

**INSTITUTE OF WORLD  
AGRICULTURAL MARKETS**

# **MEDIA DIGEST**

**28.08 – 03.09.2023**



## THREE MAIN TOPICS

- [Russia's First Pilot Project for Biometric Animal Identification](#)
- [Vietnam Lifts Export Restrictions on Canadian Cereals](#)
- [Russia Enters List of 5 Largest Exporters of Wheat to Brazil](#)



### EDUCATION

EDUCATION / 30.08.2023

#### Timiryazev Academy Opens a Training Center for Drone Operators in the Agro-Industrial Complex

The Center for Unmanned Aerial Systems was launched at RGAU-MSHA named after K.A. Timiryazev at the initiative of the rector Vladimir Trukhachev. The institute intends to add a course on 3D modeling and the use of additive technologies in the manufacture of spare parts for the repair and improvement of UAV designs, a course on cartography and orthophoto building, as well as a course on programmable UAVs.

[Timiryazev Academy](#)



EDUCATION / 01.09.2023

#### MSU Is Going to Grow Food Plants on the ISS

Moscow State University M.V. Lomonosov will develop a greenhouse for growing food plants aboard the International Space Station, the project is scheduled for launch next year. This was announced by the rector of Moscow State University Viktor Sadovnichy. "Moscow University is actively involved in the manned space program. We are preparing two space experiments <...>, [one of which] is a greenhouse for growing food plants," he said, giving a lecture in the Main building of the university. [TASS](#)



EDUCATION / 02.09.2023

#### US Expects to Boost Cooperation with Agricultural Universities in India

U.S. Embassy Agricultural Officer in India Mariano J. Baylard met with representatives of Punjab Agricultural University. The main topic of the talks was the strengthening of ties between the United States and India in the field of agriculture. The parties also discussed the prospects for agricultural production in the region, as well as the impact of geopolitics on the agricultural industry. [The Tribune](#)



SCIENCE

SCIENCE / 29.08.2023

**China Developed a Gene Therapy to Preserve the Sweetness of Oranges**

A group of molecular biologists led by Zhao Xiaochun, a professor at Southwestern University in Chongqing, has created a therapy that protects oranges from green citrus disease and boosts their resistance to citrus bacterial canker. The therapy is based on the genes of viruses that destroy bacteria, or bacteriophages, the press service of Nanjing Agricultural University said.

[TASS](#)



SCIENCE / 30.08.2023

**Australian Scientists Recommend Chilling Cows at Night**

In a recent study appearing in the Journal of Dairy Science, researchers from the University of Queensland demonstrated the effectiveness of extending cooling strategies for dairy cows throughout the day and night, including how these strategies could be applied to outdoor herds with a more limited physical infrastructure. Decreasing heat load at night, when air temperatures are cooler than during the day, is critical to how an animal copes with periods of heat stress, the scientists say. [The Cattle Site](#)

SCIENCE / 31.08.2023

**Danish Scientists Studied the Effect of Iodoform on the Digestion of Dairy Cows**

A group of scientists from Aarhus University found that iodoform can be a powerful tool for reducing methane emissions when used as a feed additive in dairy cows. However, it negatively impacts DMI and milk production by suppressing rumen fermentation processes. But this does not affect the overall absorption of all nutrients due to their absorption in the small intestine. The findings of the researchers are published in the journal Scientific Reports. [ViZh](#)





**INNOVATION**

**INNOVATION / 28.08.2023**

**AI-Based App Can Predict Rice Harvest with Single Photo**

A team of researchers in Japan are hoping their new AI-based app that can estimate the eventual yield from just photographs of rice plants will lead to more efficient cultivation. The team from institutions fed over 20,000 photos of rice plants and their related yields to a deep learning AI system. Experts used data on about 400 varieties from seven countries and 20 regions to train the AI, resulting in a system able to handle photos of a wide range of rice plants. Through AI-based image analysis, the "Hojo" app allows anyone to easily predict yields using only a smartphone.

[The Mainichi Shimbun](#)



**INNOVATION / 28.08.2023**

**Solar-Powered Tractor Invented in Saratov**

Scientists of the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution of Higher Education "Saratov State University named after N. I. Vavilov" have invented a solar-powered tractor, the press service of the university reported. An experimental model of an electric tractor for breeding and seed production was created by scientists from the Department of Electrical Equipment, Power Supply and Robotization of the Faculty of Engineering and Environmental Management. Post-graduate student Daniil Saidov is engaged in development.

[Vavilov University](#)

**INNOVATION / 01.09.2023**

**AI Will Produce Alternative Meat**

Sustainability non-profit Food System Innovations has teamed up with artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning expert Noa Weiss to unveil GreenProtein AI, a project tapping next-gen tech to optimise the extrusion and texture of plant-based meat. The project aims to collaborate with extrusion facilities and plant-based meat manufacturers, providing targeted insights and solutions to enable a more predictable and efficient production process. GreenProtein AI says this will help enhance the quality and sustainability of alt-meat, as well as bring it closer to price parity with conventional meat. [Green Queen](#)



**INNOVATION / 01.09.2023**

**Russia's First Pilot Project for Biometric Animal Identification**

Russia's first pilot project for animal identification based on digital biometrics will be launched in the Leningrad Region. The first stage is planned to be implemented in early 2024. The future system will be based on the technology of biometric identification of animals from photographs, developed by Goznak specialists. The technology is based on artificial intelligence, which, by analyzing the distance between key points on the pet's face, allows you to identify the animal with an accuracy of more than 98%. [TASS](#)



WORLD MARKET

WORLD MARKET / 28.08.2023

**Russia Weighs Unified Fertilizer Trader to Boost Pricing Power**

Russia is considering setting up a unified trading company to export fertilizers in a bid to increase its pricing influence on global markets. The idea was proposed in July by UralChem PJSC's founder Dmitry Mazepin, two people familiar with the situation said, declining to be identified because the information isn't public. It has since been discussed by Industry Minister Denis Manturov and Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin, the people and another person close to the government said. No decision has been taken and it's not clear when the proposal will be discussed again, all three people said. [Bloomberg](#)



WORLD MARKET / 28.08.2023

**Vietnam Lifts Export Restrictions on Canadian Cereals**

Vietnam's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has removed creeping thistle (*Cirsium arvense*) from its quarantine pest list, providing an expected boost to Canada's grain exports, according to industry association Cereals Canada. The Canadian government and cereals industry had advocated for the removal of the restriction, which will take effect Sept. 29. "We are pleased with Vietnam's decision to remove creeping thistle as a pest of concern," said Dean Dias, chief executive officer of Cereals Canada, the industry association based in Winnipeg, Manitoba. [World Grain](#)

WORLD MARKET / 28.08.2023

**South Africa Signs Avocado Export Deal with China**

South Africa has joined the list of new entrants in the vast Chinese market after signing a deal with the tenth-leading importer of avocados globally. "Gaining access to China is a vital step in driving an export-led growth for the South African avocados, which is a commitment the government has made under the agriculture and agro-processing master plan," said South Africa's Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development Thoko Didiza. She added that the export of avocados to China will result in South Africa growing more fruit, in particular avocados, and increasing employment opportunities. [Food Business Africa](#)

WORLD MARKET / 29.08.2023

**Saudi Arabia Invests in Camel Milk Production**

Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund has set up a new camel milk company, Sawani Company, to support the industry's growth amid efforts to diversify the economy. Sawani reportedly hopes to develop camel milk production in cooperation with the private sector, according to the British online edition of the Daily Reporter. It is assumed that this investment will allow KSA to boost production and enter regional and world markets with these products. [ViZh](#)





## ANALYTICS

ANALYTICS / 29.08.2023

**USDA: China Chicken Meat Production Forecast to Decline in 2024**

According to a recent US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Global Agricultural Information Network report, chicken meat production is forecast to decline from both white broiler and yellow broiler in 2024 due to import constraints the People's Republic of China placed on avian genetics and related materials for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza-related reasons and for continued live poultry market closures. Imports are forecast higher to offset low domestic production. In 2024, chicken imports are forecast to grow by 3% to 770 thousand tonnes in order to partially meet the supply gap of domestic chicken production. Chicken exports are expected to stay at similar levels in 2024. [The Poultry Site](#)

ANALYTICS / 29.08.2023

**USDA Forecasts Increase in Mexican Beef Outputs**

A report from the United States Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service has predicted growth in Mexican beef production in 2024 citing expected lower prices for cattle and swine feed. In addition, the report has highlighted that there will be a slight increase in beef demand amid the foreseen population growth and a growing demand for beef products. [Food Business Africa](#)



ANALYTICS / 01.09.2023

**Brazil Overtakes US as Top Corn Exporter**

Brazil will overtake the United States as the world's top corn exporter in the 2022/23 marketing year and is projected to be the leading exporter in 2023/24 as well, according to statistics from the Foreign Agricultural Service the US Department of Agriculture. The only other year in which Brazil topped the United States in corn exports was in 2012/13, a year in which a severe drought impacted US corn production. The FAS estimates Brazil's 2022/23 exports at 56 million tonnes, compared to only 41 million tonnes in shipments for the United States. [World Grain](#)



ANALYTICS / 02.09.2023

**Russia Enters List of 5 Largest Exporters of Wheat to Brazil**

Brazil in January-July bought Russian grain for 108.5 million dollars, as a result of which Russia entered the top five largest suppliers for the first time, according to RIA Novosti calculations based on data from the Brazilian statistical service. The analysis also took into account data on other types of grain that Brazil buys from other countries. Before that, Russia sold grain to this country in 2010, 2013, 2014 and 2019. However, large deliveries were recorded only in 2010 — for 5.6 million dollars. [RIA News](#)