

 <b>МІНІСТЕРСТВО АГРАРНОЇ ПОЛІТИКИ УКРАЇНИ</b>	 <b>Проект фінансується Європейським Союзом</b>	 <b>Проект впроваджується консорціумом на чолі з WYG International</b>
<i>Implementation of Ukrainian's Commitments under WTO and ENP Frameworks in the Rural sector EuropeAid/126205/C/SER/UA</i>		

## **Agricultural/rural sector news digest**

**3 - 9 of September 2009**

### ▪ **WTO and Neighborhood Policy**

From 8 to 10 of September in Rome (Italy) will be held Second World Seed Conference “Responding to the challenges of a changing world: The role of new plant varieties and high quality seed in agriculture”. Representatives of Ukraine in the Council of the International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) and chairman of the State Service of Protection of Plant Varieties Valery Hadzhymatov are invited to represent Ukraine on the event. Seed business experts meet to discuss the use of new plant varieties and high-quality seeds in agriculture.

MAP Press Service

On 7 of September representatives of the State Committee of Veterinary Medicine started to work together with the experts from the Food and Veterinary Office (FVO). During two weeks FVO inspectors, managers and staff of State Committee of Veterinary Medicine, representatives from Ministry of Agrarian Policy of Ukraine, Ministry of Health of Ukraine and specialized research institutions will discuss the issue of verification visit of FVO for making an audit of control system on production and processing of dairy products intended for export to the EU.

MAP Press Service

#### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

On 10 of September International Centre for Policy Studies conducts discussion of the report entitled "European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI): what is the role of private sector?" Discussions will begin with a presentation of Center report on ENPI in Ukraine. This report is the first general overview of priorities, processes, ENPI funding issues and opportunities for involvement of private sector representatives to the process. Representatives of the European Commission, international technical assistance organizations, government officials and parliamentarians, representatives of the private sector and journalists are invited to the event.

[www.icps.kiev.ua](http://www.icps.kiev.ua)

### ▪ **Food Safety**

On 3 of September in the Ministry of Agrarian Policy of Ukraine was held the second meeting of the Working Group on biosafety and the use of genetically modified organisms in the agricultural system. The meeting was attended by Deputy Agrarian Policy Minister Sergiy Melnik, Deputy Agrarian Policy Minister Ivan Demchak, vice president of the Ukrainian Academy of Agrarian Sciences Mykola Bezugly, members of the Working Group, the specialists of the Ministry. On the agenda were issues regarding the advisability of amendments to the CMU regulation

from July 23, 2009 № 808 on "Some aspects of testing and registration of genetically modified organisms and varieties of agricultural plants" and approval of the plan of regulation implementation, improvement of regulatory framework, elaboration of GMO plant varieties testing methods and labeling process for medication produced from GMO.

Director of the Ukrainian laboratory of quality and safety of agricultural products Serhiy Melnychuk informed members of the working group on draft list of food products to be tested for GMO content.

#### MAP Press Service

On 6-8 October 2009 in the Institute for sugar beet of Agrarian Sciences will be held the second international scientific conference "Genetically modified (biotech) plants: prospects and challenges of biosafety". Organizers: Ministry of Agrarian Policy of Ukraine, Ministry of Environmental Protection, Ukrainian Academy of Agrarian Sciences, Institute for Sugar Beet. The main purpose of this conference is to exchange scientific information and research results related to the creation, testing, use, identification and legal regulation of genetically modified organisms and biotechnological plants turnover. Issue of raising public awareness about biosafety will also be considered.

#### PROAGRI

Part of condensed milk which is sold in Ukrainian shops is counterfeit, said at a press conference president of consumer protection association "Research center of independent consumer expertise "TEST"" Valentyn Bezrukyj with reference to research conducted by the center. He said that the center of expertise "TEST" has tested 6 brands of condensed milk of home manufacture, which, according to the label, was made exclusively from milk fat according to the state standard (GOST), i.e. the classical condensed milk. Only two brands that were tested met GOST standards. Two samples that were tested contained more than 80% of vegetable fats. According to V. Bezrukyj, condensed milk can be produced with the use of vegetable fats, but it must be stated on the label.

Also, some samples showed content of flavorer (titanium dioxide E 171) and three synthetic sweeteners: atsesulfam potassium E 950, aspartame E 951, and saccharin E 954. These products must contain the inscription "Not for children under 7 years". These data center had sent to the Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine, which will consider charges of unfair competition "as far as manufacturer uses same technical standards to produce cheaper counterfeit product".

#### UNIAN

Laboratory for testing food and agricultural raw materials for genetically modified organisms (GMO) content opened in Simferopol. Starting from September tests are conducted at the "Crimeastandartmetrology" test center.

As reported in the press-service of State Committee on Standardization, Metrology and Certification this is the first molecular genetic testing laboratory in the Crimean. It was accredited on August 26-27 in the National Accreditation Agency of Ukraine. Establishment of molecular genetic testing laboratory in Simferopol will enable entrepreneurs not only in the Crimea but also from southern regions of Ukraine to check raw materials and products for the presence or quantity of GMOs.

<http://crimea.unian.net/>

#### ▪ **Market Infrastructure**

MPs propose to introduce from January 1, 2010 to January 1, 2013 the temporary 10% fee on import and sale of pork, poultry meat, offal, meat and fish products (except canned). The bill № 5080 is registered in the Verkhovna Rada. Introduction of a nationwide agrarian fee is proposed

to support employment in livestock breeding industry and / or in livestock product processing. Administration of the fee is proposed to be determined by analogy to the value added tax payment procedure. As noted in a memorandum to the document funds so received will be directed to provide budget subsidies to livestock producers. The payers of this fee are all entities other than agricultural enterprises, in which the share of agricultural products turnover is not less than 75%.

By AIC-Inform

Ministry of Agrarian Policy of Ukraine published on its website a draft decision of CMU Regulation "On approval of methodologies to determine the maximum intervention price for objects of government price controls". According to the document, the maximum intervention price shall provide the compensation for producers of government price controls object, as well as ensure a stable level of profitability from such an object and take into account internal and external markets condition.

<http://www.agroua.net/news/>

According to the State Statistics Committee of Ukraine during January-July 2009 gross agricultural production in Ukraine increased by 3.8% compared to same period in 2008. During this reporting period the highest growth of gross agricultural production was recorded in Vinnitsa region - 30.8%. Good results have shown Rivne, Ternopil, Cherkasy, Khmelnytsky and Chernivtsi regions with 17.0%, 16.9%, 15.6%, 14.8% and 13.8% growth respectively. Negative dynamics in agricultural production was recorded in Kirovograd, Kherson, Zaporizhzhya, Kharkiv, Sumy, Kyiv and Lugansk regions with 10.9% 10.1% 7.6% 7.1% 4.4% 2.8 % and 2.3% respectively.

[BIZ.liga.net](http://BIZ.liga.net)

Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine has allowed the Ministry of Economy to issue licenses to import raw sugar from cane in the framework of the tariff quota without coordination with the Ministry of Agrarian Policy. Thus, the Cabinet cancels its decree issued in May 2009 which obliged Ministry of Economy to coordinate the issue of these licenses with the Ministry of Agrarian Policy. Experts explain simplification of the scheme is due to the fact that officials are scared by the shortage of sugar on the domestic market and by the growing prices for it in retail.

<http://www.epravda.com.ua/>

## ▪ **Rural Development**

Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko during the meeting on the development of new approaches to relationship between state and local budgets in 2010, which was held on 5 of September, 2009, handed over to managers of 20 agricultural cooperatives keys from modern milk tanker and certificates of title.

Prime Minister thanked the directors of agricultural service cooperatives for they could create their business in extreme conditions of bureaucratic resistance. She noted that this is only the first party of milk tankers and that by the end of 2009 and during the first half of 2010 the Government will provide all the cooperatives which will send appropriate applications with modern milk takers.

[www.kmu.gov.ua](http://www.kmu.gov.ua)

Ministry of Agrarian Policy of Ukraine published on its website a draft of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Regulation "On Approval of the National Program of Sustainable Rural Development until 2020" in order to receive comments and proposals. The purpose of the adoption of this program is to create conditions for sustainable development of rural areas, which

includes diversification of productive activities, increase of the competitiveness of the rural economy, maintaining of ecological balance, improving the quality of life in rural areas through increased viability, sustainability and activities in rural communities with the most effective use of local resources and private initiative.

MAP experts, scholars, public representatives, executors of the project "Implementation of Ukrainian's Commitments under WTO and ENP Frameworks in the Rural sector» (EuropeAid/126205/C/SER/UA) took part in developing the draft.

[www.minagro.gov.ua](http://www.minagro.gov.ua)

MP Bogdan Gubsky proposes to expand the list of categories of citizens eligible to freely receive land (share) in the countryside. This is stated in the bill number 5072 "On Amending the Land Code of Ukraine (concerning the right of citizens of Ukraine to receive land (share)).

According to the explanatory note to the document, the bill aims to provide land villagers, who according to the law have no right to receive land, namely: employees of state mail services and its units, employees of the state fire supervision service, police district inspectors, as well as retirees from their number with allotting each of them piece of land (share).

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