



NEWS FROM WABCG

EDITORIAL

Last June in Fargo, we decided to dedicate our November WABCG/ISO meeting to the sugar markets.

And I have to say that after the crazy month we just had this September, when sugar gained just 20% of its value, I am looking forward to this meeting!



Indeed, we have decided to give the floor for the afternoon session to four brilliant analysts, each focusing on a specific sugar region - Asia, the Americas, Europe and Africa. Their task will be to help us understand the new balance for the coming campaign, but also for the years to come.

The morning will be devoted to our two traditional sessions:

- The first, called 'Around the World', allows us to share our views from the field.
- And the second will allow us to learn as much as we can from our ISO economist friends.

I am really proud and happy to organise this meeting with my friend José Orive, Executive Director of the International Sugar Organisation! Every year, this opportunity to share knowledge between the growers represented by WABCG and the governments represented by ISO is one of my favourite meetings!

So please do register - and see you soon in London!

**David Thompson, President
WABCG**

OCTOBER 2024

NEWS FROM SWEDEN

The 18th of November 2023 is a day that will be remembered in Swedish sugar sector for a long time. Jacob Bennet, president of the Swedish growers' association, was awakened early in the morning by a phone call from the managing director from Nordic Sugar. One of the boilers at the sugar factory exploded during the night and hot sugar juice were spread around the sugar factory. Fortunately, no one were injured during the accident, but of course the impact on the campaign was obvious.

Short after the accident Nordic Sugar stated that the campaign should be started again and completed.

Very early in the process the growers' association was involved to discuss how the second half of the campaign could be handled based on the extraordinary situation. A hard work at the factory to have the process temporarily up and running, hard work from beet growers with frost protection on the clamps and a good dialogue between the industry and the growers' association was fundamental. Without that it would probably not be possible to complete the campaign.



Almost one and a half month after he original planed end of the campaign 2023/24 the factory could close and another month later the first beets were sown. After a wet and cold start of the spring the weather turned better in the end of April. Rest of the beet season has in general been good, but the variations within the beet growing region is large, not least in terms of the amount of precipitation. However, the yields are expected to be close to average.

To this years' campaign the factory is restored and the process should be back to normal. A lot of investments have been made in the Swedish sugar factory



World Association of
Beet and Cane Growers



the previous years and today we have a modern sugar factory ready to face the future. One example of investments is the completely new tare house which was taken into operation at the start of this campaign. A new tare house means new routines for the growers' associations control function at the beet reception. The growers' association has staff to monitor the sampling and analysis, an important service for our members.

Even though the previous years has been challenging for the growers the interest of growing sugar beets remain high. To next year, 2025, the sugar beet acreage will decrease. The reduction will be significant for growers and there is an obvious risk that the reduction will affect the long-term investments in the sector. This is an issue with high priority in the work for the growers' association in the near future.

Ida Lindell, General Secretary

Betodlarna, Swedish beet growers association, Sweden



The campaign 2024/25 started 10th of September. The yields are close to normal and the beet quality is good.



The accident on the sugar factory in November 2023 combined with challenging weather meant that all beets couldn't be harvested.



Registration is open!

WABCG/ISO Consultation

25 November 2024

London, United-Kingdom