

General News

Ukraine – 1st Maize Shipment Successfully Crossed the Black Sea under JCC Protocol

The new Joint Coordination Centre (JCC) composed of officials from Ukraine, Russia, Turkey and the UN, is controlling and monitoring the grain and oil shipments through the Black Sea grain corridor set up on 22 July 2022. The first shipment since the start of the war arrived in Ireland from Ukraine into Foynes Port, Co Limerick. It was carrying 33,000 tonnes of grain to be used by Irish farmers for animal feed. Two other vessels that left the Ukraine port of Chornmorsk were bound for Britain and Turkey, with 24,000 tonnes of grain between them. The deal will run for 120 days and will hopefully be extended once agreement from all parties has been secured.



Stock levels - Trader Notice

In light of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the EU Commission has put in place procedures for providing up to date information on stock levels of cereals, oilseeds and rice. Following this DAFM issued a trader notice on 8 August 2022 advising importers of cereals and oilseeds of the requirement to notify DAFM monthly of the current levels of cereals and oilseeds on hand at the close of business on the last day of the month. This information must be emailed to cropproduction@agriculture.gov.ie on the 14th day of the following month. Data will be treated in strictest confidence. See the full trader notice [here](#).

EU Crop Yields

The exceptionally hot and dry weather conditions in much of Europe continues to substantially reduce yield outlooks for the EU's summer crops. The crops most affected are grain maize (-8.6% at EU level), sunflowers (-5.5%) and soybeans (-9.6%). Current yield forecasts for these crops are between 12% (sunflowers) and 16% (grain maize) below the 5-year average. On the flip side the hot and dry conditions benefited the harvesting of winter crops, which saw a slight improvement in yield forecasts. Spain, France, central and northern Italy, central Germany, Hungary, Romania, Slovenia and Croatia are among the most severely affected regions in Europe. The full report can be downloaded [here](#)

Fertilizer Update

Fertilizers Europe says that the majority of European fertiliser production has been curtailed or halted completely due to what it calls "rocketing gas prices," which are over 1000% higher than a year ago. The industry body, which represents the majority of fertilizer producers in Europe, has urged the European institutions and EU Member States to take immediate action to avert an energy and fertilizer crisis.

Jacob Hansen Director General at Fertilizers Europe said "The current crisis begs for swift and decisive action from EU and national policy makers for both energy and fertilizer markets. The gas market needs to be looked at to address today's challenges, support domestic industry and restore market confidence. The policy

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WHAT'S ON

Teagasc Sept events [read more](#)

Signpost Series Webinars -
Teagasc [read more](#)

IGFA feed Committee Meeting
Sept 6th

(17th) iNAP AHIC September 19th

RASFF 'S Aug 2022

Total Food & Feed	326
Total Feed	21
Feed Materials	18
Feed Premixtures	1
Nuts and nut products	1
Pet food	1

[read more](#)

Read August
Teagasc
Signpost
newsletter
[here](#)

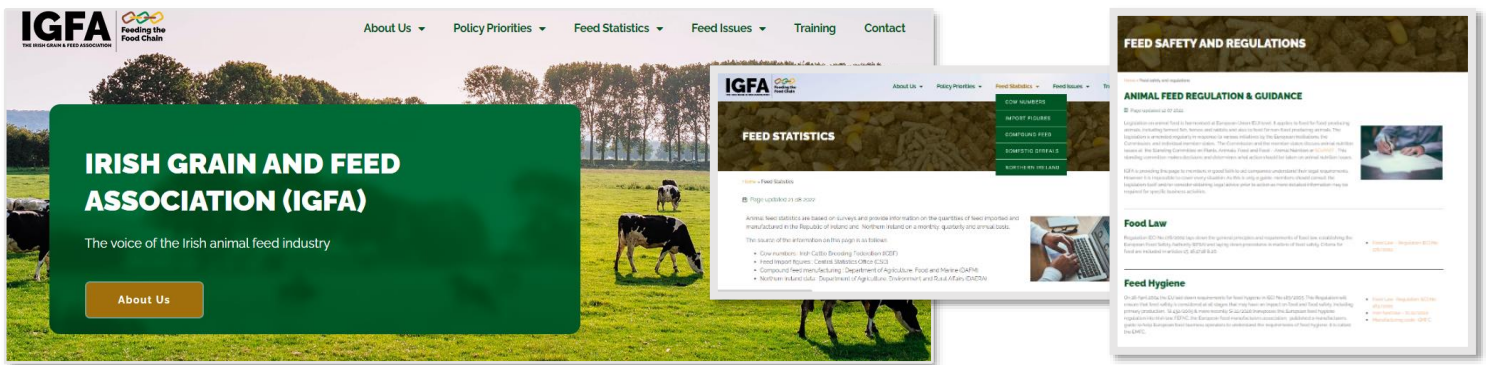
Read Lyons
Systems
Research
Notes
[here](#)



For more information or useful links visit www.igfa.ie or <https://twitter.com/IGFAie>

makers should also seriously consider crisis management policies for the fertilizer industry to minimize long-term repercussions for EU food security”.

IGFA Website Upgrade



IGFA will launch a new website in September. The layout of the website should provide members with easier access to information. If you have any suggestions or would like to see other information on the website, please send your comments to cornelia.oconnell@eorna.ie.

Environment News

Circular Feed



The term “Circular Feed” for animals is a relatively new concept. However, the European feed industry has always recovered nutrients in secondary raw materials from other industrial processes as this ensures the contribution of feed production in the circular economy of livestock farming. This circular food system keeps valuable nutrients in the food chain that would otherwise go to waste.

The feed industry plays a key role in optimising the bioavailability of nutrients for human consumption and closing nutrient cycles. Products derived from livestock farming such as meat, dairy, eggs, as well as fish from aquaculture, are an excellent source of nutrient-dense food for humans. Farm animals are reared on feed made from plant parts that humans do not eat, such as grass or residues from food processing activities. The recovery of wheat bran from flour millers, for which there was no human food market, citrus pulp derived from citrus fruit processing, or beet pulp pellets and molasses derived from sugar production are good examples.

FEFAC recently published [“Circular Feed – Optimised Nutrient Recovery Through Animal Nutrition”](#) – a publication showcasing the European feed industry’s practical interpretation of the “Circular Feed” concept with examples of how the sector contributes to the circular economy.

Developing Countries Oppose EU Deforestation Proposal

On 27 July 2022, a group of third countries sent a letter to the presidents of the EU institutions as well as a collection of European Commissioners and high-level MEPs to express their concerns with the EU intentions for a Regulation on deforestation-free supply chains. The country signatories include the ambassadors of Argentina, Brazil as well as Indonesia, Malaysia and Ghana, representing the commodities in the scope of the proposal (e.g. soy, palm oil, coffee, cocoa).

The signatories plead with the EU to perform further consultation with third countries, in particular developing countries, before the final approval of the proposed legislation. They sense that their concerns expressed during the formal consultation phase have been given scarce consideration. They highlight that current proceedings seem to disregard the local conditions, national legislations of developing producer countries and their efforts to tackle deforestation. The country assessment criteria are seen as “inherently discriminatory and punitive in nature” which will most likely generate trade distortion and diplomatic tensions as well as reputational risks for companies.

The letter also addresses concerns with certain specific elements in the proposed legislation, such as the uncertain and discriminatory scope of the products, definitions that are not multilaterally agreed, the retroactive cut-off date, burdensome due diligence mechanism and subjective risk assessment criteria, costly and impractical traceability and geo-localisation requirements and an insufficient unilaterally defined transition period.

Timeline of Farm to Fork Actions

The European Commission published [a comprehensive 2 pager](#) on all Farm to Fork actions with their expected timetable for delivery. Below are some of the more relevant policy topics for the feed industry

Q4 2022: Revision of the feed additives legislation to reduce the environmental impact of livestock farming

Q2 2023: Legislation for plants produced by certain new genomic techniques to ensure a high level of protection and contribute to sustainability and innovation

Q2 2023: EU-level targets for food waste reduction

Q4 2023: Legislative framework for sustainable food systems

Q4 2023: Revision of the animal welfare legislation to broaden its scope and ensure a higher level of animal welfare

Q4 2023: Sustainable food labelling framework to empower consumers to make sustainable food choices

Report On Potential Competition between the Biogas and Feed Sector

FEFAC recently commissioned a report from students at Wageningen University to look at “How the current and anticipated development of the anaerobic digestion sector impact the feed industry’s capacity to competitively source co-products and former foodstuffs in the feed and food chain”. Some interesting data emerged from this study:

- Co-products from the food and bioethanol industries make up 12% of all feed material consumed by the EU28 compound feed industry.
- Animal manure has the lowest average biogas yield-by tonne (around 0.05) while crop residues (0.2) and “industrial waste” (0.36) produce more biogas.
- Since 2014, newly installed biomethane plants switched from using mainly energy crops to using mainly agricultural residues.

This [study](#) concludes that “a more balanced share of co-products is needed between the 2 sectors”. Without such a balance, and without an application of the food waste hierarchy in national legislations for cascading use of biomass, it is concluded that “increasing numbers of feedstocks currently used for feed will be diverted to biogas”.

Bioenergy Fact Sheets

Over the last few months, the Irish Bioenergy Association (IrBEA) has worked on developing a series of factsheets covering the main bioenergy sectors. The first six factsheets were presented on this webinar by the Executive team and can be viewed on the IrBEA website [here](#).

The titles include

1. Bioenergy – An Overview
2. Wood and Solid Biomass Fuels
3. Biogas
4. Biofuels
5. Biochar
6. Energy Crops

The aim of the factsheet series is to provide information to a wide range of stakeholders on the various forms and aspects of bioenergy. While other renewable energies are easier for the public to comprehend (e.g., wind or solar), bioenergy is made up of a wide range of technologies and fuels and can be utilised to provide heat, electricity, and transport fuels.

Other News

Logistics Systems in a Modern Sustainable World

 Skillnet has advised us of a number of supply chain courses they are supporting. For more information see [Training Programmes - CILT Mobility & Supply Chain Skillnet \(ciltskillnet.ie\)](#)

EFSA Findings on Animal Welfare for Transported Animals

EFSA’s work on animal welfare focuses on helping risk managers identify methods to reduce unnecessary pain, distress and suffering for animals and to increase welfare where possible. Such work will inform the revision of the EU animal welfare legislation, expected to be completed towards the end of 2023. A public online event has been organised as an opportunity to engage with EFSA’s experts and representatives of the European Commission on the results of EFSA scientific opinions on the transport of animals, which will be published at the beginning of September 2022. The registration form to attend the event can be found at [here](#)