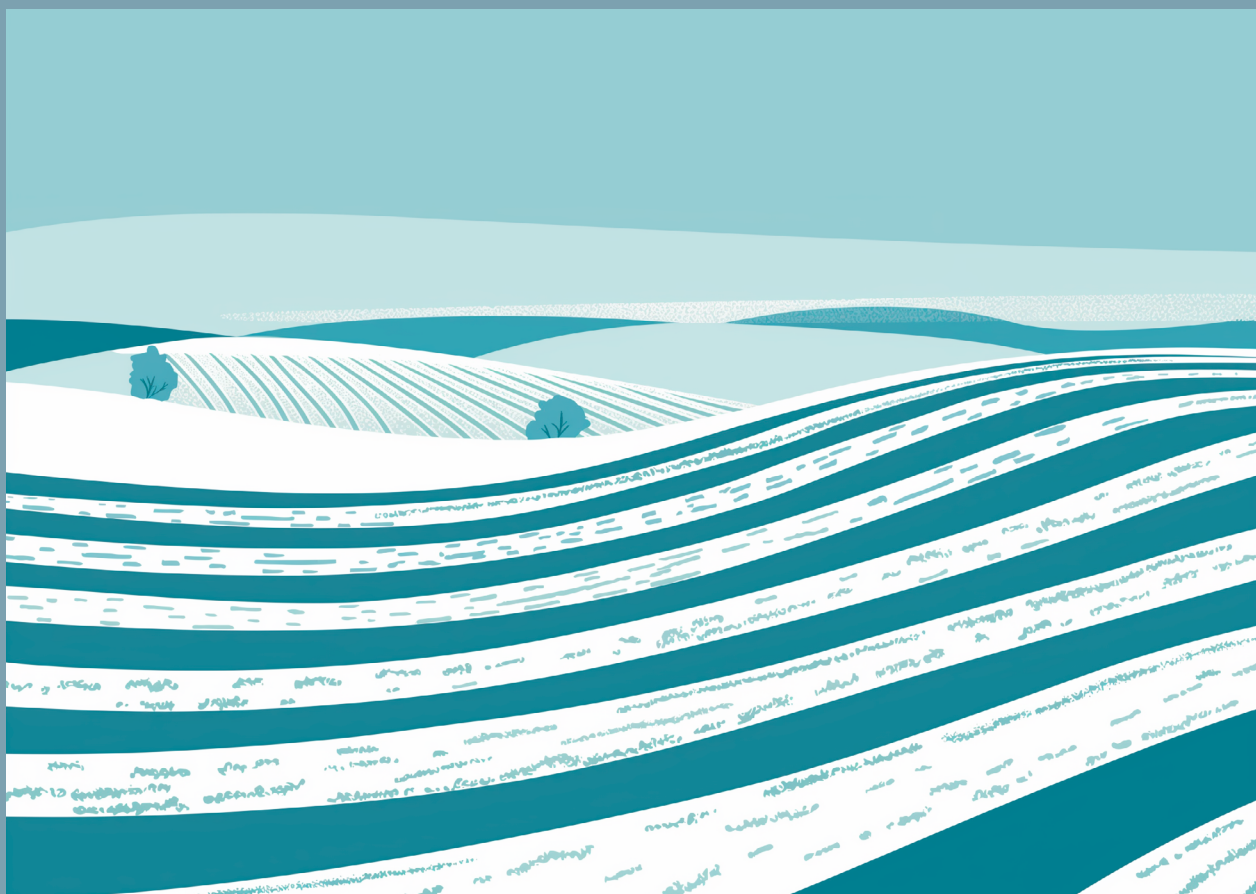


**INSTITUTE OF WORLD  
AGRICULTURAL MARKETS**

# **MEDIA DIGEST**

**19.02 – 25.02.2024**



## THREE MAIN TOPICS

- **SSAU Presented Joint Programmes with MGIMO**
- **Invasions Climate Change Locusts Threaten Food Security**
- **Dubai Hosts the 29th International Food and Beverage Exhibition Gulfood 2024**



### EDUCATION

EDUCATION / 19.02.2024

#### **SSAU Presented Joint Programmes with MGIMO**

A presentation of two new educational programmes launched jointly with MGIMO took place at the Stavropol State Agrarian University. From 2024, universities will begin enrolling in joint undergraduate programs designed for in-depth training of professionals in the field of work in global agricultural markets and in the tourism and hospitality industry. A key feature of the programs is the possibility of obtaining «double» equivalent diplomas from SSAU and MGIMO. The educational process will be built in a network format: students will conduct part of their training at SSAU, and teachers from the Moscow university will be involved in the classes. [SSAU](#)



EDUCATION / 24.02.2024

#### **Breeders from Russia and the DPRK to Breed Improved Varieties of Grain Crops**

An agreement on scientific cooperation between the Academy of Agricultural Sciences of the DPRK and the Federal State Budgetary Institution "FRC "Nemchinovka", which includes a number of areas, was signed at a meeting of heads of scientific organizations at the Skolkovo Innovation Center. The event took place within the framework of international scientific cooperation between the Russian Federation and the DPRK on agricultural topics and was held in the format of a scientific and practical seminar, where participants reviewed and discussed issues of grain crop selection and the nuances of grain biologization. [AgroXXI.ru](#)





SCIENCE

SCIENCE / 19.02.2024

**Russian Scientists Began Testing Fertilizers Based on Animal Waste**

North Caucasus Federal University (NCFU) announced the development of fertilizers based on animal waste, such as droppings, animal hair and bird feathers. Fertilizers are granules that are up to 6 mm in diameter; macroelements are located in their core. The form of the new fertilizers allows the nutrients to be released and delivered to the plants gradually. The project is currently undergoing field testing. It is noted that the new fertilizers demonstrate high efficiency and low toxicity. [ViZh](#)

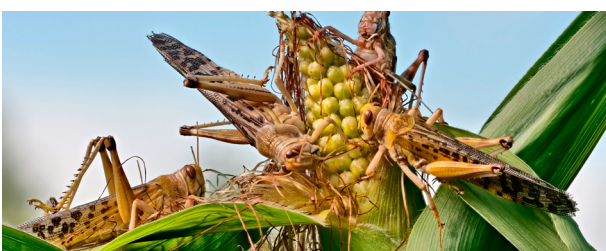


SCIENCE / 19.02.2024

**Invasions Climate Change Locusts Threaten Food Security**

The locust's habitat could increase by up to 25% due to climate warming; infestations of these insects could lead to crop failures and pose a threat to world food security. This is stated in a scientific article published in the journal Science Advances. The Singaporean and Chinese scientists who conducted the study indicate that desert locust infestations are «contributing to hunger and threatening food security». Africa, the Middle East and South Asia are particularly affected by pest activity.

[News Agency «Red Spring»](#)



SCIENCE / 22.02.2024

**For the First Time, Russian Researchers Assembled the Complete Genome of Two Cherry Viruses**

Scientists have described more than fifty viruses that infect stone fruit crops, and thanks to new high-throughput sequencing methods, this list is constantly expanding. Some of these pathogens cause significant economic damage. For example, the small fruit virus reduces the yield and quality of fruits. Researchers are trying to understand the nature of this virus and prevent its spread. However, so far it has not been possible to identify the insect vectors of LChV1, nor to develop varieties of cherries resistant to this pathogen.

[RAS](#)



SCIENCE / 23.02.2024

**Brewers Teamed up with a Ural University to Elaborate New Flavors**

The Ural State Agrarian University and the Baltika brewing company have teamed up for a project related to the technological sovereignty of the country. Representatives of the scientific community and business want to study the aromatic herbs grown in the Sverdlovsk region and develop a domestic palette of flavors. The corresponding agreement was signed at the Russia exhibition in Moscow. As Vice-Rector for Research and Innovation of the University Mikhail Karpukhin emphasized, USAU has created a large genetic collection of medicinal, essential oil and aromatic plants. [Agronomika](#)





**INNOVATION**

**INNOVATION / 19.02.2024**

**The First Greenhouses with AI Will Appear in the Arctic**

A group of researchers from the Polar State University has developed an automated microclimate control system for greenhouses. Strawberries, cucumbers and other crops will be grown in the harsh climatic conditions of Norilsk with the help of artificial intelligence. The system will be tested by Sergey Plotnikov, a senior lecturer at the Department of Electric Power and Automation at ZSU. Norilsk researchers expect to receive the first harvest of "digital" strawberries and cucumbers by the end of summer 2024. [PGI](#)

**INNOVATION / 20.02.2024**

**FAO Presented the National Action Program for the Digitalization of Agriculture**

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) presented the National Action Program for the digitalization of agriculture in Uzbekistan, which was developed as part of the implementation of an annual technical cooperation project. At the event dedicated to the launch of the National Program, national and international experts gathered to exchange views on the content of the document, its goals and priorities. The main goal of these efforts is to provide incentives for the transformation of agri-food systems, contributing to further climate-resilient development of the country. [FAO](#)



**INNOVATION / 21.02.2024**

**Rosselkhoznadzor Is Developing a Method for Determining Pesticide Residues in Dead Bees**

The Council of Young Scientists of the Federal Center for Animal Health Protection (FSBI "ARRIAH") subordinate to Rosselkhoznadzor is developing a method for determining the residual amount of pesticides in dead bees. Violations in the use of pesticides and agrochemicals lead to the death of bees. The new technique will allow us to determine what caused the death of bees, as well as the source that caused the pestilence. The research will be carried out using chromatography-mass spectrometric methods, the department specified. Thanks to these methods, it will be possible to isolate almost 500 types of pesticides. [ViZh](#)



**INNOVATION / 22.02.2024**

**Russian Scientists Found out a Method for Determining Glyphosate in Plant Materials**

Specialists of the All-Russian State Center for the Quality and Standardization of Medicines for Animals and Feed (FSBI "VGNKI"), as part of their research activities, have developed two methods for the quantitative determination of glyphosate and aminomethylphosphonic acid (AMPA) in raw materials of plant origin and environmental objects: soil and soils, surface and underground waters. This was reported by the press service of Rosselkhoznadzor. In 2024, it is planned to expand the scope of accreditation and introduce the developed methods into the center's activities.

[GlavAgronom](#)



**WORLD MARKET**

**WORLD MARKET / 19.02.2024**

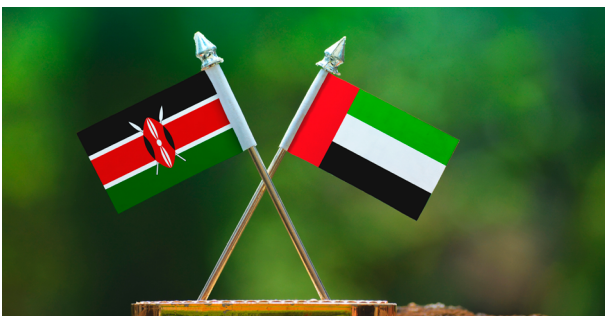
**Dubai Hosts the 29th International Food and Beverage Exhibition Gulfood 2024**

Gulfood 2024, one of the world's largest food and beverage exhibitions, kicked off on February 19 at the World Trade Center in Dubai. This year's event set a record for the number of participants - more than 5.5 thousand exhibitors, 49% of whom came to the exhibition for the first time. 127 national pavilions were organized, including Armenia, Azerbaijan and Venezuela presented for the first time. The Inspire Conference featured UAE Minister of Climate Change and Environment Dr. Amna bint Abdullah Al Dahak Al Shamsi as a keynote speaker, highlighting the importance of preserving and strengthening global food systems as climate change and geopolitics threaten to disrupt them. [Emirates News Agency](#)

**WORLD MARKET / 23.02.2024**

**UAE and Kenya Sign Economic Partnership Agreement**

The UAE and Kenya signed a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). According to the UAE Minister of State for Foreign Trade, Thani al-Zeyoudi, non-oil trade turnover between the two countries in 2023 increased by 26.4%, to 3.1 billion dollars. Currently, the UAE and Kenya intend to expand cooperation in various sectors, including food production and logistics. The UAE has previously signed a number of comprehensive economic partnership agreements, including with Israel, Turkey, India and Indonesia. [Reuters](#)



**WORLD MARKET / 23.02.2024**

**The Czech Republic and Slovakia Joined the Protests of European Farmers**

Farmers from the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland and other countries staged protests along the Czech border and blocked a number of checkpoints, demanding changes in the agricultural policy of the European Union. Thousands of tractors lined the highway, and protesters held signs saying «Stop the bureaucracy» and «Stop Ukrainian grain». Farmers from Central Europe have alleged unfair competition with agricultural producers from abroad, primarily from Ukraine, after the EU decided to abolish duties on Ukrainian agricultural goods in 2022. Previously, farmer protests took place in Poland, France, Germany, Spain, Italy and other countries. [The Dairy Site](#)

**WORLD MARKET / 23.02.2024**

**India Extends Duty-Free Import of Peas**

India has extended the duty-free import regime for peas: in accordance with the latest changes, the pulse crop can be imported with a zero rate if the bill of lading is issued before April 30, 2024. The duty-free import option, which was due to expire on March 31, has already had a significant impact on global demand and prices. «Indian pea imports have caused a storm in the global market», admitted AgPulse analyst Analytica Gaurav Jain. He said the extension means peas will be able to enter India duty-free until July. According to the forecast of Indian brokerage firm JLV Agro, Indian pea imports will amount to 1.8 million tonnes during 2024. [The Western Producer](#)





## ANALYTICS

ANALYTICS / 19.02.2024

## European Wheat Prices Keep Falling

On February 19, futures for European wheat dropped to 194.5 euro (209.44 dollars) per ton, which is the lowest level since September 2021. Prices in the EU continue to be under pressure due to competition with suppliers from the Black Sea region and high inventories in European countries. «Competition between Western European and Black Sea producers has reached its climax. Everyone is looking for markets before the end of the season against the backdrop of growing wheat stocks on the European continent», says a commentary from the consulting agency Agritel. FranceAgriMer forecasts that bread wheat carryover stocks in France at the end of the 2023/24 season will be the highest in 19 years. [Nasdaq](#)



ANALYTICS / 20.02.2024

## India Expects Record Harvest Rapeseed

India's rapeseed and mustard production is likely to reach a record high in 2024 due to increased planting and favorable weather conditions in key producing states. The area under rapeseed increased by approximately 5%, to 10 million hectares. Thus, the rapeseed harvest in 2022/23, amounting to 11.5 million tonnes, this season may increase by 300-500 thousand tonnes, market analysts predict. They expect that increased rapeseed production will help the world's largest importer of vegetable oils reduce their imports.

[Nasdaq](#)

ANALYTICS / 22.02.2024

## Danone and Nestle Predict Slowdown in Price Growth in 2024

The world's two leading food producers, Danone and Nestle, will slow their price increases in 2024 after two years of rapid increases. At the same time, Danone warned that prices will still rise due to increased labor and logistics costs. Nestle, in turn, notes that transportation costs currently have less of an impact on price increases than in previous years. The rapid rise in food prices began with the Covid -19 pandemic, which caused large-scale disruptions in global supply chains, and continued due to the worsening geopolitical situation in the world in 2022. [Reuters](#)

ANALYTICS / 23.02.2024

## Cocoa Beans Rose in Price by 17–18% in a Week

On the Intercontinental Exchange in London and New York, cocoa bean futures rose in price by almost 20% over the past week. Thus, in London, May contracts increased by 18% over the week and set a new record of 5,366 pounds sterling (6,768 dollars) per ton, and in New York they increased by 17% and reached a maximum of 6,447 dollars per ton. Concerns continue to grow in the market about problems with the cocoa bean harvest in the two largest supplying countries – Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana. According to dealers, the supply of cocoa beans is becoming extremely limited and there is a possibility that the supply shortage will continue into the next season 2024/25. [Nasdaq](#)

