

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

Overview of Latest Rural Developments

10-16 November 2011

WTO and Neighbourhood Policy

Ukraine has reserved the right to revise in the next three years the concessions stipulated in the Schedule of Ukraine's Concessions and Commitments under the WTO, the Government Commissioner for European Integration Valerij Pyatnytskij said, referring to an official document of the Secretariat of the World Trade Organization from November 9, 2011. The possibility to revise concessions is stipulated in paragraph 5 of Art. XXVIII of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade 1994. The next three-year period begins on January 1, 2012

The Press Service of the Ministry of Economic Development, 11.11.2011

Ukraine and Israel successfully negotiate the FTA agreement, which will significantly enhance trade between the two countries. This was stated by the foreign minister Konstantin Grishchenko at a meeting with his Israeli counterpart Avigdor Lieberman during his visit to Israel.

The Press Service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 14.11.2011

The European Union will sign the Association Agreement with Ukraine, Ukraine's foreign minister Konstantin Grishchenko said at the ICTV channel. According to Mr. Grishchenko, today there are no objective reasons that may prevent the signing of the agreement and all Ukrainian politicians, including oppositional ones, should assist Ukraine in getting closer to the EU.

"All those who oppose the agreement publicly or send their emissaries to undermine our positions, are working against Ukraine's interests", the minister said. "After 18 months of work we have reached the point in negotiations which allows us to start initialling the agreement", Mr. Grishchenko said.

www.liga.net, 15.11.2011

November 14, the European Parliament's Committee on International Trade adopted its opinion on the economic part of the Association Agreement with Ukraine. The Committee members supported the main proposals of Paul Zaleski to finish negotiations by the end of this year, initial the agreement and support Ukraine in conducting reforms to upgrade its infrastructure. In Committee's opinion it is also stated that the Association Agreement should strengthen the rule of law in Ukraine, which is especially important for foreign investors. The opinion of the Committee on International Trade will be reported to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, which will consider on November 17 the draft report of Richard Anthony Lehtko (European Conservatives and Reformists group, Poland), on recommendations for the EU Council, the European Commission and the European External Action Service on how to negotiate with Ukraine on the Association Agreement. After that the draft report will be sent to the European

Parliament to be adopted. The European Parliament will adopt its recommendations on negotiations in accordance with the Lisbon Treaty. As of today, both sides agree that negotiations are practically completed. The Ukrainian Government expects the Association Agreement to be initialled on December 19 at the Ukraine-EU summit.

www.unian.net, 15.11.2011

Food Safety

The experts from the State Veterinary and Phytosanitary Service found no trichinae infected meat, while inspecting Kiev food markets last week. This was primarily pork that had been inspected. The inspectors have also checked the food markets in Zhashkiv (Kyiv oblast), where the trichinae infected pork carcasses were brought from. The infected meat was disposed of immediately upon the detection of the virus. "In Ukraine almost 8.5 million pigs are kept on backyard holdings. These animals are brought to food markets immediately after slaughter. This is why the food markets' veterinary laboratories operate under special regime", the head of the State Veterinary and Phytosanitary Service, Ivan Bisyuk said. These are illegal markets that threaten the public health, since no food safety checks are being carried out there.

AgroNews, 10.11.2011

The experts from the Veterinary and Phytosanitary Service of Ukraine participated in the regional workshop on animal food safety for International Office of Epizootics (OIE) national coordinators which was held in Brescia (Italy). The workshop was organized by the OIE regional office in Europe to tell the OIE national coordinators from the EU Member States and former Soviet countries about their tasks in the field of animal products safety.

<http://www.vet.gov.ua/>, 11.11.2011

Honey sold in Kyiv stores does not meet quality standards, the head of the NGO "Expert" Igor Potapov said. "The research which we conducted in February showed that all the honey which is sold in Kyiv stores had been remelted. Honey producers are well aware that consumers will not buy crystalized honey and that is why they remelt it", Mr. Potapov said. He said that one need to explain to consumers that instead of nutrients the remelted honey contains toxic substances (oximethylfurfurol).

"The remelted honey is toxic and we found that the content of toxic substances in honey sold in Kyiv stores is 4 times more than permitted", the expert said. According to him, the toxic honey continues to be sold. "The research was conducted in the Prokopovich Bee Institute, which is not a controlling body and is not, therefore, entitled to withdraw products from sale. Moreover, it is not clear who is entitled to do this. By and large, today one can sell whatever one wants", Mr. Potapov said.

<http://news.mail.ru>, 14.11.2011

The epizootic situation in Ukraine can be affected by the fact that veterinary functions will be transferred to customs officers as part of introducing a simplified customs control mechanism, the Agronews project manager and agri markets expert Ruslan Shwets said. He stressed that the Cabinet decrees # 1030 and # 1031 from October 5 gave the customs authorities the right to carry out some of the functions related to official sanitary-epidemiological, veterinary, phytosanitary and environmental control at border inspection points so that veterinary and phytosanitary experts will be excluded from checking food products at the border.

"On the one hand, these decrees significantly simplify the procedure and reduce the time needed for customs clearance, but on the other hand they can entail uncontrollable consequences by minimizing the list of controlling bodies", Mr. Shwets said.

RBC-Ukraine, 14.11.2011

The experts from the Office of Food and Veterinary (FVO) of the Directorate General for Health and Consumer Protection (DG SANCO) began their 10-day audit in Ukraine. The inspectors will assess the implementation of measures for ensuring hygiene standards in feed additives and premixes and visit several establishments in Kiev and Lviv oblasts. The inspectors, Martha Kontsevich and Nikolaos Kalinis, met with the representatives of the State Veterinary and Phytosanitary Service and researchers from the State Research Institute's Laboratory for Diagnostics and Veterinary Research.

<http://www.vet.gov.ua>, 15.11.2011

Market infrastructure

According to the National Statistics Service, as of November 1, 2011, in Ukraine the number of livestock totaled 4.95 million heads, which is 2,4% less than in the same period last year. The number of cows decreased by 2.6% to 2.62 million heads and that of pigs decreased by 4.2% to 8.067 million heads.

APK-Inform, 11.11.2011

An up-to-date feed mill worth of 5.5 million euros started to operate in the village of Kordelivka (Kalynivka rayon, Vinnytsia oblast), the head of Kalynivka Rayon State Administration Vasyl Polishchuk said. According to him, the project is being implemented jointly by Eridon (Ukraine) and Trau Nutrition (Holland). Mill's total capacity is 6.7 tons of fodder and concentrates per month. 50% of its output will be exported. The mill will produce feed for all types of domestic animals and fish.

UNIAN 14.11.2011

Ukraine reached an amicable agreement with Moldova on two trade disputes which are now being considered in the WTO. Kyiv agreed to equalize the excise tax rates for Ukrainian cognac and Moldovan divina (brandy) in exchange for Chisinau decreasing rates of environmental duties for imports of goods packed in plastic. However, the Ukrainian Ministry of Economic Development has not yet decided whether to decrease duties for Moldavian products or increase those for Ukrainian ones. According to the head of the Trade Policies Department of Moldavian Ministry of Economy Inga Ionesij, the agreement was reached on November 11 during the 13th meeting of the Joint Intergovernmental Moldovan-Ukrainian Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation.

LIHABusinessInform, 15.11.2011

A high-tech elevator complex with the capacity of 76.8 thousand tons started to operate in the village of Velyki Korovyntsi, (Chudniv rayon, Zhytomyr oblast). The complex was built in 80 days by the NIBULON company who invested UAH 120 million into it. Speaking at the opening ceremony, the head of Zhytomyr Oblast State Administration Sergij Ryzhuk said that: "An up-to-date grain storage will make it possible to produce mixed fodder and help develop the livestock sector this way." According to Mr. Ryzhuk, NIBULON has also installed a new water supply system in Velyki Korovyntsi, repaired local kindergarten's roof, and will soon repair street lighting, local roads and railways. The NIBULON General Director Olexij Vadaturskij thanked local officials for friendly investment environment. "We have proved that one can implement construction projects in Ukraine provided a friendly investment climate is set up", he said.

www.agroua.net, 16.11.2011

Rural Development

The Cabinet's resolution № 1134 from November 2, 2011 approving the procedure for elaborating ecologically and economically sound land development projects, entered into force. According to the press service of the State Agency for Land Resources, its experts have developed this regulation to ensure ecologically and economically sound practices of crop rotation and farm arrangement. The land agency's head Sergij Tymchenko said that this regulation will clearly define the mechanism for agricultural land development.

APK-Inform, 10.11.2011

A network of social pharmacies will be set up in rural areas. The Ukraine's Prime Minister Mykola Azarov gave the relevant instruction to all ministries, departments and regional authorities concerned at the meeting on quality, safety and availability of medicines in Ukraine. The governmental agencies and authorities have to prepare proposals on how to expand the network of rural pharmacies by building new social pharmacies in the framework of public-private partnerships. The Government plans to develop and adopt a decree regulating the operations of social pharmacies by February 1, 2012. The authorities were also instructed to determine the list of socially-oriented medicines of domestic production to be sold in rural pharmacies and health care points and their limit prices.

The Information and Communications Department of the Cabinet's Secretariat, 14.11.2011