

**INSTITUTE OF WORLD
AGRICULTURAL MARKETS**

MEDIA DIGEST

01.05 – 07.05.2023



THREE MAIN TOPICS

- **First Arctic Bank of Healthy Potato Varieties in Russia**
- **Israeli Start-up Prints World's First Cultivated Fish Filet**
- **FAO: World Food Prices Rose for First Time in a Year**



EDUCATION

EDUCATION / 03.05.2023

Buryat Agricultural Academy Launched a Student Accelerator Program

The Buryat State Agricultural Academy has won a grant from the Russian Ministry of Science and Higher Education in the amount of 5.683 million rubles to launch an acceleration program Baikal-Tech. It's aimed at supporting student technological innovative solutions and start-ups, as well as developing skills, abilities and competencies for activities in the field of technological entrepreneurship. "The accelerator will represent the interests of three parties: students, business representatives of Buryatia and local executive authorities," said the university rector.

[Russian Ministry of Agriculture](#)



EDUCATION / 03.05.2023

Washington State University Gets Green Light for GM Pig Production

Washington State University (WSU) made history in the United States by becoming the first university to release meat derived from gene-edited livestock pigs into the market. The US Food and Drug Administration determined that the meat, in the form of German-style sausages, is safe for human consumption. WSU used the pork to make sausages for catering and the sales will help raise travel funds for students. The approval demonstrated that academic institutions are capable of achieving food safety approvals from the FDA, and that universities and federal regulators can work together to bring better options into the food supply. [ISAAA](#)



EDUCATION / 04.05.2023

NCFU Will Strengthen Work on Training for the Field of Agriculture

The North-Caucasus Federal University (NCFU) plans to intensify training activities in the field of agriculture, announced Dmitry Bepalov, rector of NCFU. "The chain starts from agricultural producers, then — agro-processing, product creation and sale. We intend to provide everyone in this chain with training programs," he commented. Bepalov also added that it's projected to develop food products based on the deep processing of dairy raw materials. [TASS](#)

EDUCATION / 04.05.2023

Nestlé Opens the Institute of Agricultural Sciences

Nestlé has officially opened the Institute of Agricultural Sciences, aimed at supporting the development of sustainable food systems by delivering science-based solutions in agriculture. The new centre, located in Switzerland, also incorporates an existing plant science research unit in France and farms in Ecuador, Côte d'Ivoire and Thailand, as well as partnerships with research farms. Experts at the institute will screen and develop solutions that ensure a sustainable food supply for the growing world population while contributing to farmers' livelihoods. [FoodBev Media](#)



SCIENCE



SCIENCE / 01.05.2023

USDA Starts Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Vaccine Trials

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is testing the efficacy of a handful of vaccines against the current strain of highly pathogenic avian influenza hoping to stem the spread of the largest outbreak of bird flu in the nation's history. The virus has so far been reported in all but one state, Hawaii, and has resulted in the deaths of nearly 60 million poultry. While four vaccines are licensed for avian influenza — HA subtype, H5N1, H5N3, and H5N9 — none are approved for the more virulent strain, found in the current outbreak. [AVMA](#)

SCIENCE / 02.05.2023

Dutch Scientists Figured out how to Cut Emissions in the Poultry Industry

Lowering dietary crude protein levels is probably the best tool to reduce the nitrogen excretion and ammonia emissions from poultry farms, according to research by the Dutch company Schothorst Feed Research. SFR shows that the crude protein levels in diets for broilers and laying may be reduced, without negative consequences for production efficiency or animal health. Additional benefits of low protein diets include less dependency on imported protein sources (like soy). [Nieuwe Oogst](#)

SCIENCE / 04.05.2023

First Arctic Bank of Healthy Potato Varieties in Russia

Scientists from the Research institute of agriculture for Northern Trans-Ural are implementing a major scientific and technological project, the Arctic Bank of Healthy Potato Varieties. 31 potato varieties were planted for the first time in protected ground at the Yamal experimental station (Salekhard) in 2021. Last year, they planted 92 potato varieties of domestic and foreign selection. 26 varieties were planted on open ground. All potatoes will be analyzed to collect healthy potato varieties in the Arctic. [GlavAgronom](#)



INNOVATION / 03.05.2023

Israeli Start-up Prints World's First Cultivated Fish Fillet

An Israeli foodtech company Steakholder Foods says it has 3D printed the first ever ready-to-cook fish fillet using animal cells cultivated and grown in a laboratory. Cell cultivation alone is still too expensive to match the cost of traditional seafood, so for now the fish cells are diluted with plant-based ingredients in the bio-ink. "As time goes by, the complexity and level of these products will be higher, and the prices linked to producing them will decrease," said Arik Kaufman, the chief executive of Steakholder Foods. [Reuters](#)

 INNOVATION

INNOVATION / 02.05.2023

Plant Cloning Laboratory in Dagestan

A laboratory for cloning agricultural crops will be opened in Dagestan, said Sherif Kerimkhanov, chairman of the committee on viticulture and alcohol regulation of the Republic of Dagestan. The project envisages the installation of greenhouses for plant adaptations as well as expanding the area of standard greenhouses for growing planting material. The laboratory will boost the production of healthy planting material to 100,000 or more seedlings per year. [IA Red Spring](#)

INNOVATION / 05.05.2023

In the Urals, a Neural Network Learned to Estimate Livestock Weight

Ural scientists have trained a neural network to assess animal productivity, determining the weight and quality of meat. The method was developed by specialists from the Chelyabinsk State University and the Federal Research Centre of Biological Systems and Agrotechnologies of the Russian Academy of Sciences (Orenburg). Today, scientists are testing different ways of shooting animals to work out the algorithm of the neural network.



[GlavPahar](#)



WORLD MARKET / 02.05.2023

EU Says Yes to Dutch Plan to Cut Nitrogen Emissions

Dutch government plans to drastically cut emissions of nitrogen pollution cleared a key hurdle when the European Union’s executive arm gave the green light to farm buyout schemes worth nearly 1.5 billion euros (1.65 billion dollars). Some 3,000 farms are expected to be eligible. Producers undertake not to be engaged in animal husbandry either in the Netherlands or in any other EU state. [AP News](#)

WORLD MARKET / 03.05.2023

XV International Agricultural Exhibition Opens in Morocco

XV International Agricultural Exhibition opens in Morocco. The ceremony was attended by Prime Minister of the Kingdom Aziz Akhannouch, Minister of Agriculture, Maritime Fisheries, Rural Development and Water and Forests Mohammed Sadiqi and other government officials. About 1.4 thousand from almost 70 countries, including Russia, participated in the exhibition. 28 delegations are headed by the Ministers of Agriculture, who will take part in various conferences, devoted to the problem of food sovereignty in Africa and in the whole world. [Milknews](#)



WORLD MARKET / 04.05.2023

Italy Calls Crisis Meeting over Surging Pasta Prices

Italy's Industry Minister Adolfo Urso called for a crisis meeting over prices for pasta, the country's favourite staple, after they jumped by more than double the national inflation rate. Urso's ministry said the cost of spaghetti and other pasta products rose year-on-year by 17.5% in March despite a drop in wheat prices. In that month, Italian EU-harmonised consumer prices rose overall by 8.1%. Competent authorities and trade and consumer associations will take part in it, it added. [Reuters](#)

WORLD MARKET / 04.05.2023

China Approves Safety of Gene-Edited Soybean Variety

China has approved the safety of a gene-edited soybean, its first for the crop technology, with increased levels of oleic acid. The soybean, which was developed by privately owned Shandong Shunfeng Biotechnology Co. Ltd., has two modified genes. The safety certificate has been approved for five years from April 21. Shunfeng said it is the first company in China seeking to commercialize gene-edited crops. [World Grain](#)



ANALYTICS

ANALYTICS / 01.05.2023

USDA: Australian Wheat Output Projected to Dip 25%

After three consecutive years of record-setting wheat crops in Australia, production in marketing year 2023/24 is forecast to dip 25% from the previous year to what would still be the fourth largest total over the last 10 years, according to the US Department of Agriculture. "Favorable conditions around the time of winter grain planting across most production areas of Australia bodes well for the establishment and early growth of wheat and barley in 2023-24," the FAS said. "However, with predicted dry conditions in the coming months, production is expected to be down from the last three years of bumper winter crops." [World Grain](#)

ANALYTICS / 01.05.2023

Morocco's Cereals Harvest up 62%

Morocco's cereals harvest is seen growing to 55 million quintals, up 62% from last year when the country suffered from the longest drought in more than three decades, the agriculture ministry said. The increase in the harvest was possible thanks to a 13% rise in rainfall up to April 27, which however remained 36% below average. The harvest would break down into 29.8 million quintals of soft wheat, 11.8 million quintals of durum and 13.5 million quintals of barley, the ministry said.

[The North Africa Post](#)



ANALYTICS / 03.05.2023

Argentina Increased Pork Production to Record Heights in 2022

Argentina increased its pork production with 3,9% in 2022, reported the Argentinean Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries. The pig sector produced 723,388 tonnes of meat last year. The volume of slaughtered animals also grew by 2,4%, to 7,666,022 during the same period. The trend was also visible at the beginning of this year, according to official data. During the first 2 months of 2023, 1.2 million animals were processed. This number is 10.6% higher than in the same period last year, when 1.1 million pigs were processed. [Pig Progress](#)

ANALYTICS / 05.05.2023

FAO: World Food Prices Rose for First Time in a Year

The benchmark index of international food commodity prices rose in April for the first time in a year, amid increases in world quotations for sugar, meat and rice, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) reported. The FAO Food Price Index averaged 127.2 points, up 0.6% from March 2023. At that level, the Index was 19.7% below its level in April 2022, but still 5.2% higher than in April 2021. [FAO](#)