

**INSTITUTE OF WORLD
AGRICULTURAL MARKETS**

MEDIA DIGEST

18.12 - 24.12.2023



THREE MAIN TOPICS

- **New Varieties of Wheat Resistant to Extreme Conditions Are Bred in Russia**
- **Almost 50 Thousand Hectares of Unused Agricultural Land Were Identified Using a Neural Network**
- **China and Russia Signed a Protocol on Requirements for the Export of Russian Pork to the Chinese Market**



EDUCATION

EDUCATION / 18.12.2023

Rosselkhozbank: 40% Of Agricultural Companies Are Interested in Innovative Methods of Working with Youth

Almost half of companies in the agricultural sector are looking for new approaches to recruitment to attract younger workers. Ekaterina Artyugina, managing director of the Center for the Development of Financial Technologies of Rosselkhozbank, spoke about this on the sidelines of the fourth conference of innovators in agriculture – AgroCode Conf 2023. The survey results show that the vast majority of companies in the agro-industrial complex are carrying out a technological transformation of the HR brand. They use digital solutions to manage employees, many of whom are distributed across different areas of the country. Moreover, in the context of a shortage of personnel for the agricultural industry, work with the younger generation (schoolchildren and students) comes to the fore. [I'm in agro](#)



EDUCATION / 20.12.2023

Timiryazev Academy Entered the Top 10 Russian Universities in the GreenMetric World Ranking

Let down results world UI GreenMetric World University Rankings – 2023. RGAU-MSCA named after K.A. Timiryazeva was among the 250 greenest universities in the world. In the list of the «greenest» universities on the planet, Timiryazev Academy took 246th position among 1,183 universities from 84 countries. Among the 48 Russian universities included in the ranking, RGAU-MSHA is among the ten «greenest» – 7th place. Among six agricultural universities, RSAU-MSHA takes first place. Timiryazevka has the maximum scores in the indicator groups «Education and Research», «Transport» and «Environment and Infrastructure».

[Timiryazev Academy](#)





SCIENCE

SCIENCE / 18.12.2023

New Varieties of Wheat Resistant to Extreme Conditions Are Bred in Russia

New varieties of spring wheat, highly resistant to unfavorable environmental conditions, diseases and insect pests, are being developed by specialists from the world-class scientific center "Agricultural Technologies of the Future" of the Russian State Agrarian University – MSAA (RGAU-MSHA) named after K.A. Timiryazev. "These studies are of particular importance in the context of climate change and increasing demands for food security. The creation of new varieties of wheat, adapted to different environmental conditions, will not only increase productivity, but also contribute to the sustainable development of agriculture in Russia and beyond," the center's press service emphasized. [IA Krasnaya Vesna](#)

SCIENCE / 19.12.2023

Livestock Farmers Are Offered to Use New Varieties of Oregano as an Alternative to Antibiotics

Scientists at the Scientific Research Institute of Agriculture of the Crimea (FGBI "NIISKh Crimea") based on new varieties of oregano have obtained a liquid form of phytobiotic. It is proposed to be used in animal husbandry instead of antibiotics, writes the Agromir publication. The drug was tested on a rabbit farm and poultry farm. Researchers suggest adding this extract to drinking water for farm animals. Next year, scientists intend to patent their development.

[ViZh](#)



SCIENCE / 21.12.2023

Scientists Identified the Oldest Fossilized Fruit

Paleobotanists from the Florida Museum of Natural History (USA) and India have unraveled the secret of ancient fossilized fruits. The find ended up in the hands of researchers 50 years ago, but no one could identify the plant. The fruits were found in rocks dating back to before the impact of the Chicxulub asteroid. Thus, the ancient fossilized fruit is more than 66.5 million years old. Ancient plants from this family have been found before, but most of them date back to the time after the mass extinction of species.

[GlavAgronom](#)

SCIENCE / 21.12.2023

Coffee Without Beans in Finland

Scientists from the Finnish State Research Center (VTT), which is located in the city of Espoo, obtained coffee from the cells of the coffee tree. This was reported by the Yle portal. According to the head of the study, Heiko Rischer, coffee produced in the laboratory is 80% similar in taste to real coffee. "Making coffee this way requires a lot of new technology. Coffee is roasted, for example, using laser beams," the scientist noted. The researchers hope that their development will interest manufacturers. The process of obtaining food grade status for lab-grown coffee can take approximately four years. [TASS](#)



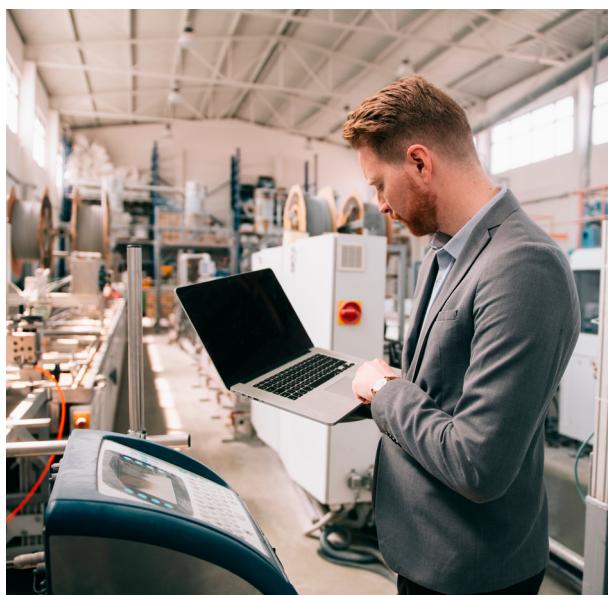


INNOVATION

INNOVATION / 18.12.2023

Rover for Agriculture in the Stavropol Region

Scientists from the Stavropol State Agrarian University have developed a multifunctional rover for agriculture. The platform can be used in different terrain to perform various tasks. The press center of the university notes that the key feature of the rover is its rapid adaptation to different tasks. The platform can be quickly equipped with equipment for applying fertilizers, for processing plants, containers for storing fruits or transporting goods, etc. [FBM](#)



INNOVATION / 18.12.2023

Sirius Scientists Elaborated a Device to Accelerate Seed Growth

Sirius University specialists have developed a device to accelerate seed growth. The press service of the university reported this. Scientists have created and tested a device that irradiates plant tissue with different spectra of light. This will speed up seed germination and conduct research into the influence of spectra on plant development. The first studies were carried out on tomatoes. In the future, students will create a device for farmers. [Kommersant](#)

INNOVATION / 19.12.2023

Almost 50 Thousand Hectares of Unused Agricultural Land Were Identified Using a Neural Network

The use of artificial intelligence technologies has made it possible to identify almost 1 thousand unused agricultural land plots in the Moscow region with a total area of almost 50 thousand hectares. In total, using a neural network, it was possible to assess the condition of more than 14 thousand sites, the press service of the Ministry of State Administration of the Moscow Region reported. As noted by the Minister of Public Administration, Information Technologies and Communications of the Moscow Region Nadezhda Kurtyanik, the use of AI technologies in agriculture can help optimize resources, put unused land into circulation and increase productivity. [TASS](#)



WORLD MARKET

WORLD MARKET / 18.12.2023

EU And Kenya Enter into Economic Partnership Agreement

The European Union and Kenya signed an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) on December 18, aimed at developing bilateral trade, increasing investment and promoting sustainable economic growth. For Kenya, the EU is the largest market for products and the second most important trading partner. In 2022, bilateral trade turnover amounted to 3.3 billion dollars, 27% more than in 2018. Once the agreement comes into force, the EU market should be fully open to Kenyan products. [European Commission](#)



WORLD MARKET / 19.12.2023

China and Russia Signed a Protocol on Requirements for the Export of Russian Pork to the Chinese Market

On December 19 of this year, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China Li Qiang and Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Mikhail Mishustin held the 28th regular meeting of the prime ministers of China and Russia, during which the parties confirmed the achievement of a high level of bilateral cooperation in the fields of economics, trade, energy and investments. As a result of the meeting, a number of documents were signed, including three protocols between Rosselkhoznadzor and the State Technical University of the People's Republic of China, establishing inspection, quarantine and veterinary and sanitary requirements for the export of Russian pork to the People's Republic of China, veterinary and sanitary requirements for the export of Russian feed for non-productive animals, as well as phytosanitary requirements for the export of corn, rice, soybeans and rapeseed.

[State Council of the People's Republic of China](#)

WORLD MARKET / 19.12.2023

India May Start Importing Sugar in 2025

India, the world's second -largest producer and until recently a net exporter of sugar, has introduced restrictions on the export of the product, and may begin imports in 2025 due to farmers switching to growing other crops. According to Reuters calculations based on surveys of Indian farmers, the country's sugar production could fall by 12.2% this season to 29.05 million tons, while output could reach 26.6 million tonnes in the next marketing year. At the same time, domestic sugar consumption this year will reach a record value of 29.2 million tons, and in 2024/25 it will increase to 30 million tonnes.

[Reuters](#)



WORLD MARKET / 20.12.2023

Shipping Rates Rise Due to Attacks on Ships in the Red Sea

Global shipping rates soar after Yemeni attacks Houthi attacked ships in the Red Sea, as a result of which traffic through the Suez Canal was disrupted. As of December 19, shipping one container from China to the Mediterranean cost 2,413 dollars. Thus, during December the price increased by 44%. However, it is still well below the peak reached during the Covid-19 pandemic, when transporting a container along this route cost 14,158 dollars. [Reuters](#)



ANALYTICS

ANALYTICS / 18.12.2023

Agrocode Conf: RSHB Summed up the Results of the Year in Agricultural Technology

According to a study by experts from the RSHB in Digital platform, the number of agrotech and foodtech startups in Russia in 2023 increased by 40 projects and today amounts to more than 400. The trend towards increasing innovation and technologization of agricultural production leads to an increase in the number of solutions developed specifically for small farms. In addition to the trend towards digitalization of small businesses, AgroCode participants Hub RSHB also note an increase in interest in technology in agriculture among representatives of different ages. [RSHB](#)

ANALYTICS / 19.12.2023

In 2024, Global Cheese Exports Will Grow by 3%

By the end of 2023, global cheese exports will increase by 1.4% and amount to 2.96 million tonnes, the US Department of Agriculture predicts in a new review of the global dairy market. In 2024, cheese supplies are expected to grow by 3.1% to exceed 3 million tonnes. Global exports of skimmed milk powder will show an increase of 1%, to 2.53 million tonnes, of whole milk powder – by 1.1%, to 1.88 million tonnes. At the same time, butter exports will decrease by 1.9%, to 1.03 million tonnes. The review notes that in China, the largest importer of dairy products, the existing surplus in the domestic market has led to a decrease in import demand for milk powder, and high inventories will continue to limit foreign purchases in the near term. [USDA](#)



ANALYTICS / 19.12.2023

India Could Become a Net Importer of Sugar by 2025

Rainfall deficits in major sugarcane producing states could force India to become a net importer of sugar in the first half of 2025, traders estimate. Indian sugar production is expected to decline to 29 million tonnes in the current marketing year (September 2023/ August 2024) and will be in the range of 25 to 26.9 million tonnes in 2024/25. The indicated production volumes are below the forecast demand in the segment, which, according to MEIR Commodities India, will grow by 5% this year to 29.2 million tonnes.

[The Economic Times](#)

ANALYTICS / 20.12.2023

Oil World: Global Sunflower Production Will Raise Next Season

Oil World expects the sunflower harvest in Russia and Ukraine to be about 8% higher than in 2022. At the same time, in the European Union, Argentina, Turkey and the United States, production of this crop will decrease compared to last year. Global sunflower crushing volume is estimated to reach 52.5 million tonnes in 2023/24, roughly the same as last season. Higher refining volumes are expected in Ukraine, Russia and the USA. According to forecasts, global sunflower oil production will remain at the level of last season and amount to 22.1 million tonnes. [Rambler](#)

