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## GLOBAL

### Comercio mundial interrumpido por la crisis del Canal de Suez

Grain Brokers Australia, March 30, 2021

The MV Ever Given has refloated, but its blocking of the Suez Canal will have an impact on shipping for weeks. Photo: Suez Canal Authority

THE Suez Canal is a crucial artery in world trade, but its operation suffered a major setback last Tuesday when one of the world's largest container ships ran aground and blocked transit in both directions. The Ever Given was passing through the Suez Canal en route from the Chinese port of Yantian to Rotterdam, the largest seaport in Europe, when it veered off course in a single-lane stretch of the canal, about six kilometres north of the Red Sea entrance.

The ship was occupying fifth position in a northbound convoy of 20 vessels when it was reportedly hit by a strong wind gust and dust storm near the village of Manshiyet, causing it to deviate from the intended route. However, the Suez Canal authority has since suggested that technical or human error may be to blame. When it came to a halt, diagonally blocking the canal, the bow was wedged firmly into one bank, and the stern was resting against the other.

At 399.94 metres, the Ever Given is one of the longest container ships currently in service, and is operated by Taiwan-based Evergreen Marine Corporation. Its hull has a beam of 58.8m, a depth of 32.9m and a fully laden draft of 14.5m. The vessel's deadweight is just under 200,000 tonnes, and it has a container capacity of 20,124 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEU).

A combination of dredging sand and mud from around the ship's bulbous bow and pulling with as many as 14 tugboats to refloat the stricken carrier had limited success over the weekend. However, following more dredging

and favourable tidal conditions, the Suez Canal Authority announced that salvage crews had been successful in partially freeing the vessel just after 0530 local time Monday. The Ever Given was completely refloated at 0305 local time Monday, and traffic resumed in both directions shortly thereafter.

Long-lasting effects expected

Egyptian officials said that the backlog of vessels waiting to transit the Suez Canal should be cleared in around three days, but experts believe the knock-on effects on global trade will be felt for weeks, or even months. More than 425 vessels were stalled at either entrance to the canal, including at least 60 dry-bulk vessels carrying commodities such as grain, coal and iron ore. The list also includes container ships, oil tankers, LPG and LNG tankers, livestock carriers, general cargo ships, chemical tankers, and car carriers. The blockage is estimated to be delaying up to US\$9.6 billion worth of cargo per day comprising \$5.1B northbound and \$4.5B southbound.

The Suez Canal is an artificial sea-level waterway connecting the Mediterranean Sea to The Red Sea via the Isthmus of Suez. It is 193.3 kilometres long and essentially runs in a north-south direction from Port Said on the Mediterranean Sea to Port Tewfik, near the city of Suez, on the Red Sea. The canal divides the Asian and African continents as well as the Egypt-controlled Sinai Peninsula to its east from the Egyptian mainland to its west. The canal took 10 years to construct and was officially opened on 17 November 1869. It provides a more direct and faster route between the North Atlantic Ocean and the Indian Ocean, eliminating the need to navigate the long and treacherous alternative around the Cape of Good Hope. It reduces a ship's journey from the Arabian Gulf to London by around 8900km, or roughly 10 days' sailing time, and saves up to 800t in fuel consumption.

An extension of the Ballah Bypass in 2014 to 35km in length increased the canal's two-way capacity, boosting the number of vessels that can pass through the waterway each day from 49 to 97. However, draft restrictions mean some supertankers still cannot transit fully laden, having to offload part of their cargo on to smaller vessels before entering, and then reloading that cargo at the other end.

The Suez Canal saw around 12 per cent of world trade volume navigate its waters in 2020. A record 18,880 vessels traversed the waterway last year, carrying a combined cargo of more than one billion tonnes and a combined value of more than \$1 trillion. Approximately 30pc of the world's shipping-container trade utilises the canal, with fees paid to the Suez Canal Authority totalling \$5.6B last year.

US grain flow interrupted

Nearly 10pc of total seaborne oil trade, 20pc of global liquefied natural gas (LNG) trade and 16 million TEU passed through the waterway last year. According to the Suez Canal Authority, around 55Mt of grain is shipped via the channel annually. The vast majority of the grain traffic originates in the US, Europe and the Black Sea regions, and enters the canal via the Mediterranean Sea on its way to destinations in the Middle East and Asia.

In 2019 a total of 54.135Mt of cereals transited the canal in dry bulk vessels, of which 53Mt, or 98pc, moved in a north-to-south direction. The total volume of oilseeds was 7.8Mt, with 5.9Mt, or 76pc, moving from the Atlantic basin to the Indian basin.



Data out of the US last week revealed almost 768,000t of US-inspected grain was on its way to Asian customers via the Suez Canal. Around 80pc of that was corn, 60pc of which was on six vessels destined for China. The other corn destinations were Indonesia, Saudi Arabia and Jordan. The remaining 20pc was a cargo each of sorghum, soybeans and wheat destined for China, Bangladesh and Djibouti respectively. The suspension of traffic through the narrow waterway has intensified problems for container shipping lines. They were already facing disruption and delays in supplying retail goods to consumers due to the coronavirus pandemic and pricing anomalies that have emerged in the global freight market in recent months.

The impact on energy markets is likely to be mitigated for a short time by subdued demand for crude oil and LNG as a result of the pandemic and the traditional low season. Additionally, stockpiles that have built up across the globe over the past 12 months will provide a short-term buffer. The Sumed pipeline can also pump 2.5M barrels of crude oil per day across Egypt from the Red Sea to the Mediterranean Sea.

The uncertainty of passage meant dozens of bulk carriers, oil tankers and container ships have already rerouted via the Cape of Good Hope, adding substantial cost and more than one week to most journey times. Just a week into the crisis and the effects on global trade and sea-freight rates have been building. However, freeing the vessel so quickly has avoided an exponential escalation in global shipping costs across almost all categories.

By GREG HENDERSON March 29, 2021

At least 20 ships carrying livestock were caught up in the Suez Canal blockage, according to marine tracking data. Giant cargo ship Ever Given ran aground March 23 while attempting to cross through the canal and was dislodged on Monday, March 29.

The vessel tracking website Marine Traffic identified at least 11 vessels that were carrying cattle, sheep, and other livestock, while Australia-based NGO Animals International added another nine to the list, according to The Guardian.

Authorities said the animals on board the ships are free from danger at the moment, but the longer the delay the more problems can pile up. Livestock ships generally carry enough feed and water for an extra week at sea as a precaution.

Peter Stevenson, chief policy officer at Compassion in World Farming, told Bloomberg that he “wouldn’t expect just after a two-day delay for a problem to have built up. It’s as time goes by that the problems get worse. Occasionally, there are real scandals when things go wrong, but it’s a day-to-day horror.”

“My greatest fear is that animals run out of food and water and they get stuck on the ships because they cannot be unloaded somewhere else for paperwork reasons,” he added.

More than 18,800 ships with a net tonnage of 1.17 billion tonnes passed through the canal during 2020. That’s an average of 51.5 ships per day.

### **Productores de alimentos encabezan las iniciativas de bienestar animal**

30 March 2021 The Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare (BBFAW), a globally recognised investor framework for assessing companies’ performance on farm animal welfare, has released its annual report for 2020.

The ninth annual Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare (BBFAW) was launched today revealing that for the first time in its history, food Producers & Manufacturers are now the highest scoring sub-sector on farm animal welfare. They achieved an overall average score of 38%, up from 35% in 2019, compared to scores of 36% for Retailers & Wholesalers, and 31% for Restaurants & Bars.

The BBFAW is the leading global measure of policy commitment, performance, and disclosure on animal welfare in food companies and is supported by Compassion in World Farming and World Animal Protection.

The 2020 Benchmark analysed 150 global food companies, made up of 63 Producers & Manufacturers with combined retail revenues of US\$500 billion, 52 Retailers & Wholesalers and 35 Restaurants & Bars. Producers Cranswick and Noble Foods retained their Tier 1 ranking in the Benchmark, alongside retailers Waitrose and Marks & Spencer. The Restaurants & Bars sector has yet to break into Tier 1 of the Benchmark.

However, more than a third (39%) of the 150 companies covered by the BBFAW remain in the bottom two tiers, including 23 producers and manufacturers, offering little or no information on their approach to farm animal welfare. In fact, 31 global food companies remain without an overarching farm animal welfare policy.

Nicky Amos, Executive Director of the Business Benchmark on Farm Animal Welfare, said: “The 2020 findings show how BBFAW is driving corporate action on farm animal welfare, with around two-thirds of companies actively managing the business risks and opportunities associated with farm animal welfare, and 79% of companies having committed to improvement objectives and targets linked to farm animal welfare. The progress made by companies on managing farm animal welfare since the BBFAW’s inception



in 2012 is remarkable and should be applauded. However, as BBFAW enters its tenth year, our expectation is that companies need to demonstrate how their management commitments are translating into improved welfare impacts for animals on the ground.”

As well as being the highest scoring sub-sector, food producers and manufacturers are also now the most represented sub-sector in Tiers 1 and 2 of the Benchmark, with twelve companies – Barilla, Cargill, Cranswick, Danish Crown, Groupe Danone, Fonterra, Hilton Food Group, Marfrig Global Foods, Nestlé, Noble Foods, Premier Foods and Unilever – showing leadership on farm animal welfare. These companies represent all geographic regions (Asia Pacific, Europe, Latin America, North America and UK) covered by the Benchmark.

Overall, a total of 23 companies improved their score by at least one tier between 2019 and 2020. Of these 23 food businesses, 13 were producers and manufacturers compared to nine retailers and wholesalers, and just one company in the restaurants and bars sub-sector. A total of 15 companies dropped at least one tier and this included producers and manufacturers General Mills, Perdue Farms and Terrena Group.

The largest improvements within the producers and manufacturers sector (indeed across all three sectors in the Benchmark) were made by two Brazilian companies, Marfrig Global Foods and Minerva Foods, which both climbed two tiers. Minerva Foods moved up from Tier 5 to Tier 3 while Marfrig Global Foods rose from Tier 4 to Tier 2. The improved ranking for Marfrig Global Foods can be attributed to the publication of a formalised animal welfare policy as well as a 2020 Animal Welfare Report, clearly outlining the company’s operations and practices around animal rearing, its priorities and commitments for the continuous improvement of farm animal welfare, as well as its systems and processes in place to implement and monitor these.

Unilever rose one tier in 2020 to Tier 2 partly due to notable improvements in the Management and Commitment section as a result of publication of new statements on animal subjects to genetic engineering or cloning, and the avoidance of antibiotics for prophylactic use.

Vanessa King, Sustainable Sourcing Manager, Unilever commented: “Improving animal welfare has been a commitment at Unilever for many years; it aligns with our values and is important to our consumers. We welcome the transparency that the Business Benchmark on Animal Welfare brings to investors and we are pleased to have moved back up to Tier 2 in the index this year. We will continue to work together with our supply chain partners and our peers to bring industry change.”

Premier Foods’s BBFAW Benchmark score has improved significantly since 2019 enabling the producer to retain its Tier 2 ranking. This can be attributed to improved scores across the Management Commitment, Governance and Management, and Performance Reporting and Impact sections of the assessment. As an example, Premier Foods reports on the proportions of animals in its supply chain that are free from close confinement, free from routine mutilations and that are subject to pre-slaughter stunning.

Mark Hughes, Procurement and Central Operations Director said: “At Premier Foods, we continuously advocate for greater awareness of animal welfare issues across our supply chain, and regularly engage with our suppliers to understand their practices and challenges. We seek to improve the lives of farm animals by increasing the visibility and extending the development of good animal welfare practices across our whole supply chain, including within our primary producers and indirect users of animal-derived ingredients. We were delighted to see this work recognized through a Tier 2 ranking by BBFAW in 2019, and again in 2020, providing all our stakeholders with the independent verification needed to build confidence in our commitments and practices.”

Fonterra Co-operative Group joined Premier Foods in Tier 2, largely due to improved scoring in the Governance and Management and the Leadership and Innovation sections. As an example, Fonterra has published targets to reduce Global Somatic Cell Count (SCC) by 2021 and has provided evidence of involvement in research and development activities, including on pasture enrichment and milk fingerprinting (identifying stress indicators in milk).

Barilla’s BBFAW Benchmark score has improved significantly since 2019. This has resulted in the company moving up a tier to Tier 2 which can mostly be attributed to improvement in scores in the Governance and Management section, for example, for more inclusive disclosure on contracts and audits of suppliers.

Leonardo Mirone, Purchasing Director, Barilla said: “We are aware that food is not only what we eat: it reflects on people’s quality of life, on the wellbeing of animals, and the planet. Our ‘Good for You, Good for the Planet’, our only one way of doing business, guides us constantly and allows us to undertake new paths quickly and decisively. We have worked on the supply chains of our most important raw materials to make a positive contribution to farmers, communities and the planet. We ensure that all our suppliers of raw materials of animal origin comply with high standards, in compliance with the Barilla Guidelines on Animal Welfare.”

Thailand’s Charoen Pokphand Foods (CPF) improved its ranking from Tier 4 in 2019 to Tier 3 in 2020. This improvement is thanks to better scores in all sections. As an example of the company’s performance reporting, CPF reports on the proportion of animals that is free from routine mutilations, welfare outcome



measures, proportion of laying hens in cage-free operations and the proportion of pigs free from tail docking, although this reporting is partial and limited to certain geographies and products. CPF has reported fully on the proportion of animals subject to pre-slaughter stunning, covering all relevant geographies, species and products.

KraftHeinz has risen a tier to Tier 3 which can be attributed to improvement in scores in the Governance and Management section, namely its reporting on assigned management responsibilities for animal welfare, and its reporting on progress against its objectives and targets.

On a regional basis, the 2020 Benchmark reveals that many of the strongest performing companies, including all four Tier 1 businesses, are UK based and no UK companies dropped a tier in 2020. However, momentum is building in Latin America and Asia Pacific, regions that include some of the biggest names in global meat production. Analysis here shows noteworthy changes for producer companies in Latin America, whose overall average score rose from 29% in 2019 to 40% in 2020.

In Asia Pacific, producers in the region saw year-on-year scores improve from 21% to 27% in the Management Commitment section and from 14% to 18% in the Governance and Management section. However, it is worth noting that this rise is from a very low base, and the average overall score for these companies increased from 12% to 16% in 2020.

The BBFAW has also announced that in 2021 – the tenth annual Benchmark cycle - it welcomes Four Paws, the global animal welfare organisation for animals under direct human influence, as a supporting partner. Four Paws will take over the role of co-sponsor from World Animal Protection who, alongside Compassion in World Farming, has steered the BBFAW since its inception in 2012. The BBFAW is extremely grateful to World Animal Protection for its vision, dedication, technical expertise and financial support over the past 10 years. Four Paws and BBFAW founding partner, Compassion in World Farming, will together play an instrumental role in providing the BBFAW programme with technical expertise, guidance, funding and practical resources as the programme enters its second decade.

Philip Lymbery, Global CEO at Compassion in World Farming, said: “This is the ninth annual BBFAW report and I’d like to thank our co-sponsors, World Animal Protection for sharing the journey with us since 2012, during which time we have seen extraordinary company progress.

“The current pandemic has been deeply challenging for everyone, particularly for the hospitality sector, and at the same time, has underlined the need for progressive change toward healthier, more resilient animal-welfare friendly food systems. The need to convert effective policies into practice has never been more urgent.

“As the 2020 Benchmark demonstrates, giving greater weight to the implementation of progressive practices has become a key corporate performance indicator on animal welfare and thereby health, which will remain important going forward.”

## **BRASIL**

### **Novillo con precios firmes y estables**

Quarta-feira, 31 de março de 2021 - 06h00

Em São Paulo, na última terça-feira (30/3), o mercado físico do boi gordo permaneceu estável frente ao dia anterior (29/3), no entanto, a oferta restrita de animais ainda continua dando sustentação às cotações. Segundo levantamento da Scot Consultoria, a referência para o boi gordo que atende ao mercado interno ficou em R\$314,00/@, preço bruto e a prazo.

A vaca e novilha gordas para abate ficaram cotadas em R\$285,00/@ e R\$303,00/@, nas mesmas condições, respectivamente.

Contudo, bovinos mais jovens, até quatro dentes, estão sendo negociados em até R\$320,00/@, preço bruto e à vista.

### **Brasil se pliega al plan de Uruguay para erradicar mosca de la bichera, confirmó ministra Teresa Cristina Correa a Uriarte**

por Cecilia Ferreiramarzo 29, 2021

Brasil se plegará al plan que está llevando adelante Uruguay para la erradicación de la mosca de la bichera, confirmó la ministra de Agricultura de Brasil, Tereza Cristina Correa, en una misiva enviada al ministro de Ganadería Agricultura y Pesca, Carlos María Uriarte.

“La semana pasada recibimos una comunicación de la ministro de Agricultura de Brasil en respuesta a un planteo que le hiciéramos en noviembre pasado invitándolos a sumarse a este programa de erradicación en el que Uruguay estaba pensando (...) En esta misiva que nos mandó la ministro acepta el desafío y Brasil se estaría sumando al programa de erradicación de mosca de la bichera que el Uruguay está comenzando”, señaló Uriarte, entrevistado por el programa 100% Mercados, de radio Rural.



Una vez que Uruguay llegue a la frontera con Brasil, el plan de erradicación continuaría en el territorio brasileño, aunque no está claro si será de forma instantánea. En un principio seguiría la estructura y la técnica implementada en Uruguay.

En la tarde de este lunes hubo un nuevo encuentro virtual entre las gremiales de productores rurales agrupados en Campo Unido y autoridades ministeriales en busca de avanzar en el marco legal para avanzar en el programa de erradicación de mosca de la bichera. Todavía no está definida la forma ni el financiamiento, señaló Uriarte sobre las dudas que persisten sobre el proyecto.

## **URUGUAY**

### **Cae oferta ganadera y las lluvias quitan el apuro por vender**

31/03/2021 - Consignatarios esperan que mercado se rearme la próxima semana y vuelva a subir.

El mercado ganadero sigue mostrando signos de firmeza, pero los productores están con una posición menos vendedora frente a semanas anteriores, fortalecida por las últimas lluvias. Es por eso que los consignatarios esperan que el mercado vuelva a armarse la semana próxima, con una industria que si precisa mantener el ritmo de faena, salga a pagar algunos centavos por encima de las referencias que se están manejando ahora.

Facundo Schauricht, tesorero de la Asociación Consignatarios de Ganado e integrante del equipo de Zambrano & Cía. afirmó a El País que el mercado parece “un poco más frío desde el lado de los vendedores”. Como valores de referencia, el operador mencionó US\$ 3,50 por kilo de carne para el novillo gordo, US\$ 3,30 para la vaca gorda y US\$ 3,40 en caso de las vaquillonas buenas.

Schauricht aseguró que a lo largo de la presente semana, que es muy particular, “se está viendo muy poca oferta de haciendas”. Sobre fines de la semana anterior, la industria frigorífica “hizo hincapié en comprar más barato el ganado que iba apareciendo”, pero a principios de esta semana comenzaron a darse cuenta que había algún faltante.

Con este panorama, según el tesorero de la Asociación de Consignatarios de Ganado, la semana próxima, cuando comience a normalizarse el mercado, “me parece que los frigoríficos van a tener que salir a comprar con un poco más de fuerza si es que no quieren bajar el ritmo de faena”.

Contó que hay empresas que muestran necesidad por ganados puntuales como bien puede ser el caso de vaquillonas, porque les fallaron algunas cargas que tenían pactadas y eso les complica la faena. En esos casos, Schauricht dijo que ante la negativa del productor a vender a los valores de referencia, enseguida proponen algunos centavos por encima si el productor carga rápido esas haciendas. “Eso me indica que hay avidez y que algún faltante de ganado que lleguen a tener, tendrán que salir a comprar algunos centavos arriba”.

Tampoco se ve puja por los ganados desde las plantas frigoríficas que se dedican al abasto interno y en muchos casos, están con entradas de ganado más largas.

### **China superó a Turquía como principal destino para exportación en pie**

por Cecilia Pattarino marzo 29, 2021

La empresa Di Santi Ltda. concretó la semana pasada un nuevo negocio para exportar ganado en pie a China. Con este embarque, el gigante asiático se consolidó como el principal destino de Uruguay superando a Turquía que lideró las compras en el último quinquenio.

Se trata de un embarque de 13.130 animales. Son terneras y vaquillonas de razas carniceras y doble propósito con destino reproductivo que comenzó el 24 de marzo según indican los datos de Aduanas.

El total de envíos a China suma al momento 33.654 animales y ya superó los 11.293 enviados durante todo 2020.

A comienzos de marzo la empresa Gadoville S.A. concretó un embarque de 9.270 hembras con destino reproductivo también a China. Y en enero se embarcaron 11.254 hembras de las razas Hereford, Red Angus, Holando y Jersey, con fines reproductivos también al gigante asiático.

El negocio de exportación en pie comenzó el 2021 con buen ritmo. En lo que va del año se llevan enviados al exterior 64.438 vacunos, un 6% más que los 40.311 del mismo período del año pasado.

Los destinos fueron China, Turquía y Líbano con un 52%, 37% y 11% de participación respectivamente.

## **PARAGUAY**

### **Precios de las haciendas gordas a frigoríficos continúan con tendencia bajista**

29/03/2021 GANADERÍA

El precio de los animales gordos a los frigoríficos exportadores vuelven a sumar otra semana con precios a la baja, si bien la actualización de referencias no es similar entre las plantas. Un industrial comentó a Valor Agro que las cotizaciones que ofrece la empresa bajaron US\$ 0,05 por kilo carcasa en todas las



categorías, con un valor del kilo carcasa de US\$ 3,15 por machos y vaquillas, y de US\$ 2,95 por vacas. Si bien no indicó por cuánto tiempo, la fuente aseguró que “a corto plazo el mercado sigue apuntando a la baja”. Otra empresa frigorífica señaló a Valor Agro que para la compra de hacienda “nos mantenemos en US\$ 3,25 por machos”, mientras que “hembras no estamos comprando, hay mucha oferta”. Actualmente el mercado está operando con una planta menor, dado que Frigorífico Guaraní determinó cerrar temporalmente sus operaciones por trabajos de mantenimientos. Fuente: Valor Agro.

### **Stock bovino se contrajo en casi 100 mil cabezas**

31/03/2021 GANADERÍA

El rodeo vacuno paraguayo se contrajo en casi 100 mil cabezas este año, de acuerdo con los resultados de la última campaña de vacunación contra la fiebre aftosa. Se contabilizaron 13,86 millones de animales, 99 mil menos (-0,7%) que el año anterior, informó el Servicio Nacional de Calidad y Sanidad Animal (Senacsa). La intensa y extendida sequía que afectó a la producción ganadera paraguaya en el último año determinó la necesidad de aliviar los campos. La categoría que más se contrajo fue la de novillos, 9% anual a 753 mil cabezas, seguramente como consecuencia del crecimiento en la faena anual de casi 100 mil animales en 2020. Por el contrario, las categorías de desmamantes machos y desmamantes hembras fueron las únicas que aumentaron, en el orden del 7,1 y 4,3%, respectivamente. Presidente Hayes es el departamento con mayor población vacuna, 2,35 millones de cabezas. En los tres departamentos del Chaco (Boquerón, Alto Paraná y Presidente Hayes) hay 6,27 millones de vacunos, 45% del total.

### **La carne de búfalo se posiciona como nueva opción dentro del mercado paraguayo**

31/03/2021 - La producción de carne de búfalo se afianza dentro del país. La proteína roja generada por este tipo de animal gana cada vez más participación en las góndolas de los comercios, convirtiéndose en una opción más para el paladar de los paraguayos.

Un mayor tiempo de vida productiva (de hasta 25 años) y la mayor participación dentro del mercado local motivan el constante crecimiento de la cantidad del hato bubalino en el territorio nacional.

El ganadero Guido Occhipinti, en una entrevista con Infonegocios, se refirió a la producción de búfalos en Paraguay y comentó que se inició con 15.000 cabezas, incrementándose actualmente a 20.000.

La Asociación Paraguaya de Criadores de Búfalos (Apacribu) registra un total de 150 productores de búfalos a nivel país, la mayor parte de encuentran distribuidos en Ñeembucú, Paraguari, San Pedro y Bajo Chaco.

Comercialización y subproductos

La carne de búfalo es ofrecida en supermercados a través de diferentes tipos de cortes premium como, tapa, colita cuadril, rabadilla, lomo, lomito, entre otros. Asimismo, los productores empiezan a incursionar en la producción de los derivados de esta especie, elaborando chorizos, hamburguesas, leche y queso de búfalo, comentó Occhipinti.

De acuerdo a las investigaciones realizadas por la Universidad de Costa Rica, el consumo de la carne de búfalo es más beneficioso que la carne vacuna. Los resultados de las investigaciones sostienen que la carne de búfalo es más nutritiva que la del bovino, pues contiene mayor cantidad de minerales como el hierro y menor porcentaje de grasa y calorías.

## **UNION EUROPEA**

### **Comisión Europea estima bajas en la producción de carnes durante 2021**

31/03/2021 - 2:01 PM

La Comisión Europea (CE) emitió su informe de previsiones sobre la evolución de la producción y comercialización de carne de la UE a lo largo de este año 2021. Dicho informe está disponible en el canal Documentos de eurocarnedigital.

Por especies, en el caso del vacuno, la CE espera que en 2021 la producción baje un 0,9% debido a los ajustes estructurales en el sector, las continuas medidas frente a la covid-19 en muchos países de la UE y la baja demanda del canal foodservice. El consumo aparente de carne vacuna descendió a 10,3 kg per cápita en 2020 (-2,5%), y esta tendencia puede continuar en 2021 en un -1%, a pesar de la recuperación de la demanda en el segundo semestre de 2021 asumiendo una reapertura progresiva de restaurantes y el regreso del turismo.

Las exportaciones de carne de vacuno mejoraron un 1,8% en 2020, a pesar de la recesión económica. Las exportaciones a mercados de alto valor como Hong Kong, Canadá, Japón, Noruega, Suiza y los EE.UU. han aumentado sustancialmente, mientras que los envíos al Reino Unido disminuyeron. Se espera que el crecimiento de las exportaciones continúe en 2021 (+1%), limitado por la disponibilidad interna y incertidumbre. A pesar de que el Reino Unido ha pospuesto los controles y controles sanitarios y



fitosanitarios para las importaciones de la UE hasta el próximo año, el comercio aún enfrenta desafíos logísticos.

Frente a esto, las importaciones de carne de vacuno se desplomaron en 2020 (-21%), debido a la caída de la demanda en la UE relacionada con el cierre del canal foodservice. Reino Unido y Brasil redirigieron sus envíos a China y otros destinos asiáticos. Se espera que las importaciones de la UE se recuperen solo en un 2% en 2021, ya que la reapertura del foodservice en muchos países de la UE se llevará a cabo gradualmente en 2021.

Para el porcino, tras crecer un 1,2% en 2020, se estima que para 2021 habría un crecimiento de la producción e incluso del consumo per cápita que podría crecer un 1,4% hasta los 32,7 kg/persona/año. Las exportaciones de carne de porcino aumentaron un 18% en 2020. La mayor parte se destinó a China, lo que aumentó su comercio con la UE en alrededor de 1 millón de toneladas.

En cuanto a la carne de aves, las estimaciones de la CE pasan por una subida de la producción del 1% en 2021. Las exportaciones crecerían también en un 1,5% durante 2021 y el informe destaca una caída en las importaciones del 17% debido a la falta de demanda del canal foodservice.

Finalmente, para el ovino, tras el crecimiento del 2% en 2020, de cara a 2021 se espera que la producción baje un 1% por el mantenimiento de las medidas frente a la covid-19 y una mayor reducción del consumo interno. Esto último motivó ya en 2020 que las exportaciones crecieran un 3% en 2020. Los mayores volúmenes se dirigieron a Suiza y destinos clave en Oriente Medio, compensando la caída de las exportaciones al Reino Unido (-7%), Libia, Líbano y Turquía. La escasez de suministro interno y los precios relativamente altos (cordero pesado) podrían conducir a una estabilización de las exportaciones de carne de ovino en 2021.

## **REINO UNIDO - BREXIT**

### **Mejora el comercio de carnes con la UE en el mes de febrero**

29 March 2021

Britain's meat and seafood exports to the European Union recovered in February from the January slump that followed the country's exit from the EU's single market and customs union, a government official said, citing preliminary data.

Reuters reports that additional checks and paperwork for British exports since the end of the Brexit transition period on 31 December have led to delays and crippling costs for many businesses, putting mounting pressure on the conservative government that ushered in Brexit to find solutions.

Britain's goods exports to the EU in January slumped 40.7% from December, with a 64% fall in exports of food and live animals, according to the Office for National Statistics.

Indications are that exports recovered sharply in February however, according to an official from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), citing data on export health certificates (EHCs).

The data, said David Kennedy, Defra director-general for farming and biosecurity, shows EHCs - now required for all animal product exports to the EU - doubled in February versus January levels.

Kennedy was speaking at a parliament select committee enquiry into British meat and seafood exports to the EU.

Under a Brexit deal reached in late December, British trade with the EU remains free of tariffs and quotas on goods, but exporters - especially sellers of fresh produce - say their businesses are still threatened by increased costs and delays.

The British meat industry has warned of a permanent loss of export trade with the EU of between 20% and 50% even after post-Brexit "teething problems" are ironed out, with trade involving trucks carrying mixed items - a process known as groupage - all but halted.

Farming and environment minister George Eustice said the increased cost of trading with the EU does mean small consignments of goods, usually sent in mixed loads by small-to-medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), might no longer be viable.

### **Habilitan la intervención de veterinarios registrados para compensar la escasez de personal de control**

29 March 2021

The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) Council has approved proposals from the UK Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) to allow temporary veterinary registrants to undertake Official Veterinarian (OV) work at slaughterhouses.

The RCVS Council has greenlit Defra's proposals that would amend the rules on the RCVS Temporary Register, allowing those on it to undertake certain specific functions as Official Veterinarians (OVs).





The proposals from Defra were brought to the meeting of RCVS Council on Thursday 18 March 2021 by the Chief Veterinary Officer Christine Middlemiss. They came in light of increased pressures on OV numbers and capacity following the UK's exit from the European Union at the beginning of the year.

The key pressures on OV capacity, as set out in Defra's proposals, were around the provision of veterinary surgeons employed by the Food Standards Agency to provide meat hygiene controls in abattoir settings with the agency anticipating "a severe shortage of OV capacity in abattoirs in England and Wales over the next six-to-twelve months". Furthermore, Defra cited the "significant expansion of the requirement for export health certificates (EHCs)" for the export of animal and animal-derived products from Great Britain to both the EU and to Northern Ireland, as another reason for the proposals as EHCs require veterinary checks and sign-off.

In light of these pressures, the proposal from Defra was to amend the RCVS Temporary Register rules to allow temporary registrants to carry out specifically defined OV work, including export health certification and official meat controls, for a period of up to 12 months (with the possibility of extension of 6 months) provided they had the necessary skilled worker visa, held a degree accredited or approved by the European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education (EAEVE) and passed the relevant OV training courses.

The proposal also lowered the English language requirement for the OV role from the current RCVS standard of an International English Language Testing System (IELTS) score of 7, to a score of 5.

The RCVS Temporary Register itself currently allows those veterinary surgeons who are not eligible for full registration under the Veterinary Surgeons Act to be able to undertake strictly defined, time-and-place-limited veterinary work under the supervision of a sponsoring veterinary surgeon which, in the context of Defra's proposals, will be a Senior OV. Those on the Temporary Register do not receive MRCVS status and so, under the previous rules, would not have been able to carry out export health certification and official controls.

The proposals were discussed by RCVS Council with some voicing concerns about the precedent that could be set by allowing those without MRCVS status to carry out certification, the lack of planning for alternative options for increasing short-term OV capacity and the potential lowering of standards in terms of English language ability. However, following a vote, the proposals were approved by a slim majority of RCVS Council members with 11 voting for, 10 against and three abstentions. The decision as passed will last for 12 months but will be reviewed jointly at six months by Defra, the Welsh Government, the FSA and the RCVS.

Eleanor Ferguson, RCVS Registrar, said: "While we recognise the need for the government to respond in a quick and agile way to the increased demands placed upon OV capacity, as the regulator we do share some of the concerns voiced at the Council meeting as regards the potential lowering of veterinary standards, albeit those temporary registrants will only be able to carry out very defined veterinary work and will not attain MRCVS status.

"We have made it clear to Defra that the Temporary Register is to be used sparingly and where there is a genuine and urgent need, and we have received reassurances that applications to join the Temporary Register for the purposes of OV work will be a measure of last resort where there is significant risk of being unable to fulfil the required export health certification or meat hygiene work."

The Chief Veterinary Officer, Christine Middlemiss, commented: "We are continuing to support the vital work that the veterinary sector is undertaking to protect public health, animal health and welfare and to support the certification of exports now that we have left the EU.

"As part of this process we are working closely with the RCVS to allow the temporary registration of additional vets to ensure these standards are maintained during the ongoing pandemic."

## **ESTADOS UNIDOS**

### **Estudio revela la fortaleza de la demanda de carnes**

A new report, "Power of Meat" from FMI and Meat Institute, found Americans are eating more meat.

According to the report, Americans are buying more beef, pork, poultry, and lamb than ever as increased time at home during the pandemic sent meat grocery sales soaring by 20% (IRI) from 2019 to 2020.

The report found that three out of every four Americans agree meat belongs in healthy, balanced diets (up by nearly 20% since 2020), and 94% say they buy meat because it provides high-quality protein.

Meat Institute President and CEO Julie Anna Potts said that Americans feel "better than ever about choosing meat as part of healthy, balanced diets."

"With COVID-19 deepening demand for convenient, affordable food that tastes good and matches Americans' values, meat fits the bill," Potts said.



The report found that nearly all American households (98.4%) purchased meat in 2020 (IRI), and 43% of Americans now buy more meat than before the pandemic — primarily because they are preparing more meals at home.

The proportion of meals prepared at home peaked at 89% in April 2020 and was still high at 84% in December (IRI), considerably above pre-pandemic levels and particularly impacting millennials, who were previously most likely to eat out.

The report also said that the number of meat shoppers who purchased groceries online grew by 40% in 2020, and the majority of online purchasers (59%) expect to continue purchasing about the same amount online in 2021, suggesting food shopping habits may have changed permanently.

Americans, the report said, are also embracing new cooking methods (ownership of air fryers increased 24%) and turning to digital sources for recipe inspiration (YouTube use is up 50%) and promotions (consulting digital circulars for promotions increased 33%).

“Shoppers are cooking more at home due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and their confidence in cooking and preparing meat has increased,” said Rick Stein, vice president of fresh foods for FMI — the food industry association. “Further analysis also shows convenient meal solutions are key and that food retailers have opportunities to provide more choices, along with more information and education on consumer priorities like nutrition and meal preparation — building up what we call consumers’ Meat IQ.”

The USDA recently reported that commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.39 billion pounds in February.

Commercial red meat production in Nebraska in February was 631 million pounds. That was up 4% from the previous year. Nebraska was second in the nation behind Iowa in commercial red meat production.

Beef production was at 2.11 billion pounds, was 1% below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.52 million head, down 2% from February 2020. The average live weight was up 14 pounds from the previous year, at 1,390 pounds.

Nebraska led the nation in cattle slaughter in February at 549,000 head, which was up from 534,000 head in February 2020.

Nebraska feedlots with capacities of 1,000 or more head contained 2.61 million cattle on feed on March 1, according to the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. This inventory was up 4% from last year.

Placements during February totaled 440,000 head, down 3% from 2020.

Fed cattle marketings for the month of February totaled 430,000 head, up 1% from last year.

Other disappearance during February totaled 10,000 head, unchanged from last year.

Nationwide, pork production totaled 2.27 billion pounds. Hog slaughter totaled 10.4 million head. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 291 pounds.

Nebraska was the sixth-leading pork slaughtering state, with 641,100 slaughtered in February compared to 630,700 in February 2020. The average live weight was 287 pounds. That was up one pound from the previous year.

Nebraska inventory of all hogs and pigs on March 1 was 3.65 million head, according to the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. This was down 3% from March 1, 2020, but unchanged from Dec. 1, 2020.

Breeding hog inventory, at 440,000 head, was unchanged from March 1, 2020, but up 2% from last quarter.

Market hog inventory, at 3.21 million head, was down 3% from last year, and down slightly from last quarter.

The December-February Nebraska pig crop, at 2.18 million head, was down 1% from the previous year. Sows farrowed during the period totaled 185,000 head, down 3% from last year.

The average pigs saved per litter was 11.8 for the December-February period, compared to 11.6 last year.

Nebraska hog producers intend to farrow 190,000 sows during the March-May quarter, down 5% from the actual farrowings during the same period a year ago. Intended farrowings for June-August are 190,000 sows, up 6% from the actual farrowings during the same period a year ago.

Nationwide, January-February commercial red meat production was 9.19 billion pounds, down 2% from 2020. Accumulated beef production was down 2% from last year, veal was down 19%, pork was down 2% from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 6%.

## **Proyecto de ley para modificar condiciones de transporte de animales**

31 March 2021

A bipartisan group of senators reintroduced the Modernizing Agricultural Transportation Act to address ongoing concerns over hours of service and electronic monitoring rules.

The Modernizing Agricultural Transportation Act will reform Department of Transportation regulations on hours of service (HOS) for haulers and delay the enforcement of electronic logging devices (ELDs) until the reforms are formally proposed by the Secretary of Transportation.



“We’ve worked to provide needed certainty and flexibility to our agricultural haulers under the HOS and ELD regulations so that they can get their products to market safely and efficiently,” says lead sponsor Senator John Hoeven, a Republican from North Dakota. “This legislation builds on our efforts, establishing a process to address unnecessary burdens under these regulations and advance reforms based on the input of agriculture producers, while also ensuring roadway safety is maintained.”

The bill also creates a working group at the Department of Transportation that will include stakeholders from the transportation and agriculture industries, the USDA and safety representatives.

“Livestock haulers have the difficult task of protecting the safety of our roads while maintaining the health and welfare of the animals they’re transporting,” says Senator Roger Marshall, a Republican from Kansas. “The establishment of this working group will allow DOT to make common sense... ensuring the timely delivery of agricultural commodities.”

The group will assess the impacts of existing rules on HOS and ELD for commercial livestock transportation and other commodities. They will also develop guidelines for reforming the rules and issue a report. From there, the Transportation Secretary must propose regulatory changes to hours of service and electronic logging devices based on the working group’s recommendations.

Senator Michael Bennet, a Democrat from Colorado, says he looks forward to working with his colleagues to give “farmers and ranchers a seat at the table as we push for more sensible rules around the transportation of agricultural goods.”

### **Sequía impacta sobre los mercados ganaderos**

By DERRELL PEEL - OKLAHOMA STATE UNIVERSITY March 29, 2021

As April arrives, the current drought situation looms larger and potential impacts on cattle markets are increasing with each passing week. The latest Drought Monitor shows that 43.55 percent of the continental U.S. is in some degree of drought (D1-D4), including 18.06 percent in Extreme and Exceptional drought (D3-D4).

Additionally, another 20.66 percent of the country is abnormally dry (D0), which means that only 35.79 percent of the U.S. is free of drought conditions. At the beginning of March one year ago, over 76 percent of the U.S. was drought free.

Along with the pandemic, the current drought began advancing in early March 2020. The rapid progression of the drought this past year is faster than any drought in more than 20 years, since the Drought Monitor began. An aggregate annual index of drought conditions is currently at the highest level (worst drought) since 2014.

The growing season is just beginning from south to north, and with two-thirds of the country abnormally dry or already in drought, the threat of warm weather and persistent or advancing drought is a major concern for forage production.

As droughts develop regionally, affected producers endure growing management challenges and increased costs. Drought conditions necessitate a sequence of producer actions including modified pasture and water management, increased supplemental feeding, additional feed purchases and perhaps relocation or liquidation of part or all of the herd.

As producers recognize and anticipate drought conditions they must assess and evaluate their resource situation, nutritional and health requirements of the herd and the economic considerations of input costs and the liquidation value of animals. At this level, producer decisions may have little or no impact on broader market values, except perhaps in localized situations.

If a drought is severe enough, over a big enough region, and lasts long enough, broader market values may be affected resulting in lower prices for cattle and higher prices for feeds and other inputs. This can result in additional challenges for drought impacted producers as well as impacts on producers outside the drought region.

Expanding drought conditions in 2020 impacted many producers regionally. The impacts were centered in Colorado where the beef cow inventory decreased by 14.5 percent last year along with a 16.1 percent year over year decrease in beef replacement heifers. The cow herd reduction in Colorado was 112,000 cows.

Drought conditions plagued much of the desert southwest in 2020 but cow herd liquidation in Nevada, New Mexico and Utah totaled just 34,000 head. As bad as they were, these cow herd losses were not enough to cause significant general cattle market impacts. Significantly higher hay prices were noted in 2020 in the western drought region.

What does the current drought situation suggest about possible market cattle market impacts in 2021? Recent rain and snow has alleviated some of the previous dryness in Kansas, Nebraska and eastern Colorado with enough moisture to ensure at least some spring growth. Oklahoma has generally adequate moisture at this time. However, drought is forecast to redevelop eastward into the central plains.

Arguably the most concerning areas now are North and South Dakota and Texas. Persistence or expansion of drought in these areas (which have large beef cattle numbers), in conjunction with ongoing



drought in Rocky Mountain and desert southwest regions could result in levels of herd liquidation/movement that broadly impact cattle markets.

If the drought preempts spring forage growth in these regions, market impacts could develop rapidly in the next three to five months. Conditions in the coming weeks may have significant cattle market impacts on producers in drought regions, producers in regions where drought is or could develop, as well as producers outside of drought areas.

## AUSTRALIA

### Publican un informe sobre las medidas de bienestar animales implementadas en mataderos

Beef Central, March 31, 2021

THE RSPCA has released a detailed report and interactive map that highlights the current state of animal welfare regulation at Australian slaughtering establishments.

The society says the scorecard allows the public to compare, for the first time, the way governments regulate animal welfare in abattoirs, knackereries and poultry processors across the country – a move that will not only increase transparency but also strengthen the push for better and more consistent regulation.

Responding to the release of the RSPCA's report, the Australian Meat Industry Council this afternoon issued a statement saying it supported the RSPCA's key recommendation, that the Federal Government develop a national Animal Welfare Standard to replace the Model Code as a priority.

RSPCA Australia chief scientist Dr Bidha Jones said the report and scorecard shone a spotlight on what the organisation saw as significant gaps in animal welfare regulation across the processing industry.

"For a long time, the RSPCA has been concerned about the differences in how Australian slaughtering establishments are regulated between states and territories, and what this means for the welfare of animals at those facilities," Dr Jones said.

"Voluntary industry standards that go above minimum regulatory requirements can improve animal welfare outcomes when they're in place. But the public should be able to have confidence that all animals in Australia are handled and slaughtered humanely. With the current regulatory system, having that confidence is not always possible," she said.

"If we are going to have surety that animal welfare is being upheld at these establishments, then better regulation is how we achieve it. This is crucial to improving the outcomes for Australian farm animals."

Deficiencies seen in areas like CCTV use

The RSPCA's report and scorecard examine seven key measures: animal welfare requirements, audit frequency, auditor training, oversight, CCTV use, company training and transparency.

It rates each state's performance across seven variables, on a score of 1-5.

On specific topics like animal welfare requirements among abattoirs, for example, both NSW and SA score 4 points, Queensland 3 points, and Victoria and Western Australia only 1 point.

On overall measurements on RSPCA's list, Queensland, Western Australia and South Australia score 1.5/5, NSW 3/5, Victoria 2/5, and Tasmania 1/5.

"One thing we believe is clear from this report, and that is that in many areas – such as CCTV use – there's still a long way to go before we can say that all animals slaughtered at Australian abattoirs, poultry processors or knackereries are handled and killed humanely," Ms Jones said.

"There's a lot the public doesn't know about animal welfare in Australian slaughtering establishments – including even how many animals are being slaughtered. That's why the RSPCA has released this report and scorecard, to give the community a greater insight into exactly how animal welfare is being regulated at Australian abattoirs, knackereries and poultry processors.

"We urge government and industry to take note of this report and scorecard. The resumption of progress on the development of the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Livestock at Processing Establishments provides a crucial opportunity to put in place measures to genuinely improve animal welfare and meet the community's expectations."

AMIC supports National Animal Welfare standard

In December, the Australian Meat Industry Council provided technical feedback on the RSPCA's 'Animal welfare in abattoirs, poultry processors and knackereries- regulatory scorecard' report released today.

Animal welfare is vital to the sustainable operation of processing plants, and processors are committed to high standards when it comes to animal welfare practices across the supply chain, the Council said.

"AMIC's Australian Livestock Processing Industry Animal Welfare Certification System standards, developed in 2005, go above and beyond current regulatory standards, and AMIC supports the RSPCA's key recommendation that the Federal Government develop a national Animal Welfare Standard to replace the Model Code as a priority," the council's statement said.

"AMIC considers animal welfare to be vital in the sustainable operation of processing establishments and we are committed to proper, stringent and accountable animal welfare practices across the supply chain,"



AMIC chief executive Patrick Hutchinson said. “AMIC strongly agrees with the report recommendation to develop a national Animal Welfare Standard to replace the Model Code as a priority. AMIC participated in the development of the initial draft standards under NSW leadership and for several years AMIC has pursued both Commonwealth and State Regulators to progress the development of the Australian Animal Welfare Standards and Guidelines for Livestock at Processing Establishments (Livestock S&G) to implementation,” he said.

### **Vacunan a trabajadores de la carne**

Jon Condon, March 29, 2021

MEATWORKERS across Australia are now receiving their first-round COVID vaccinations, in a move designed to ensure that high-risk abattoir environments do not re-emerge as cluster hot-spots as they did during 2020.

This time last year, the meat processing industry around the world started to emerge as a heightened risk of COVID infection, due to working conditions including the cold operating environment and close-quarters work-stations conducive to disease spread.

At the height of the first wave episode in May last year, around 40 percent of US meat processing capacity was knocked out, due to waves of infections and deaths among plant staff.

The closures and restricted operating conditions led to a massive, but somewhat brief spike in demand for Australian imported beef, as evidenced in this MLA graph.

Australian processing was much less seriously impacted, but there were still a number of high-profile plant closures and reductions in processing throughput, especially in Victoria, during the first wave.

In Australia, meatworkers are classified under the COVID vaccination schedule as category 1B, for people in essential services, now eligible for vaccination.

Victoria has led the response, with workers at sites like Colac and Midfield Warnambool receiving their first jabs a fortnight ago. Other states have also started vaccinating meatworks staff, with a number of Queensland and NSW plants starting their programs last week. Variations in approach by different state governments mean that vaccination programs are at different stages around the country, Beef Central was told.

Typical of processor responses this month, Teys Australia said it was supportive of the vaccination rollout plan that can further protect staff, and the company’s supply chain as an essential service to the Australian community.

“Tey’s continues to work closely with all arms of government and stay abreast of any relevant changes as COVID-19 management protocols continue to evolve,” the company said in a statement.

“Our people play a critical role in the supply chain of an essential industry, and we are always focused on the health and safety of our people. Protecting them is a top priority. The vaccination rollout is consistent with that focus, and Teys is fully supportive of measures that protect the health of our workforce and, in doing so, reduce the risk of business disruption to a critical supply chain.”

Whilst fully supportive of the vaccination rollout, Teys said it would not be mandating that staff receive a vaccination. “The decision is personal and voluntary,” the company said.

“In line with our current process for annual flu vaccinations, we will encourage our workforce to consider receiving the COVID vaccination, and encourage them to seek further information from their regular doctor, or a vaccination clinic if they have questions.”

However the company said that in line with take-up rates for the annual flu vaccination program offered to employees, it expects that the take-up rate for the COVID-19 vaccination – free of charge to staff – will be strong.

Tey’s Australia issued a statement yesterday advising that the company’s Biloela plant will continue to operate with a lower throughput, while employee contact tracing exercises are conducted in relation to a person in Gladstone. This is to ensure that Biloela continues to operate uninterrupted.

“While there has been no direct contact with our employees, Queensland Health has advised that they are required to stay home and get tested,” Teys said. “These actions are being taken out of an abundance of caution to ensure worker and community safety. Teys has always adopted a proactive strategy that puts the safety of our employees and the local community first.”

Some Australian processors have urged that ‘on-site’ vaccination booths be established at processing plants, to allow for more convenient, rapid, mass treatment. Some Australian abattoirs employ 1000 staff or more on individual sites.

### **US response**

A year after the virus was first reported among US meatworkers, the North American Meat Institute last week issued a statement saying that comprehensive protection had brought case rates to just 2.67 cases per day per 100,000 workers – more than 85pc lower than rates in the general US population, and more than 98pc lower than the May 2020 peak in the processing sector when it reached 98.39 cases per day per 100,000 workers.



“Frontline meat and poultry workers were among the first impacted by the pandemic, but comprehensive protections implemented in the sector since spring 2020 work,” Institute CEO Julie Anna Potts said in a release.

“The critical next step is to ensure immediate access to vaccines as this dedicated and diverse workforce continues feeding Americans and keeping our farm economy working.”

According to data from the US Food and Environment Reporting Network, there were just 4.81 new reported cases per 100,000 US meat and poultry workers per day in February 2021, compared with 26.15 cases per 100,000 people in the general US population over the same period.

A February 2021 Meat Institute survey of more than 250 US meat facilities employing more than 150,000 workers found broad implementation of multi-layered COVID-19 protections including:

COVID-19 hazard assessments; designated COVID-19 coordinators

Entry screening measures and controls

Increased sanitation and disinfection practices

Training and education materials on COVID-19 symptoms and prevention, in multiple languages

Mandatory face coverings

Increased flexibility in leave policies

Physical barriers in food production and other areas (e.g., break rooms, cafeterias)

Australian meat processors have adopted more or less identical control measures, Beef Central was told.

## **EMPRESARIAS**

### **Minerva invierte en empresa para producir proteínas alternativas**

28/03/2021 EMPRESAS

Minerva Foods anunció la pasada semana una inversión de US\$ 5 millones en conjunto (joint venture) con la empresa biotecnológica estadounidense Amyris que se centrará en el desarrollo de productos en el segmento de proteínas recombinantes mediante proceso de fermentación y exentas de proteína animal. “El proceso de desarrollo de moléculas por fermentación es una de las alternativas más avanzadas y eficientes en la búsqueda de un modelo de producción de alimentos con menor impacto en la cadena de carbono, contribuyendo así a la sustentabilidad de nuestro planeta”, dijo Minerva en un comunicado. Minerva tendrá una participación inicial de 60% en el capital total de la empresa conjunta. “La expectativa es que la primera iniciativa de esta asociación esté lista para venderse dentro de 18 meses, mientras que otros cuatro productos aún se encuentran en la fase inicial de investigación y desarrollo”, dijo Minerva en un comunicado. La producción de la empresa conjunta incluirá conservantes naturales de fermentación que permitirán “cambios significativos” en el proceso de almacenamiento y transporte de carne vacuna, informó Minerva.

### **Frigorífico Modelo invierte US\$ 5 millones para ampliar su capacidad de congelado**

30/03/2021 - La empresa elevará su capacidad de almacenaje de 30.000 toneladas a 36.000 toneladas, y optimizará su servicio de picking.

El Ing. Santiago Fernández Abella, integrante de la cuarta generación de la familia.

Con una inversión de unos US\$ 5 millones, Frigorífico Modelo ampliará y mejorará su capacidad de almacenaje en el área de congelado.

Se trata de un proyecto que ampliará la cámara de congelado en la empresa en su actual ubicación en el Polo Oeste, sobre la Ruta 1.

La concreción de este proyecto elevará la capacidad de almacenaje de congelados (-25° C) de 30.000 toneladas a unas 36.000 toneladas, explicó el ingeniero industrial Santiago Fernández Abella, cuarta generación en la firma y responsable de cámara de frío y mantenimiento. Asimismo, aclaró que en refrigerados (0° C en adelante) se mantendrá en las 6.000 actuales.

La obra, que comenzó este mes y se estima que estará operativa sobre fines de este año, cuenta con un plus: mejorará el sistema de gestión y preparación de pedidos para los clientes (picking).

“Con esta ampliación vamos a profesionalizar la preparación de pedidos (picking) para nuestros clientes, la logística en congelada ha evolucionado y ya no es solamente almacenar entregar tal cual uno recibe la mercadería, el cliente demanda cada vez mayor valor agregado, y a eso apuntamos”, indicó Fernández.

En concreto, Frigorífico Modelo construirá una cámara de frío de última generación que incluye un sistema de almacenaje que se adapta para la preparación más detallada de mercadería. Esto repercutirá a la empresa en optimizar la gestión, reducir tiempos de preparación de pedidos a la mitad y mejorar los costos. “Y esta mejora se trasladará directamente a los clientes que tendrán listos sus pedidos en menos tiempo. La idea es hacer el servicio de picking en la cámara nueva y, por lo tanto, reubicar a los clientes que lo soliciten a este nuevo espacio”, agregó.



El proyecto de ampliación de la capacidad de frío de la empresa no es casual, sino que se embarca en un ambicioso plan de alcanzar las 52.000 toneladas en cinco años para responder a la demanda del mercado.

“En los últimos 10 años duplicamos la capacidad de almacenaje debido a una demanda creciente del mercado que nuestra empresa pretende acompañar”, destacó.

Según indicó Fernández, la logística en Uruguay ha evolucionado y la compañía busca acompañar el desarrollo y profesionalización del sector. “Cada vez se demanda más información, más trazabilidad, el cliente quiere el pedido lo más rápido posible porque una venta que no se concrete es una venta perdida”, apuntó.

Su afán por el progreso constante da frutos. Frigorífico Modelo cuenta con más de 200 clientes que almacenan desde un pallet (una tonelada) hasta centenas . “Hemos visto muchos clientes desde que nacen, que han empezado importando un contenedor al mes de productos y hoy mueven más de 10. Todo producto que necesite ir congelado y/o refrigerado lo manejamos”, finalizó.