition period ends on 31 December 2020 and the way the UK currently trades with the EU ceases.

FRANCIA: hizo un llamado a lograr la sobería alimentaria europea

18 June 2020 France wants to organise a conference with other European nations this autumn, focussing on how to reinforce "food sovereignty" amid the COVID-19 crisis.

Reuters reports that France's agriculture minister, Didier Guillaume, made the announcement on 18 June. French President Emmanuel Macron has underlined the need for greater European sovereignty, particularly in healthcare, after the coronavirus exposed the reliance of countries including France on imported medical supplies.

Minister Didier Guillaume told political news channel Public Senat that while France could not be self-sufficient in all food products, it would look at being more autonomous in areas such as plant protein.

"That is why we are going to launch after the summer a major conference on food sovereignty, first of all to see exactly what that could mean," he said.

"We want to work with our European neighbours because food sovereignty can't just be done on a country by country basis."

The government has also been preparing an initiative on plant protein, hoping to reduce France's reliance on soybeans imported from North and South America to feed livestock.



Guillaume also reiterated France's view that food and farming should be treated as special cases in trade negotiations, a position that has put the European Union at odds with the United States in trade talks.

ESTADOS UNIDOS

COVID-19 Impacto en cadena de ganados y carnes

Trabajadores se resisten en volver a la actividad pese a la medida oficial

16 June 2020

US meatpacking unions report that scores of employees remain off the job due to either quarantine or fears of contracting COVID-19, despite an order from President Trump mandating their return to work.

Reuters reports that Smithfield Foods Inc is missing nearly one third of its employees at a South Dakota pork plant because they are quarantined or afraid to return to work after a severe coronavirus outbreak.

Tyson Foods Inc was forced to briefly close a different plant in Iowa one month after President Trump issued the 28 April executive order telling meatpackers to stay open. Reuters reports that worker absences hindered slaughter operations.

According to Mark Lauritsen, a vice president at the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW), between 30 to 50 percent of meatpacking employees across the US were absent last week.

More than a dozen meatpacking workers, union leaders and advocates told Reuters that many employees still fear getting sick after losing confidence in management during coronavirus outbreaks in April and May. Absenteeism varies by plant, and exact data is not available, but some workers' unwillingness to return poses a challenge to an industry still struggling to restore normal meat output

Daily pork production was down by as much as 45 percent in late April as some 20 plants closed because of outbreaks. Production has rebounded since plants reopened last month in response to Trump's order, but remains down from before the pandemic. The UFCW union, which represents about 80 percent of US pork and beef production, told Reuters that major pork plants are running at about 75 percent capacity.

Data from the USDA shows that processors slaughtered about 438,000 hogs on Friday, down 12 percent from the peak before the pandemic.

The USDA and the White House declined to comment for this story. Tyson, Smithfield and other meatpackers say they have taken extensive safety measures, at great cost, to protect workers.

Meat companies have prevented the pace of slaughter from falling further by bolstering kill lines with employees from other operations that require more labour, such as butchering and deboning. As a result, meatpackers are producing fewer products that require extra work - such as boneless hams - and throwing away items like offal that otherwise would be sold, Lauritsen said.

The cure for absenteeism is a safe job at a decent wage, Lauritsen said.

"Right now" he said, "there are employees that don't see the safe job part."

Why the virus lingers in plants

Meatpacking plants became hotbeds of infection because they host thousands of employees who work in close quarters. Cooler temperatures in the plant also let the virus persist on surfaces.

The world's biggest meat companies have spent tens of millions of dollars to protect workers by erecting physical barriers, taking workers' temperatures, providing protective gear and staggering break times. They have not been able to eliminate infections, however. "They have changed a lot of things that I think are great," said Alejandro Murgioa-Ortiz, a community organiser who works with meatpacking workers in Iowa and Nebraska. But workers remain wary, he said, because "there's still so many risks."

Infections have risen steadily in rural counties that are home to large meatpacking plants since Trump ordered them to stay open. At least 15 meatpacking counties now report a higher infection rate, on a per capita basis, than New York City, the virus's epicentre - though that is likely a reflection of the extensive testing of workers and local residents along with elevated infection rates.

In Kansas, 2,896 meat workers have tested positive, accounting for nearly one third of all cases in the state, according to the state health department.

Asociaciones de consumidores presentaron una demanda colectiva

15/06/2020 Las empresas National Beef, JBS, Tyson y Cargill han sido acusadas en una demanda colectiva de manipular los precios del ganado vacuno, informa Beef Magazine. Las empresas habrían recibido una demanda de investigación civil por parte de las autoridades antimonopolio del Departamento de Justicia de EE.UU.

"Si bien estas investigaciones fueron desencadenadas por un aumento en los precios de la carne desde el brote de COVID-19 en los Estados Unidos, este aumento es solo una manifestación de la conspiración de los acusados", indicó el documento judicial.



La demanda, presentada en el Tribunal de Distrito de Minnesota, alega que las compañías conspiraron para restringir los suministros de carne desde principios de 2015. Las cuatro compañías controlan aproximadamente el 80% de la carne fresca y congelada suministrada al mercado de los Estados Unidos. La demanda alega que las compañías estarían "involucradas en tácticas, incluida la compra de menos ganado y administrar sus plantas de procesamiento a una capacidad inferior a la disponible", para crear excedentes en el mercado de ganado y la subsiguiente escasez de carne de vacuno. Estos movimientos redujeron los precios que las compañías pagaron por el ganado, mientras que simultáneamente aumentaron los precios que podrían exigir por la carne de vacuno que comercializaban.

Empresas productoras de carnes y aves son investigadas

The Justice Department is examining allegations of price fixing across the meat industry as consumers and grocers continue to worry about meat shortages or price spikes caused by coronavirus.

Beef prices more than doubled in May as the meat industry blamed shortages on processing bottlenecks caused by employee absences at meatpacking plants. However, USDA data shows that there was more frozen red meat in cold storage on April 30, 2020, than April 30, 2019.

Even as meat prices have spiked, Kroger was able to keep prices reasonable, Kroger CEO Rodney McMullen said on Thursday.

"We continue to do everything we can to minimize any cost increases," McMullen told "Mornings with Maria." "If you look at meat, we've not even close passed through the cost that we've incurred."

Meanwhile, the Justice Department is investigating claims the four largest U.S. meatpackers fixed prices amid the coronavirus pandemic, a person familiar with the investigation told FOX News. It's also looking at older allegations of price fixing in the poultry industry involving Pilgrim's Pride and Claxton Poultry Farms and indicted current and former executives include Pilgrim's CEO Jayson Penn.

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association and attorneys general from western and midwestern states pushed the Justice Department to look into claims that Cargill, National Beef, Tyson Foods and JBS were driving down the price of cattle and raising the price of packaged beef amid the coronavirus pandemic.

"It would be inappropriate for the Meat Institute to speculate about any actions of the Department of Justice," a spokesperson for the North American Meat Institute, a trade group that represents the four companies and others, told FOX Business.

In addition, a recent class action lawsuit against the four companies brought by Central Grocers in a Minnesota court alleges they have fixed prices since 2015, Beef Magazine reported.

Cargill and Tyson declined to comment on the suit. FOX Business' inquiries to National Beef and JBS were not immediately returned.

Recuperación en la producción de carnes vacunas

18 June 2020

Key points:

Weekly US beef production has recovered in a rapid manner however a large backlog of cattle now exists which will bolster beef supplies over the coming 12 months.

Imported 90CL prices have flattened and may soften in coming weeks.

US beef exports are expected to increase, placing more competitive pressure on markets like Japan and South Korea.

The US meat packing industry has come to grips with new COVID-19 safety precautions, and now has production back on track after a tumultuous few months. This unprecedented swing in production has contributed to the globally unsettled trading environment and carries a number of implications for Australian beef exports.

Leading up to and through the month of May, capacity cuts to US meatpacking facilities pulled the handbrake on cattle slaughter. Volumes bottomed out at the start of May, with weekly beef production back 37% relative to volumes just five weeks earlier. Processing capacity in the US has recovered to typical levels. Last week US beef production was back above year-ago levels, with a backlog of heavier fed cattle, held on feed over the capacity crunch in April-May, now flowing through kill floors.

Led by the dip in production, the US choice cut-out price spiked to unprecedented levels, initiating a sense of unease within the domestic market. This was further compounded by the Memorial Day holiday near the end of May, when beef demand is usually at its highest and which marks the beginning of grilling season.

This spike in US domestic prices led to a similar, albeit not as pronounced, rise in the imported 90CL indicator. With the choice cut-out values now back to pre-crisis levels, the growth in imported values has flattened out. Consequently, imported beef market activity has already slowed, and the spike in export volumes seen to the US in May could be short-lived. While the US is currently in the midst of their grilling season, demand for beef will likely cool off near the end of August, further compounded by tight Australian supplies and improving US production.



As import prices come off the boil, this may see support for the Australian cow prices ease in the coming weeks. However, there has been a clear disconnect between global cattle prices and Australian prices so far this year, as improving moisture levels drive re-stocker demand across the country. Typically, Australian cow prices mirror changes in the imported 90CL price. However, a disconnect can occur in times of major drought and as local conditions override global factors. This may mean that Australian prices could remain supported even in the event of a further decline in the US imported 90CL indicator.

US exports ease as demand from domestic market takes precedence

As US beef production was curtailed through May and domestic demand lifted, US export volumes slowed, with total exports for the four weeks ending 4 June back 37% on the same period last year (weekly exports are only for muscle cuts, as reported by USDA, and can be subject to revision).

With limited quantities of US beef flowing into Japan, reports have indicated that supermarkets increased their focus on Australian beef, conducting promotions of cuts that are commonly used in hotels and restaurants. Availability of those cuts, including tenderloins and cube rolls, improved significantly due to the foodservice downturn, giving Japanese consumers the opportunity to enjoy more Australian loin cuts at home. However, US export volumes to Japan for the year-to-April were quite strong, up 23% on 2019, largely off the back of two tariff reductions since the US-Japan trade agreement entered into force on 1 January.

South Korea reported quarantine cleared imports of US beef were just 17,000 tonnes swt in May, down 19% relative to the same month last year. As expected, improving US production has led to an increase in early June imports, as delayed orders from the previous month are fulfilled.

In Taiwan, reports indicated a short fluctuation in the availability of US supply. Beef stocks were already solid, hence only a few cautious additional orders for Australian beef were placed. Since US production has picked up again, market confidence has been restored and the short-term spike in demand for Australian beef has eased.

Delays in processing has left a large backlog of cattle

While slaughter capacity may have recovered, the pressing issue for the US is the estimated 1+ million head of overfed cattle still on feed and on pasture awaiting placement. This number has built up in the past two months as slaughter capacity was unable to keep up. On 1 June, the estimated number of US cattle on feed for more than 150 days was up by 943,000 head or 41% higher than a year ago (Steiner Consulting).

The USDA reported that the capacity to produce beef at pre-COVID levels may be an issue through to 2021, as slaughter capacity will depend on individual process or ability to successfully manage health protocols and social distancing. Recent USDA forecasts pitch 2020 beef production at 12.0 million tonnes cwt, back 1.8% on 2019 levels. As meat packers begin to clear the cattle backlog, this should see beef production in 2021 rebound. The USDA are forecasting a lift of 3.4% in 2021, with volumes predicted to reach 12.4 million tonnes cwt.

In the past three years, the US have typically exported 11% of their total beef production. The effect of this means that, while Australia may currently benefit from a temporary ease in competition across shared markets, the US will be a prominent competitor through the back end of 2020 and into 2021, likely exporting more beef to global markets than Australia.

Trade between the US and China is lifting, yet export volumes still remain minor

Although the US-China Phase One trade agreement is now underway, only minor volumes of beef have been shipped so far – 3,200 tonnes swt for the year-to-April a 34% increase on year-ago levels. Growth can be attributed to the waiving of trade war tariffs, with the 37% tariff previously applied to US beef dropping to 12% on a case-by-case basis.

While China undoubtedly has a huge demand for beef, it may take some time before any significant trade flow occurs between these two nations. Key barriers that remain are the high price of US beef, COVID-19 disruptions, tense political relations and a strong US dollar. Until the US begins to produce a larger surplus of beef, export volumes may remain focused towards the domestic and traditional markets.

FSIS publica medida para incrementar los análisis de STEC en carnes bovinas

Friday, June 19, 2020 On June 4, 2020 the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced plans to expand Shiga Toxin-Producing Escherichia coli (STEC) testing to include additional raw beef products. Specifically, FSIS is expanding its routine verification testing to include ground beef, bench trim, and other raw ground beef components. FSIS will test six non-O157 STEC (O26, O45, O103, O111, O121, and O145), which are considered adulterants, in addition to Escherichia coli (E. coli) O157:H7.

Currently, FSIS only tests beef manufacturing trimming samples for the 6 non-O157 STEC and E. coli O157:H7. The other ground beef component products are currently tested only for E. coli O157:H7. These pathogens have been known to cause serious illness, such as the 2019 E. coli O103 outbreak linked to raw ground beef that sickened nearly 200 people in 10 states. A 2018 E. coli O26 outbreak, also linked to raw ground beef, sickened 18 people in 4 states.



Additionally, FSIS intends to test for non-O157 STEC in ground beef samples it collects at retail stores and in samples of imported raw beef products. FSIS is accepting comments on the proposed sampling and testing of ground beef, bench trim, and other raw ground beef components through August 3, 2020.

AUSTRALIA

ABARES: proyecta aumentos de precios y reducción en oferta y exportación

James Nason, June 16, 2020

SALEYARD prices for cattle are expected to increase by four percent on average over the next 12 months as low supply constrains production and export volumes, according to ABARES' June quarter outlook report released today.

Prices to remain high as a result of tight supply

The Australian beef cattle herd remains at 30 year low, currently estimated at 21.1 million head, the lowest since 1989-90.

Lower turn-off from the smaller national herd, and cattle being retained for restocking and herd rebuilding, will constrain beef production and exports over the short term.

With gradual restocking over the next 12 months ABARES expects the herd to increase to 21.5 million head by June 2021.

Global demand for beef is described as "robust" in the short term, but COVID-19 has increased uncertainty in export markets.

ABARES expects these factors to lead to a four percent lift in the average saleyard price of steers and cows in 2020–21, to 556 cents per kilogram.

Improved production conditions in many eastern cattle areas

After two years of drought, widespread and above average rainfall earlier in 2020 has led to pasture growth in South Eastern Australia, with models also pointing to above average pasture growth over most of eastern Australia and particularly in Queensland over winter

Winter is typically a period of low rainfall and pasture growth and a recovery in pasture biomass in the west and tropical north will still require a more favourable monsoon in the summer of 2020–21.

Production to fall as herd rebuilding gains momentum

Australian beef production is forecast to fall by 17 percent in 2020–21 to 1.9 million tonnes.

A 7 percent fall in the number of cattle slaughtered since February has been partially offset by an increase in average slaughter weights, reflecting the high number of animals in feedlots and a declining share of females.

Female slaughter rates lower than around 47 percent indicate herd rebuilding is taking place. After averaging 56 percent in 2019, female slaughter rates fell to an average of 52pc in the first three months of 2020, and in Queensland averaged just 44 percent between January and May.

Female slaughter rates are expected to continue to fall throughout 2020 as herd rebuilding gains momentum, ABARES predicts.

However, it adds that the pace of herd rebuilding will be limited in some cases by the high price of restocker animals and limited cash flow after years of drought.

Beef export volumes to fall

The volume of beef exports is forecast to fall by 22pc in 2020–21 to 995,000 tonnes, in line with the forecast fall in production.

However, the overall value of beef exports will not fall as significantly due to anticipated increases in export prices.

In contrast to the forecast 22pc fall in export volumes in 2020-21, export value is forecast to fall by 19pc to \$8.9 billion (this is down from \$11 billion in 2019-20, when overall value of exports was enhanced by drought-related turn-off and high global prices).

Viral impacts

The ongoing shortage of protein as a result of outbreaks of African swine fever in China has continued to support global beef prices.

Data to March 2020 indicates that the overall impact of COVID-19 on Australia's beef exports has been small, ABARES said.

Average export unit values were 5 percent higher in the first quarter of 2020 compared with the previous quarter, and 16 percent higher than the same quarter last year.

This was partly the result of a lower Australian dollar, which depreciated sharply in March.

ABARES notes that exports of high-value products normally destined for foreign food service channels were disproportionately affected early in the pandemic.

Australia is potentially well positioned because of its low levels of community transmission.



If Australia is able to maintain this status and keep its supply chains functioning efficiently, Australian beef producers may benefit from temporary supply disruptions in competing nations. It could also help Australia build its reputation as a reliable supplier of quality meat.

How exports to key markets are expected to unfold

The volume of beef exports to China is expected to reach 324,000 tonnes in 2019–20, up from 228,000 tonnes last year.

Exports to the United States are forecast to reach 226,000 tonnes in 2019–20, 6pc lower than 2018–19.

Export volumes to other major markets such as Japan and Korea remained relatively unaffected by extensive COVID-19–related restrictions in both countries, with retail sales remaining relatively strong.

Live export volumes to fall 25pc

Live cattle export volumes are forecast to fall by 25pc in 2020–21 to around 900,000 head.

This reflects tighter domestic supply and falling demand as responses to COVID-19 reduce household incomes in importing countries such as Indonesia.

On balance, average export prices are expected to increase slightly as the effect of tightening supplies more than offsets falling demand.

ABARES notes that this forecasts depends on “the uncertain duration and severity of COVID-19 impacts on demand”.

Changes in consumer preferences

Changes in consumer preferences in response to COVID-19 may benefit sales of Australian beef, the ABARES report suggests.

“For example, Chinese consumers have been substituting away from wet markets towards large supermarkets and online sales—distribution channels that favour Australian beef.

“The same consumer trend is evident in Indonesia, but this is leading to an increase in demand for Australian boxed beef, and a decrease in demand for Australian live exports.

“In 2018 Australia accounted for 42pc of Indonesian beef imports (by value and volume), despite intense competition from cost-competitive Indian carabeef.

“Australian beef is typically sold in supermarkets, food service or hotels. Indian carabeef is typically sold in wet markets, to bakso (meatball) manufacturers or in food service.”

Tight profit margins for feedlot industry

After reaching a record high number of animals in feedlots at the end of 2019, the number of animals on feed fell by 12pc in the March quarter of 2020.

Rapid pasture growth in the autumn of 2020 increased saleyard prices for feedlot owners who are competing with restockers for a relatively small supply of animals.

At the same time, responses to COVID-19 have increased uncertainty in beef markets, and reduced returns for the high-quality grain-fed cuts favoured by export markets.

The number of animals on feed is likely to continue to fall in 2020–21, ABARES expects.

The report also noted the suspension of four major abattoirs from the Chinese market, but said it is still unclear how long these suspensions will last.

Australia reduce estimación de exportaciones a China y busca mercados alternativos

16 June 2020

Australia’s chief commodity forecaster lowered its expected beef exports to China by 1.5 percent for the 2020 to 2021 season as trade ties sour between the nations.

Reuters reports that the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES) expects China to buy 227,000 tonnes of beef in the year to 30 June 2021, compared to 230,000 tonnes in its March estimate. That would amount to 30 percent less than in the 2019 trading period.

The lower forecast comes after China suspended exports for four of Australia’s largest beef exporters earlier in May, citing labelling issues. Australian government sources have said recent bilateral tensions are likely behind the suspension.

Labelling issues were also cited by Beijing when the same companies and two others lost their licences to ship beef to China in 2017 for several months.

Australian-China relations soured after Canberra called for an independent inquiry into the origins of the novel coronavirus.

17 June 2020

Trade Minister Simon Birmingham says Australia is actively seeking to diversify its export markets after noting measures enacted by Beijing amid an ongoing diplomatic dispute that will harm Australian farmers and Chinese producers and consumers.

Reuters reports that Australia is seeking to strike free trade deals with the UK and EU this year.

Speaking to the National Press Club in Canberra, Minister Birmingham highlighted that the EU bloc was already Australia’s third-largest trading partner.



China is, however, Australia's largest trading partner. Two-way trade was worth an estimated \$235 billion AUD (\$162 billion) in 2019.

Reuters reports that one in five Australian jobs rely on trade. Birmingham told reporters that Australia would seek to expand its options. Canberra could see the potential for clean energy partnerships with Europe as well as building on existing agreements with Japan and South Korea for hydrogen exports.

China recently imposed dumping tariffs on Australian barley, suspended some beef imports and warned Chinese students and tourists it wasn't safe to travel to Australia because of allegations of racism.

Birmingham said it was disappointing he had so far been unable to speak to his Chinese counterpart about the series of trade measures, which Chinese state media have linked to Australia's lobbying for an international investigation into the source and spread of the coronavirus pandemic.

The trade partnership with China was built over many years based on pragmatism, but Australia wouldn't "sell out our national interest", he said.

"It isn't a question of idealism. The truth is we believe in our exporters and the quality

The minister said China's barley tariffs would cost Australian farmers \$330 million AUD in lost market access, but would potentially cost Chinese producers \$3.6 billion AUD as beer makers were unable to source the Australian ingredients they needed.

He said Australia and China "share the same dynamic region of the world" and Canberra wanted a positive relationship.

Inician negociaciones de un acuerdo de libre comercio con el Reino Unido

18 June 2020

Rekindling trade ties with a long-term partner

The Australian red meat industry today welcomed the launch of the Australia-United Kingdom Free Trade Agreement (A-UK FTA) negotiations, under unique circumstances.

Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment, Simon Birmingham, and UK Secretary of State for International Trade, Liz Truss, launched the negotiations via video conference, a phenomenon we are growing accustomed to in the era of COVID-19.

It was also unique in that the UK, as a consequence of Brexit, is now on the path to securing trade relationships independently of the European Union (EU) – for the first time in 48 years.

"Prior to the UK joining the EU (or European Economic Community, as it was then known), the UK was one of Australia's principle red meat export markets," said Andrew McDonald, Chair of the Australia-UK Red Meat Market Access Taskforce.*

"A lot has changed since then, including the development of markets closer to home, but longstanding commercial relationships have prevailed and we strongly endorse the launch of bilateral negotiations in support of enhancing the current trade.

"Whilst an enduring partner, Australia's beef and sheepmeat access has been limited by virtue of the UK being a member of the EU.

"Compared with many other countries supplying the EU, Australia has disproportionately low volume quota access coupled with trade prohibitive above quota tariffs. This import regime has stifled Australia's ability to respond to growing UK consumer demand for high quality beef, sheepmeat and goatmeat.

"Our industry will therefore be encouraging negotiators from both sides to think beyond the quota and tariff construct the UK has become accustomed to, and embrace the merits of liberalised trade – a regime which is conferring significant benefits to both the Australian red meat supply chain and our international consumer base via the suite of FTAs Australia has secured to date.

"Our connection with the UK is already based on shared values, with our sector providing UK importers, distributors and consumers with a trusted source of high quality product, including the provision of supplies on a counter-seasonal basis as required. Now we have the opportunity to take this mutually beneficial trading relationship to the next level."

Mr McDonald said the Taskforce was encouraged by both the Australian and UK Governments commitment that they would seek an ambitious and comprehensive FTA, with the Australian Government prioritising enhanced market access for goods – including red meat.

"We look forward to working closely with Australia's negotiating team to deliver the best possible result for Australian red meat producers, processors and exporters – as well as meeting the future requirements of discerning UK consumers."

MLA lanza plan estratégico para próximos cinco años

Beef Central, June 17, 2020 Meat & Livestock Australia has this morning released a new Strategic Plan charting the direction of the research and marketing body's investments for the next five years.

The plan has been developed with industry consultation over the past 18 months and uses the Red Meat 2030 10-year red meat industry plan released last year, which laid out a vision to double the value of red meat sales by 2030, as its foundation.



MLA says its Strategic Plan 2025 is centred around delivering transformational change for Australia's red meat and livestock industry, by prioritising which challenges to address by the impact they can deliver for the industry.

The plan builds on the strategy announced by MLA Managing Director Jason Strong at last year's MLA AGM in Tamworth where he committed the organisation to 'fewer, bigger and bolder' programs of work, in order to achieve greater impact for levy investments.

Helping producers, and their supply chains to make better decisions informed by data, driving greater efficiency in the delivery of MLA's core services, and identifying new ways to capture value and increase profitability through new revenue streams and developing high value products are at the core of the five-year strategy.

Mr Strong emphasised that Australia's red meat and livestock industry is in good shape as it embarks on the next critical future phase.

"Our products have a reputation for being the best in world. We are trusted by consumers – who are more interested than ever about how their food is produced – because of the positive way we treat and trace our livestock," he said.

To tackle new challenges facing the industry MLA has identified two key areas to increase investment in: Adoption and extension: The plan will drive a significant increase investment in funds allocated to adoption and extension and ensure MLA programs have clear adoption and extension pathways from inception Programs that support red meat industry integrity systems: The plan also highlights the importance of strengthening existing systems in support of biosecurity, food safety and traceability. In support of this it aims to drive investment in activities that accelerate data capture, end-to-end supply chain verification and knowledge transfer within the supply chain to support business decision making.

The 'big picture vision' that underpins the document is a priority to ensure MLA investments help the industry to meet the expectations of customers, consumers and the community around animal health, animal welfare and environmental stewardship.

This will entail an increasing focus on programs designed to help producers adapt to climate variability while improving productivity, delivering world-leading animal health and welfare outcomes, and adopting Carbon Neutral 2030 (CN30) pathways, demonstrated through on-farm practice change to deliver a global competitive advantage.

"From a global marketing perspective, Australia's red meat industry has a fantastic story to share," Mr Strong said.

"MLA's Strategic Plan 2025 is clear in its ambition as we continue to drive demand for red meat, with activities informed by data, evidence and insights.

"For MLA's research and development work, we will continue to push our industry forward by building on-farm productivity through improved adoption of research outcomes.

"We must build more sophisticated and efficient supply chains, with a shared commitment from all of industry."

He said the ambition was to build a plan that ensured MLA can capitalise on the areas in which it already has a competitive advantage, but "also ask some tough questions about what we can do better for producers and how we can turn today's challenges into tomorrow's opportunities".

Australia's on-farm assurance, animal identification and traceability systems, which guarantee the integrity of the \$28.5 billion red meat industry to its customers; Meat Standards Australia (MSA), the world's leading eating quality grading program for beef, and MLA's work to support access to international markets, which has been critical to the growth and competitiveness of our industry were examples of the industry's existing strengths.

"What these examples show us is to have real impact, we need to be focused, ambitious with our expectations and demand greater impact from the investments we make," Mr Strong said.

"However, success will ultimately be measured by the ability of red meat producers to create and capture additional value from these investments."

He said MLA will continue to target major strategic challenges to ensure higher risk but higher reward investments are not being overlooked.

"To be successful, it was important that this strategy focused not just on what we will do, but how we will do it. We developed guiding principles that will ensure MLA is well placed to deliver transformational change and maximise our impact."

He said the Strategic Plan 2025 will undergo a constant cycle of review and inform MLA's Annual Investment Plans (AIPs), which outline MLA's programs and the activities, key performance indicators and budgets for each financial year.

Key challenge: increasing impact with lower operating budgets

If MLA is going to drive transformational change as outlined in today's Strategic Plan 2025, it will have to do so with smaller annual operating budgets over the next five years.



MLA is funded principally by compulsory levies paid by producers on each head of cattle, sheep and goats they sell each year.

Successive years of drought have driven livestock populations to historically low levels. An improvement in seasonal conditions in many areas is now expected to lead to a focus on herd and flock rebuilding which will also mean fewer sale transactions from an already low base, in turn translating to less revenue for research and marketing activities conducted by MLA.

The Strategic Plan 2025 contains detailed forecasts of MLA's expected annual operating budgets from 2021 to 2025, and the key areas in which it expects to allocate its available funding in each of those years. In effect current projections suggest MLA will have \$42 million less to spend in 2025 than it will in 2021 – \$235.3 million in five years time, compared to an anticipated \$277.5 million next year.

Clearly that will mean spending will have to be reduced in some areas while it endeavours to increase investment in key areas to meet the goals of its new strategic plan.

According to details in the report released this morning, areas in which annual funding allocations are planned to reduce, stay the same and increase over the next five years are as follows:

Areas in which the total amount spent will reduce over the five year period:

Animal health and welfare from \$9.2m to \$4.6m (-\$4.6m)

- Feedlot from \$9.1m to \$7.8m (- \$1.3m)
- Capability building from \$15.4m to \$9.4m – (-\$6m)
- Environmental sustainability from \$19.5m to \$13.6m (-\$6m)
- International markets \$47.6m to \$40m (-\$7.6m)
- Integrity systems – \$27m to \$24m (-\$3m)
- Objective measurement \$17.9m to \$11.2m (-\$6.7)
- Productivity (off-farm) \$9.4m to \$8.2m (-\$1.2m)
- Productivity (on-farm) \$39.9m to \$24.9m (-\$15m)
- Areas in which total amount spent will remain largely the same:
- Communication from \$8.8m to \$8.7m
- Product and packaging innovation \$4.5m to \$5m
- Eating Quality \$7.5m to \$8m
- Domestic market \$23.3m to \$23.3m
- Value chain information and efficiency \$7.0m to \$7.6m
- Areas in which total amount spent will increase:
- Producer adoption \$12.6m to \$19.4m (+\$6.8m)
- Corporate services \$17.6m to \$18.8m (+\$1.2m)

EMPRESARIAS

Fitch elevò calificación de JBS de BB a BB+

ESTADÃO CONTEÚDO 16/06/2020

Agência de classificação de risco considera que a crise econômica deve provocar impactos negativos no desempenho da empresa, em especial no segundo trimestre, no segmento de aves nos EUA

A agência de classificação de risco Fitch elevou o rating IDRs (Issuer Default Rating – Rating de Inadimplência do Emissor) de Longo Prazo em Moeda Estrangeira e Local da JBS para “BB+”, de “BB”. A Fitch também atualizou as notas seniores sem garantia asseguradas pela JBS para “BB+”, antes “BB”, além de atualizar o rating da Escala Nacional da empresa para “AAA (bra)”, de “AA+ (bra)”. A perspectiva de classificação é estável.

Em nota, a Fitch informou que a atualização para “BB+” reflete negócios resilientes da JBS e fundamentos de médio prazo, o refinanciamento de dívida implementado no ano passado, que reduziu o custo de capital (5,28% no primeiro trimestre deste ano, contra 5,88% em igual período do ano passado nos EUA) e ampliou o perfil de vencimento da dívida, forte posição de liquidez e níveis moderados de alavancagem em 2020, apesar dos desafios operacionais e das fracas condições econômicas decorrentes da pandemia de coronavírus.

A Fitch considera que a crise econômica deve provocar impactos negativos no desempenho da empresa, em especial no segundo trimestre, no segmento de aves nos EUA. A Fitch espera que a empresa gere mais de US \$ 1 bilhão em FCF (Free Cash Flow ou Fluxo de Caixa Livre) em 2020.

Segundo a agência, o rating da JBS é limitado por uma fraca governança corporativa devido à sua estrutura acionária e incerteza, à medida que várias investigações envolvendo a JBS e seus acionistas continuam. Isso inclui procedimentos administrativos da Comissão de Valores Mobiliários e multas em potencial do Departamento de Justiça dos EUA. Essas questões legais criam incerteza quanto ao prazo e à magnitude de quaisquer multas em potencial. A JBS possui uma pontuação de governança de 5.



A Fitch destacou, no comunicado, a diversificação geográfica e de atuação da companhia, que produz carne suína, bovina e de aves e tem forte presença na América do Norte, América do Sul, Austrália e Europa. “Essa diversidade permite à empresa mitigar a volatilidade dos negócios inerente ao setor”, disse a Fitch.

As exportações representaram 25,7% das vendas globais da JBS no primeiro trimestre, de acordo com a agência, e a exposição da companhia ao serviço de alimentos é de cerca de 10% no Brasil e menos de 20% nos EUA.

A agência avaliou também que a companhia possui alavancagem moderada, apesar dos desafios do setor relacionados à pandemia do coronavírus, e que a alavancagem líquida da JBS deve permanecer abaixo de 3x em 2020. Ponderou, ainda, que a paralisação temporária de fábricas nos EUA e no Brasil, bem como os custos mais altos relacionados a medidas de distanciamento social empreendidos pela empresa, pressionarão as margens em 2020.

Cargill creó el programa para atender necesidades de sus trabajadores ante la crisis de COVID 19

Drovers News Source June 16, 2020 03:34 PM

Cargill is launching the Cargill Cares Employee Disaster Relief Fund to support employees around the world during times of catastrophic or personal disaster. While this resource was established to support the immediate needs of our team during the COVID-19 crisis, it will also serve as a long-term resource for future events.

“We are prioritizing our employees’ health and well-being, as they are essential in delivering the food we all need to stay healthy and nourished,” said Michelle Grogg, vice president of corporate responsibility and sustainability development at Cargill. “Our work is essential, but our people and the communities in which we live and work haven’t been immune to the impacts of the virus. With this fund, we hope we can come together in a powerful way to help our colleagues by providing some peace of mind during this incredibly uncertain time.”

Cargill is contributing \$15 million (USD) as an initial start to the fund. Employees, other individuals and organizations will be able to contribute to support colleagues in their time of need.

The Fund will be administered by E4E Relief, an organization that specializes in administering funds like these. Starting today, the portal is open for both applications and donations.

In addition to its employee disaster relief, Cargill is working with its nonprofit and NGO partners around the globe to help address food security, health and safety needs and industry challenges due to the spread of COVID-19. Cargill is committing \$35 million (USD) to COVID-19 relief and recovery efforts through global and regional partnerships, product donations and employee personal giving. In addition to monetary donations, Cargill has donated more than 3 million pounds of food globally.

Athena Foods arrienda otro frigorífico y aumenta participación en Paraguay

18/06/2020 - Prevén realizar una faena mensual de 10.000 cabezas.

La subsidiaria de Minerva Foods para Sudamérica, Athena Foods, arrendó FrigoNorte en Paraguay, una planta frigorífica de perfil exportador ubicada en la ciudad de Pedro Juan Caballero, departamento de Amambay, frontera con Brasil.

La multinacional de origen brasileño cerró un alquiler por un año, y prevé iniciar la faena a partir de julio, según informó la web paraguaya Valor Agro.

Con este negocio, Athena Foods participará en el mercado con cinco plantas industriales activas: Frigomerc, Belén, San Antonio, Frigorífico Mussa y FrigoNorte.

En FrigoNorte estiman alcanzar una faena mensual de 10.000 cabezas. Durante 2020 la planta no tuvo actividad y en 2019 procesó un promedio de 10.882 animales mensuales, de acuerdo a datos oficiales.

Fuentes consultadas por el medio explicaron que el retorno a las actividades de FrigoNorte resulta una “muy buena noticia para la zona”, dado que el acuerdo implicaría saldar deudas (de la anterior empresa) con productores. Además reactiva la mano de obra a más de 450 funcionarios, tras seis meses sin trabajar.