



I O W A | *life* | C H A N G I N G

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China Agricultural Newsletter

June 2009

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Laws, Regulations and Policies

Taxes cut in effort to lift exports¹

China will reduce or eliminate export taxes on nearly 100 categories of goods including some agricultural products and fertilizers starting next month in its latest move to help the country's flagging trade sector.

The cuts are the first outright tax reductions since December 2008 and follow seven increases in export tax rebates since August.

The Ministry of Finance said that 31 types of goods such as wheat, rice and soybeans will be exempted from export taxes starting July 1. Large tax reductions will apply to another 60 categories of products, including fertilizer and chemicals. The tax on phosphate fertilizer, for instance, will be cut from 75 percent to 10 percent.

China's May exports fell 26.4 percent from a year earlier to US\$88.8 billion, the worst drop in at least 14 years.

Export tax rebates added²

China has raised export tax rebates on more than 600 types of goods, including machinery, furniture, toys, plastic products and steel - another step in its campaign to stimulate an export sector hard hit by the global recession.

The Ministry of Finance said that export rebates for machinery were raised from 14 percent to 17 percent, furniture from 13 percent to 15 percent, toys from 14 percent to 15 percent and plastic products from 11 percent to 13 percent. Other items included porcelain, glass, aquatic products, suitcases, shoes, caps and some processed agricultural products.

¹ Shanghai Daily June 23, 2009

² Shanghai Daily June 9, 2009

China has raised the rebates seven times since last August to help its struggling exporters. In the first quarter of this year, tax rebates amounted to 102.9 billion yuan (US\$15.1 billion), up 18.4 percent from a year earlier.

Checks on grain market to set up³

China will step up monitoring of the grain market in relation to minimum purchase prices set by the government, the National Development and Reform Commission and the State Administration of Grain said in a joint statement on June 17.

Authorities will focus on those who force down prices and give farmers short weight in the four months through the end of October. The purchase of wheat and reserve corn in major grain producing areas will be the focus of the checks, according to the statement.

Local grain authorities will carry out field inspections at major grain depots during the annual purchase period, which usually runs from June to September.

Food safety gets tough⁴

Chinese authorities pledged on May 31 to use the new Food Safety Law as a platform to intensify monitoring and law enforcement, hoping to curb repeated food scandals battering the industry's reputation and consumer confidence.

The law, effective from 1 June, aims to improve the efficiency of the food safety monitoring network through tougher standards, strict supervision, a recall system for substandard products and severe punishment of offenders.

State departments of health, agriculture, quality supervision, industry and commerce administration, which shoulder different responsibilities, have made plans for the implementation of the law.

The Ministry of Health, the leading authority to coordinate the law implementation, has drafted at least three supplementary government rules to regulate the making of food safety standards, the management of new products, and the control of food safety risks. Two national panels of experts will be set up to oversee safety standards and safety risk control. A national risk control centre will also be established to enhance the level of safety evaluation, detection of toxic ingredients and risk precaution.

The Ministry of Agriculture, which is responsible for monitoring the safety of farm products, has been formulating regulations concerning the proper use of feed, feed additives and pesticide, and the quarantine of animals.

³ China Daily June 17, 2009

⁴ ThePigSite News June 2, 2009

State Administration for Industry and Commerce vowed to enhance the supervision of food circulation market, particularly food retailers who are asked to ensure the safety of the food they sell.

State Food and Drug Administration would increase the awareness of catering industry to guarantee food safety through various steps, including a new certification system for restaurants to become effective on June 15.

Health food draft regulation released⁵

The chaotic health food market would be closely supervised and managed under a draft regulation released by the State Council.

Under the draft, market access would be tightened for health food products, which could include bee glue, spirulina or any foods with vitamin and mineral substance. Health food must be examined and approved by the State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA) and acquire a registration certificate before entering the market.

The SFDA would evaluate and examine the application of a health food in terms of safety, functionality and quality standard. The authority would not issue the registration certificate for those fail to meet the requirements, it said.

The draft stipulates the producer is responsible for the authenticity of the health food's labels and instruction leaflets, which should clearly state suitable and inappropriate consumers, as well as its function components and contents.

The ads of health food should be true and lawful, and cannot not contain exaggerated or false content, or claim the products can prevent or cure illness.

The draft said that health food should not be intended to cure disease and should not pose any acute, sub-acute or chronic hazard to the human body. It also strengthened requirements on production and sales.

The authority has detailed punishment in accordance with the Food Safety Law, and planned to establish a health food recall system.

Frozen pork stockpiled to stabilize prices⁶

The National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) said on June 15 the government has started stockpiling frozen pork to stabilize prices and protect pig breeders. An oversupply of live pigs would last for some time, and it advised pig breeders to reduce the sows and piglets on hand.

⁵ China Daily June 2, 2009

⁶ ThePigSite News June 16., 2009

Under the National Swine Price Alert System announced in January 2009, if the ratio of hog to grain prices falls below 6.0 for more than four weeks, the government will consider purchases for reserve stocks to reduce market supply and increase prices.

Live hog prices have dropped for 20 straight weeks, as supply gains continue to outpace rising demand. NDRC reports on May 27, the nationwide average hog price in large and medium cities fell to 9.75 yuan per kilogram, down 3.75 percent from the previous month. Meanwhile, corn prices rose slightly during the same period to 1.66 yuan per kilogram. Pork producers are reportedly losing up to 100 yuan per head due to the continued price decline.

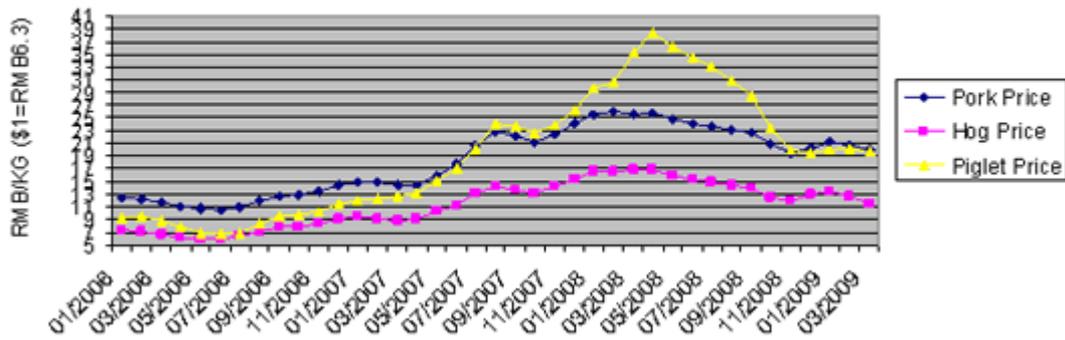
NRDC reports total live pig stocks at the end of April reached 454 million head, up 1.4 per cent from the previous month. The number of sows stood at almost 50 million head, down 0.4 per cent from March. According to NDRC, the proportion of sows to pigs in recent months has been the highest on record, suggesting further upward pressure on pork production.

To avoid bringing down market prices, the stockpile price should not be lower than the average wholesale price in the area, said an NDRC official.

A primary factor driving higher pork supplies is China's expanded subsidy regime for pork to encourage a recovery in production following a devastating outbreak of blue ear disease in 2006/07. The initial subsidy was 50 yuan (\$7.30) per productive sow during the first yearly subsidy period which ended on June 30, 2008. The second yearly subsidy is raised to 100 yuan (\$14.60) per productive sow from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.

The subsidies have attracted large investment in swine raising. According to the China Animal Husbandry Association, swine raising investment in 2009 is double compared with that in 2007. Further adding to upward pressure on production is the return of millions of recently unemployed migrant workers who returned to rural China and began raising swine. This resulted in a quick increase in sow inventory and swine supplies, outpacing rising pork demand and resulting in higher supplies and lower hog prices. According to farmers, one fattened hog is losing RMB 100-200 (\$14.6-29.2). However, the swine industry expects the productive sow subsidy program may continue from mid 2009 to mid 2010 to prevent a large slaughter of sows, short swine supplies and rising prices. Experts believe that subsidy content may change to favor large-sized swine farms, and the productive sow insurance subsidy, which is RMB60 (\$8.79) per productive sow with farmers only paying RMB12 (\$1.76) will not change, but may also favor large-sized farms.

China Average Pork, Hog, and Piglet Prices, 2006-2009 (March)



Source: Ministry of Agriculture

Industry and Business Watch

Domestic needs get US\$133b lift⁷

China will spend 908 billion yuan (US\$133 billion) of its stimulus package to boost domestic demand this year, with 487.5 billion yuan coming from the central government.

Rural infrastructure and livelihood projects will consume 252.2 billion yuan, accounting for 27.8 percent of the total spending, and key infrastructure such as railways, roads and airports will eat up 213.4 billion yuan, the Ministry of Finance said in a statement.

About 10 percent of the spending will be used for medical, health and education, and 14.3 percent will be invested to rebuild earthquake-hit regions, the ministry said.

The funds are part of the country's 4-trillion-yuan stimulus package, of which the central government will provide 1.18 trillion yuan and the rest will come from local governments, policy loans and corporate bonds. Among the 1.18 trillion yuan, the central government spent 104 billion yuan in the fourth quarter of last year, and will spend 487.5 billion yuan this year and 588.5 billion yuan next year, according to the statement.

So far, 591.5 billion yuan of the 1.18 trillion yuan has been used, with 33.8 percent in earthquake-hit regions, 21.2 percent in rural infrastructure projects and 8.8 percent on affordable homes.

China unveiled the stimulus package in November, which has started to gain traction and led to improvement in the country's industrial production and investment in recent months. Its economy grew a better-than-expected 6.1 percent in the first quarter on an annual basis, and China has targeted a growth of 8 percent for this year, although it is still reeling from the global recession.

⁷ Shanghai Daily June 27, 2009

The World Bank has raised its 2009 forecast for China's economic growth to 7.2 percent from 6.5 percent as a result of the boost from the stimulus.

U.S., EU file complaints with WTO over China's export restrictions⁸

The United States (U.S.) and the European Union (EU) on June 23 filed complaints with the World Trade Organization (WTO) over China's restrictions on exports of some industrial raw materials.

The materials at issue include coke, bauxite, fluorspar, magnesium, silicon metal and zinc, according to the complaints sent to the Geneva-based WTO.

The U.S. and the EU claim that China's export restrictions create unfair advantages for Chinese industries and distort world competition, thus violating WTO regulations.

On June 24, the Ministry of Commerce defended China's export policies, saying they are consistent with WTO rules. The chief aim of China's export policies is to protect the environment and conserve natural resources, said an official with the Ministry of Commerce.

Summer grain expected output of 122.5 million tons⁹

China has reaped 313.18 million mu (20.88 million hectares) of summer wheat by June 20, or 90.2 percent of the total, and is expected to achieve a rise in grain output for the sixth year running, the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) said.

MOA estimated the country's summer grain output will exceed 122.5 million tons this year. The planting area for the country's summer grain crops this year is predicted to increase 486,000 hectares over last year while the average yield will keep the level of last year, noted Sun Zhengcai, minister of MOA.

Meanwhile, China has finished rapeseed harvest, with the output expected to hit a record high of 13 million tons. The planting area for early rice this year rises above 133,000 hectares over the previous year.

Nearly one fifth of rice fields grew high-yield super rice¹⁰

Nearly one fifth of China's rice fields, or about 5.56 million hectares, were under cultivation with high-yield super rice, a result of the promotion of super rice from 2005, the Ministry of Agriculture said.

The ministry has approved 69 varieties of new super rice strains, and all have an average output potential of 10.5 tonnes to 12 tonnes per hectare.

⁸ Xinhua News June 23, 2009

⁹ Asia Pulse June 22, 2009

¹⁰ Xinhua News June 21, 2009

The rice output in China averages 7.1 tonnes per hectare, and the world's average is 3.9 tonnes per hectare.

Among the 61 promotion projects across the country last year, the average output reached about 8.75 tonnes per hectare, with the highest output at 13.55 tonnes per hectare for 6.7-hectare rice fields in Midu County of southwest China's Yunnan Province.

In these promotion rice fields, the ministry is helping farmers breed super rice with the assistance of various technologies, such as more scientific fertilizing methods and advanced disease- and insect-prevention technologies, to increase output.

The ministry said it is making plans (2011-2015) to develop 30 new super rice strains by 2015 and to have 10 million hectares of rice fields cultivated with such high-yielding strains.

15 million tons of reserve corn may be sold on demand¹¹

Experts expect the Chinese government may soon release 15 million tons of reserve corn into the market to satisfy the domestic demand.

The selling price for the reserve corn is estimated to set at 1,500 yuan (US\$219.54) per ton and the government will subsidize 100 yuan to the processing enterprises for buying one ton of corn, they predict.

According to market hearsay, the National Development and Reform Commission, China Grain Reserves Corporation, and the Ministry of Finance have all approved the sales plan for the reserve corn, which now waits for the final decision from the State Council.

Since October 2008, China has purchased a total of about 40 million tons of corn for state reserve, making up 24 percent of corn output last year. The government said in the year's beginning that it would help the corn processing enterprises raise output in a bid to protect farmers' interests.

According to analysts, the majority of the domestic ethanol plants have suspended production due to short corn supply. Market analysts expect the government to put some reserve corn into the market before the harvest of new corn in August.

Corn processing industry updates¹²

China's annual corn output ranks only behind that of the U.S., but its corn processing industry, although it is growing rapidly, still lags behind some developing countries in terms of scale, variety and level of processing technology.

¹¹ Asia Pulse June 11, 2009

¹² World-Grain.com June 1, 2009

In recent years, China's corn processing ability improved substantially with an annual growth rate of 20 percent, particularly in the main corn producing provinces of Jilin, Heilongjiang, Liaoning and Shandong. A government estimate put the country's corn processing ability at 24.5 million tonnes in 2007, a share of about 20% of corn output.

Main applications

Since 1982, the livestock industry in China has developed the fastest in the world, and the livestock industry is, of course, a main driver of the feed industry. There are three kinds of corn-based feed in China: silage feed, formula feed and special feed.

The industrial products using corn as raw material are starch sugar, corn oil, alcohol, monosodium glutamate and xylitol.

Corn starch products have been made into tablet molding reagent and medicine-release products. The latter are largely used for the infusion of glucose injection, oral glucose and other nutritional supplements. Another trend that is gaining momentum is corn starch-based products taking the place of petrochemicals. The ethylene glycol (raw material of antifreeze, polyester fibers and polyester plastics) produced by starch has been widely used in PLA plastics, PLA fiber and PTT fiber.

The most potential and promising field of corn amylose is producing degradable plastics, replacing the use of polystyrene. This will be widely used in packaging of agricultural products and the industrial film industry. In many areas of China, mulching has become one of the key measures for increasing food and vegetable production. However, the use of plastic film has caused serious environmental pollution. The development of biodegradable plastics on the protection of the environment is of great significance.

Challenges

Compared with the U.S. and other developed countries, China's corn conversion is at a lower level. Corn used for feed accounts for more than 65% of all production, and 40% of that total is used for feed directly rather than through processing. Therefore, every year a large amount of corn used for feeding livestock and poultry directly leads to enormous waste and reduces the rate of conversion. In addition, the utilization of corn is poor. Because of the technology and equipment constraints, straw and corncobs with high value haven't been used effectively.

With the corn processing industry growing, the demand for raw materials is also increasing. Planting a single species has become a limiting factor for the corn processing industry. As the Chinese traditional modes only pay attention to the production of corn, some of the special varieties (such as waxy corn for industrial use) have not experienced a good promotion and development.

The corn quality standard system is not well defined. Compared with other developed countries, there are only a small number of standards that lack detailed provisions, so they have poor practicability.

In addition, the safety and hygiene standards regarding Chinese corn and corn products are minimal. As a result of different corn processing methods for food and feed, their safety and hygiene requirements are not the same. There is still a big gap in this area between China and developed countries.

There are a large number of corn processing enterprises in China, but most are small-scale operations. Due to the lack of human resources in small factories, the low level of management, low levels of production and high costs in the competitive market, it is difficult to form a corn industry chain.

Another obstacle is that the feed industry, livestock industry and corn production areas are geographically incompatible to the pace of development. The corn production regions are mainly located in the north. This causes a waste of corn resources in the north and shortages in the south. At the same time, China's feed industry has developed rapidly, but the pace of feed production is inconsistent with livestock production.

June soybean imports predicted at 4.36 million tons¹³

Soybean imports into China are expected to reach 4.36 million tons in June, according to the latest forecast by the China National Grain and Oils Information Center (CNGOIC).

According to the shipment schedule, China's soybean imports from the U.S. are estimated at 360,000 tons this month while its soybean imports from South America at 4 million tons, up nearly 1 million tons over the year earlier period.

Then the country's soybean imports are predicted to approach 30.48 million tons in the first nine months of the crop year 2008-09 (October 2008 - June 2009), which will represent an increase of 4.13 million tons over the same period of the previous crop year,

CNGOIC predicted China's soybean imports in 2008-09 crop year will amount to 40 million tons if the monthly imports can reach 3 million tons in the last quarter of the crop year.

Soybean imports to decline in 2009-2010¹⁴

China may import 7.5 percent less of the soybean in the year to September 2010 because of weak livestock feed demand and increased domestic supply, a forecaster said.

¹³ Asia Pulse June 17, 2009

¹⁴ Bloomberg News June 16, 2009

Imports will drop to 37 million metric tons next year from the record 40 million tons this year, the China National Grain and Oils Information Center said in a statement. Domestic supply may increase because of possible government sales from reserves, it said.

China may also import less edible oil in 2009-10, the Center said. The country may buy 8.07 million tons of edible oil next year, compared with an estimated 8.14 million tons this year, it said.

Optimism over end to poultry dispute¹⁵

China hopes the United States can give importance to China's concerns over a poultry import ban dispute and resolve it by WTO procedures, Ministry of Commerce spokesman Yao Jian said in a statement on 24 June.

The US measure banning poultry imports from China violated WTO rules, Mr Yao said. "The measure is obviously discriminatory, " disrupted the normal poultry meat trade between China and the U.S. and harmed the due interests of the Chinese poultry industry.

Under Section 727 of the Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009, which was signed into US law in March, none of the funds made available in the Omnibus Appropriations Act can be used to "establish or implement a rule" allowing imports of poultry products from China.

China wrote on 23 June to the chairman of the WTO Dispute Settlement Body through the Permanent Mission of China to the WTO, requiring it to set up an expert panel to investigate the US import ban on Chinese poultry, Mr Yao said.

Scientists create pig stem cells¹⁶

Dr Xiao, who heads the stem cell lab at the Shanghai Institute of Biochemistry and Cell Biology, and colleagues succeeded in generating induced pluripotent stem cells by using transcription factors to reprogramme cells taken from a pig 's ear and bone marrow. After the cocktail of reprogramming factors had been introduced into the cells via a virus, the cells changed and developed in the laboratory into colonies of embryonic-like stem cells. Further tests confirmed that they were, in fact, stem cells capable of differentiating into the cell types that make up the three layers in an embryo – endoderm, mesoderm and ectoderm – a quality that all embryonic stem cells have.

The information gained from successfully inducing pluripotent stem cells means that it will be much easier for researchers to go on to develop embryonic stem cells that originate from pig or other ungulate embryos.

¹⁵ ThePoultrySite June 25, 2009

¹⁶ ThePigSite News June 4, 2009

Dr Xiao said, “Pig pluripotent stem cells would be useful in a number of ways, such as precisely engineering transgenic animals for organ transplantation therapies, creating models and developing therapies for human genetic diseases, combating swine flu, etc. ”

In addition to medical applications for pigs and humans, Dr Xiao said his discovery could be used to improve animal farming, not only by making the pigs healthier, but also by modifying the growth-related genes to change and improve the way the pigs grow.

The next stage of his research is to use the pig iPS cells to generate gene-modified pigs that could provide organs for patients, improve the pig species or be used for disease resistance. The modified animals would be either “knock in” pigs where the iPS or ES cells have been used to transfer an additional bit of genetic material into the pig ’s genome, or “knock out” pigs where the technology is used to prevent a particular gene functioning.

Pig gender selection success¹⁷

Chinese scientists have claimed a commercial breakthrough after breeding 10 piglets whose sex was successfully selected before conception, heralding potential higher profits for farmers.

The healthy piglets were born on an experimental farm belonging to the Animal Science Institute in south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, the institute's top zoologist Lu Kehuan said on June 25. The piglets were born in two broods, an all-male brood of six and an all-female brood of four.

Lu and his team separated sperm with the female X chromosome from sperm with the male Y chromosome, and used artificial insemination techniques to transplant the separated sperm into four sows. “Two of them gave birth after 115 days and the other two are due to give birth soon,” he said.

Lu said the “custom-tailored” piglets were no different from other newborn pigs in terms of weight and appetite. But the technique is expected to help farmers manipulate the birth rate of pigs and upgrade the quality of their species, he said.

“On many pig farms in south China, a young boar is about 5,000 yuan (US\$715) more expensive than a sow. An all-male brood of six therefore brings an additional 15,000 yuan,” said Lu.

The technology is widely used today on cows in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, whose vast pastures nurtures quality cows and milk.

Dairy industry out of the bottom¹⁸

¹⁷ Xinhua News June 26, 2009

¹⁸ TheBeefSite News June 8, 2009

China's dairy industry has begun to turn a corner, with production and market gradually being restored.

The latest statistics show that from January to April this year, large-scale dairy enterprises produced 5,864,300 tonnes of dairy products, an increase of 2.67 percent. In April, dairy production reached 1,543,600 tonnes, an increase of 8.03 percent year on year. Industrial output is up 5.53 percent in the Jan-March period compared to the first quarter in 2008.

Due to the dual strikes of Melamine scandal last September and the global financial crisis, China's dairy industry has sunk into the lowest point by the end of 2008.

Nearly 4,000 milk stations closed due to poor conditions¹⁹

Nearly 4000 milk collection stations in China have been shut down due to substandard conditions, Song Kungang, director-general of the China Dairy Industry Association, said on June 3.

In remarks at a dairy farmers union forum, Song said agriculture authorities inspected all of the country's 20,393 milk collection stations between November 2008 and April of this year. Of those, 3,908 lacked testing equipment or were not sanitary and were therefore shut down.

Milk stations collect fresh milk from local farmers and sell it to dairy companies. The remaining 16,485 stations still in operation are now subjected to rotating inspections by provincial and regional agriculture departments.

Coke eyes "organic" growth for juice business in China²⁰

Coca-Cola Co, the world's largest beverage maker, will focus on organic growth for its juice business in the country and focus on its own juice brand, Minute Maid, a top executive said on June 24.

The company is not considering any acquisition in the juice sector after the Chinese government rejected its \$2.4-billion bid for Huiyuan Juice recently, said Doug Jackson, Coca-Cola's president for China, during the opening ceremony of a new bottling plant in northwestern China.

Coke and COFCO Coca-Cola Beverages Ltd, a joint venture with China's largest agriculture product enterprise COFCO, have invested more than 110 million yuan for the bottling facility in Urumqi, the capital of the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region. The plant is expected to churn out 500 million bottles of Coke products each year, and help it better tap the demand of the 20 million consumers in the western region.

¹⁹ TheCattleSite News June 3, 2009

²⁰ China Daily June 25, 2009

On June 23, the company opened another bottling plant in Nanchang, the capital of Jiangxi province. The 100-million yuan investment there is expected to help the company gain better access to the 44 million consumers in this eastern province of China.

Both investments are part of the beverage maker's three-year plan of investing \$2 billion in China to expand its manufacturing and marketing activities. That's more than its \$1.6 billion total investment in China over the past 30 years.

China overtook Mexico to become the third largest market for Coke in 2008, but the company said Chinese consumers only drink 25 bottles of its products per person each year, compared with 500 in the US.

Jackson estimated that there would be another 300 million urban residents in China by 2020, about the current population of the US. That could be a "big opportunity" for the US soft drinks maker, he said.

The company's sales in China grew 10 percent in the first quarter this year, even as global sales only expanded by 2 percent during the period.

OvoPro opens new offices in Malaysia and China²¹

OvoPro, global provider of equipment and solutions to the egg processing industry, expands its activities and moves into new offices in Kuala Lumpur and Beijing.

The new offices are located in the same buildings as its sister company Moba. The Kuala Lumpur office will serve as OvoPro's headquarter for its activities in Asia Pacific, whereas the Beijing office will mainly focus on the Chinese market.

Lee Cheam Peng, OvoPro's Marketing Manager for Asia Pacific, sees Asia as an important market for the coming years. The new premises will allow OvoPro to be closer to its fast growing customer base.

VIV China now annual, to focus on meat in 2009²²

VIV China 2009, which will take place on Oct. 19 to 21 at the NEW CIEC, hall West 1 in Beijing, will focus on presenting quality and innovations in the Chinese meat industry.

The key drivers of VIV China 2009 are: Safe feed to safe meat - tracking and tracing of feed ingredients; Prevention - animal disease control and animal welfare; Processing - meeting changing consumer demand for food safety.

²¹ World Poultry June 3, 2009

²² TheFishSite News June 11, 2009

At this moment over 5,000 square metres of floor space has been booked. VIV China will host around 200 to 250 companies. Already around 140 local and international companies have decided to join in.

Seven wind power bases to be set up by 2020²³

China plans to build seven wind power bases with a minimum capacity of 10 gigawatts (Gw) each by 2020, in a move to dramatically increase the use of the clean energy.

The seven bases are Jiuquan in Gansu Province, Hami in Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Hebei Province, western Jilin Province, eastern Inner Mongolia, western Inner Mongolia and Jiangsu Province, Shi Pengfei, vice-president of Chinese Wind Energy Association, said.

Once completed in 2020, the seven bases will have combined capacity of around 120 gW, when the country's total power capacity is projected to be 1,500 gW.

Construction of these bases would require an investment of around 1 trillion yuan, Shi said.

“Three Gorges of wind power” aims to be built in Jiangsu²⁴

China is aiming to build a huge wind farm in the northwest by 2020 that will have energy capacity similar to the gigantic Three Gorges Dam, a senior official said on June 25.

Feng Jianshen, a vice governor of Gansu province, said that the province planned to expand the installed capacity of its wind power base to more than 20 gigawatts in 11 years, more than 10 times the current level. “Gansu will have built a ‘Three Gorges on the land’ by then,” he said, referring to the country's 23-billion-dollar dam that spans the middle reaches of the Yangtze River.

The dam, the biggest hydro-electrical project in the world, currently has 26 generators with a capacity of 18.2 gigawatts, which will eventually rise to 22.4 gigawatts when six more generators are added. China has set a target to install 100 gigawatts of wind power capacity by 2020, likely making the country the world's fastest growing market for wind energy technology.

²³ Xinhua News June 30, 2009

²⁴ AFP June 25, 2009

Statistics

China major meat sales price (June 2009)²⁵

Pork (Lean):

RMB1.00 yuan/kg

Average Sales Price (Street markets & Supermarkets)				Var. Percent		
A. 06/11/09-06/20/09	B. 06/01/09-06/10/09	C. 05/11/09-05/20/09	D. 06/11/08-06/20/08	(A-B)/B	(A-C)/C	(A-D)/D
19.76	19.68	20.12	28.12	0.41%	-1.79%	-29.73%

Chicken:

RMB1.00 yuan/kg

Average Sales Price (Street markets & Supermarkets)				Var. Percent		
E. 06/01/09-06/10/09	F. 05/21/09-05/31/09	G. 05/01/09-05/10/09	H. 06/01/08-06/10/08	(E-F)/F	(E-G)/G	(E-H)/H
14.53	14.54	14.64	15.22	-0.07%	-0.75%	-4.53%

²⁵ China Animal Agriculture Association

Beef (Fresh Boneless):

RMB1.00 yuan/kg

Average Sales Price (Street markets & Supermarkets)				Var. Percent		
I. 06/11/09-06/20/09	J. 05/21/09-05/31/09	K. 05/11/09-05/20/09	L. 06/11/08-06/20/08	(I-J)/J	(I-K)/K	(I-L)/L
33.56	33.54	33.82	34.20	0.06%	-0.77%	-1.87%

Egg:

RMB1.00 yuan/kg

Average Sales Price (Street markets & Supermarkets)				Var. Percent		
M. 06/11/09-06/20/09	N. 06/01/09-06/10/09	O. 05/11/09-05/20/09	P. 06/11/08-06/20/08	(M-N)/N	(M-O)/O	(M-P)/P
7.50	7.54	7.52	7.48	-0.53%	-0.27%	0.27%