INSTITUTE OF WORLD AGRICULTURAL MARKETS
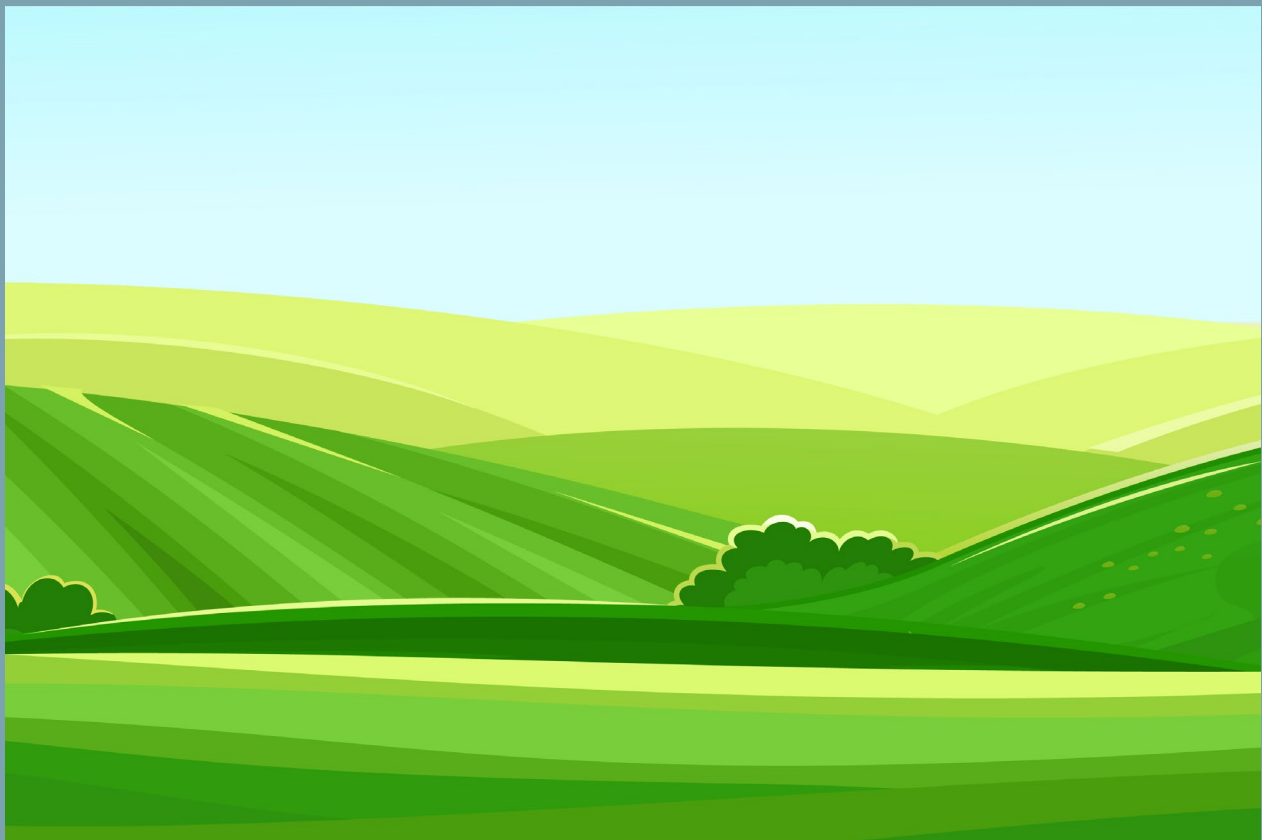
MEDIA DIGEST

26.06 – 02.07.2023

THREE MAIN TOPICS

- **Chinese Researchers Discover New Variant of ASF Virus**

- **Brazil Confirms First Bird Flu Case in Non-Commercial Farm**

- **Russia May Become the Main Global Exporter of Sunflower Oil in 2023**
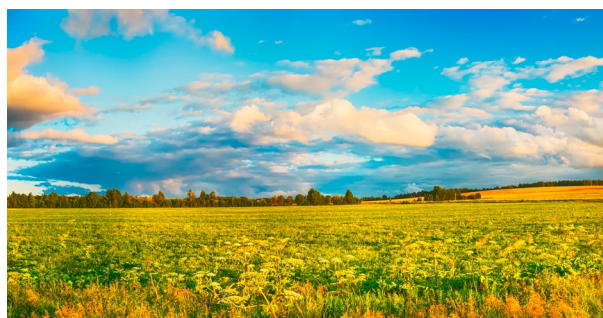
EDUCATION

EDUCATION / 26.06.2023

EFKO Will Open First Master's Programs

The Pushchino State Institute of Natural Sciences launches new master's programs: "Industrial Biotechnologies" and "International Marketing". All university graduates can apply for one of these programs. All expenses of students, including re-location, accommodation, studying and solving everyday issues, will be covered by EFKO. Invest-ments in this educational project will amount to more than 20 million rubles. EFKO

EDUCATION / 28.06.2023

USDA, NASA Strengthen Collaboration

The USDA and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) have signed a memorandum of understanding strengthening the collaboration between the two agencies, including efforts to improve agricultural and Earth science research, technology, and agricultural management, and the application of science data and models to agri-cultural decision making. This partnership will build on a newly launched NextGen program, which invests 262.5 million dollars to cultivate the next ge-neration of diverse food and agriculture professi-onals. GlobalAgTechInitiative

EDUCATION / 28.06.2023

Russia Plans to Train 10,000 Drone Specialists for the Agricultural Industry

Russia intends to train by 2030 at least 10 thousand specialists to work with drones in agriculture. This was announced by the General Director of the company "Agrimax Aero" Maxim Chizhov. "We are actively promoting the AgroAeroKadry project. It will allow in the coming years to train specialists for agriculture in 256 educational institutions, which use our agricultural drones," he said. TASS

EDUCATION / 30.06.2023
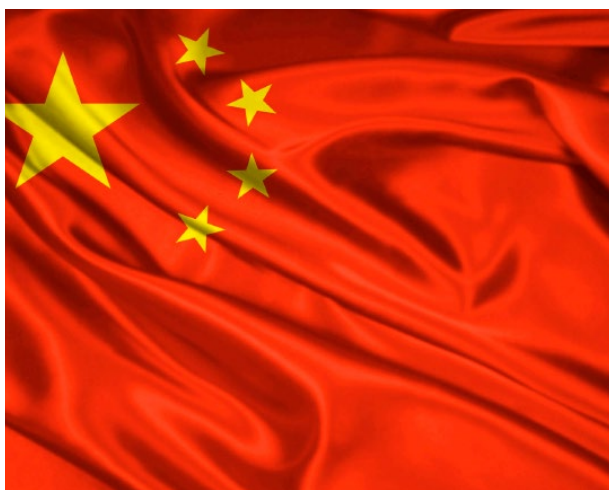
SSAU Will Launch New Programs

Stavropol State Agrarian University (SSAU) will launch 4 new programs of higher secondary vocational education: "Cooking and confectionery", "Hospitality and tourism", "Land management", "Electrical sys-tems in the agro-industrial complex". The university plans to recruit 9th and 11th graduates from all over the region for new training programs. SSAU

SCIENCE

SCIENCE / 28.06.2023

Chinese Researchers Discover New Variant of ASF Virus

Chinese scientists say they have discovered a new strain of African swine fever (ASF) virus circulating in three provinces of the country. According to the article published in the journal Nature Communicaars the new virus appears to be a hybrid between the genotype II strain that caused the 2018 ASF outbreak in China and a more recent but less deadly strain identified in 2021. Emeat

SCIENCE / 29.06.2023

IARC to Say Aspartame Sweetener a Possible Carcinogen

One of the world's most common artificial sweeteners is set to be declared a possible carcinogen next month by a leading global health body, according to two sources with knowledge of the process, pitting it against the food industry and regulators. The IARC ruling, finalised earlier this month after a meeting of the group's external experts, is intended to assess whether something is a potential hazard or not, based on all the published evidence. Its meeting began at the end of June and it is due to announce its findings on the same day that the IARC makes public its decision – on July 14. Reuters

SCIENCE / 30.06.2023

Scientists Found a Solution to Reduce the Carbon Footprint of Feed Production

An analysis prepared by the European animal by-product industry (EFPRA) has revealed the benefits of using animal proteins in feed in terms of carbon footprint. This is reported by thecattlesite. com portal. In particular, European feed manufacturers are considering using processed animal proteins and lard as a replacement for soy flour and palm oil, as it is believed that this will reduce carbon emissions. Milknews

INNOVATION

INNOVATION / 26.06.2023

An Autonomous Robot to Protect against the Spotted Lantern

A team of researchers at Carnegie Mellon University has created an innovative autonomous robot to control the spread of the spotted lantern pest. TartanPest uses an all-electric tractor, robotic arm and computer vision to traverse fields and forests, detecting and destroying massive egg deposits of pests. The innovation is expected to benefit not only farmers, but the food system as a whole by reducing the amount of agrochemical treatments. GlavPahar

INNOVATION / **27.06.2023**

Testing a Greenhouse on the ISS Will Be Completed in 2024

Completion of tests of the Russian greenhouse, which will allow growing greenery on an industrial scale at the International Space Station, is scheduled for 2024. This was reported to TASS in the press service of the Rocket and Space Corporation Energia (part of Roscosmos). Based on the test results, it will be planned to manufacture flight samples and conduct flight tests. TASS

INNOVATION / **27.06.2023**

First Plant for the Processing of Technical Hemp in Russia

On the territory of Tatarstan Russia is planning to open the country's first industrial hemp processing plant. The launch of the enterprise will take place this year in Bugulma. First, the plant will process trusts, and later — self-degradable disposable tableware. About 150 hectares of land on the border of the Zainsky and Nizhnekamsky regions of the republic were sown with technical hemp, and about 2 thousand hectares in the next. Kommersant

INNOVATION / **30.06.2023**

Technology App to Help Farmers Get Ahead of Bird Flu

The UK has developed an application Livetec Systems that provides early detection and rapid response to animal health problems. The real-time outbreak notifications alert farmers if their business is located within an identified outbreak zone and provide guidance on the measures to be taken immediately to protect their flocks. Poultry World

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WORLD MARKET

WORLD MARKET / **26.06.2023**

Mexico Imposes 50% Tariff on White Corn Imports

Mexico started imposing on June 24 a 50% tariff on white corn imports that will be in force until the end of the year, the Associated Press reported. President Andrés Manuel López Obrador said the tariff will boost national production and prevent imports of genetically modified (GM) corn. Mexico is in the midst of a trade dispute with the United States and Canada over GM corn, which it has banned starting in 2024. World Grain

WORLD MARKET / **28.06.2023**

Japan Draws up First Guidelines on Animal Welfare-Based Treatment of Livestock

Japan's government has drawn up its first guidelines on treatment of livestock based on the idea of animal welfare. Each of the guidelines' eight parts covers a different type of livestock, such as chickens, pigs and cattle. The new rules will be introduced in July, but they are not binding. However, the Ministry plans to regularly check whether manufacturers are following these recommendations. NHK World-Japan

WORLD MARKET / **29.06.2023**

Brazil Confirms First Bird Flu Case in Non-Commercial Farm

Brazil has confirmed its first case of avian influenza (bird flu) in a non-commercial or subsistence farm this week. The country's Ministry for Agriculture and Livestock (Mapa) said that the case had been detected in a flock containing chickens, ducks, and geese in the municipality of Serra, in the state of Espírito Santo. The ministry said that it was important to note that the confirmed case in a backyard flock does not bring restrictions to the international trade of Brazilian poultry products. Agriland

WORLD MARKET / 29.06.2023

Skolkovo Resident to Install City Farms in Indonesia

The Chechen company Greenbar, a participant in the Sk Global Camp 2023 export accelerator program of the Skolkovo Foundation, has signed an agreement with the investment company PT Agung Anugrah Investama. It will allow the development of technologies for vertical farming in the ASEAN countries. In particular, a workshop will be set up in Jakarta to assemble digital city farm modules. They are planned to be installed in 15 thousand supermarkets and shopping centers. Skolkovo

ANALYTICS

ANALYTICS / 26.06.2023

Climate Change to Reduce Africa, South Asia Wheat Output

Leading crop simulation models used by a global team of agricultural scientists to simulate wheat production up to 2050 showed large wheat yield reductions due to climate change for Africa and South Asia, where food security is already a problem. Climate change will lower global wheat production by 1.9% by mid-century, with the most negative impacts occurring in Africa and South Asia, according to the research. The model predicted average declines in wheat yields of 15% in African countries and 16% in South Asian countries by mid-century. World Grain

ANALYTICS / 27.06.2023

McKinsey: the Tipping Point in the Decarbonization of Agriculture Was not Reached

In a recent study, experts from McKinsey concluded that the tipping point in the decarbonization of agriculture has not been reached. Additional incentives are needed for further progress: financing the costs of transition to sustainable technologies and reducing their costs, as well as educating farmers and raising the cost of carbon credits. In the long term, the authors argue, sustainable technologies can provide a return on investment, but someone needs to pay for this transition. McKinsey

ANALYTICS / 27.06.2023

Russia May Become the Main Global Exporter of Sunflower Oil in 2023

Russia in 2023 may become the world's largest supplier of sunflower oil, said Mikhail Maltsev, executive director of the Oil and Fat Union. According to him, if in 2022 almost 4.9 million tonnes of vegetable oils were supplied from Russia to foreign markets, including 3.7 million tonnes of sunflower oil, then the export of vegetable oils for the first five months of 2023 is estimated at 2.77 million tonnes, 23% higher than a year ago. Pole.rf

ANALYTICS / 29.06.2023

Study Shows Positive Attitude Towards Gene Editing

Genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and gene editing have been the subject of intense discussion in recent years. A recent survey by the Alliance for Science found that gene editing consistently earns greater favorability ratings than GMOs in both social and mainstream English-language media, signaling a positive shift in public opinion toward one aspect of agricultural biotechnology. The report was released after five years of data—from January 2018 to December 2022—were examined. AZOLifeSciences