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SUGAR: U.S. sugar supply in 2022/23 is virtually unchanged from last month as projected changes in production are counterbalanced by projected imports of sugar from Mexico in accordance with the terms of the CVD Suspension Agreements. Beet sugar production is lowered 66,980 short tons, raw value (STRV) to 4.927 million. Beet processors reduced their forecast of sugarbeets available for slicing by 252,846 tons in their December forecast published in Sweetener Market Data. An increase in cane sugar production partially offsets the beet sugar decline. Cane sugar production in Louisiana is increased by 18,460 STRV to 2.025 million. Although NASS decreased its sugarcane yield to 32.2 tons/acre from 32.4, production is increased on more cane area for sugar instead of for seed and a 1.01 percent increase in recovery projected by processors. Cane sugar in Texas is increased slightly on processor reporting. Imports from Mexico are projected based on fulfilling U.S. Needs according to components from this December WASDE which will be used by the Department of Commerce in establishing the Export Limit as of January 1, 2023. There are no changes to use. Ending stocks are residually projected at 1.707 million STRV for an ending stocks-touse ratio of 13.5 percent, virtually unchanged from last month.

On November 23, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a Withhold Release Order (WRO) against Central Romana Corporation in the Dominican Republic (DR) on alleged use of forced labor and other factors. The WRO prohibits entry into the United States of raw sugar and sugar-based products produced by the company. The USDA has determined that the DR sugar industry intends to re-configure distribution in the local sugar market and rearrange the company level allotments of the TRQ with the local mills to meet its full 2022/23 raw sugar TRQ allocation.

USDA projects Mexico sugar production for 2022/23 the same as last month at 5.900 million metric tons (MT). CONADESUCA released its 2022/23 forecast of 6.026 million MT in November. The USDA adopts CONADESUCA projected sugarcane yield of 64.06 MT/hectare and recovery of 11.30 percent, but projects area harvested only at 814,850 hectares, up about 15,000 hectares from last month but less than CONADESUCA's forecast of 832,245. Exports are projected at 1.266 million MT and almost all (barring a small amount exported in October) is intended for the U.S. market under export license. Ending stocks are projected at a level covering 2023/24 use for 2.5 months prior to next season's campaign. Shipments to IMMEX are reduced by 38,886 MT to 494,114 to accommodate exports to the U.S. market.

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U.S. Sugar Supply and Use 1/

	2020/21	2021/22 Est.	2022/23 Proj. Nov	2022/23 Proj. Dec
		1,000 Short Tons,	*Raw Value*	
Beginning Stocks	1618	1705	1814	1814
Production 2/	9233	9136	9086	9039
Beet Sugar	5092	5155	4994	4927
Cane Sugar	4141	3981	4091	4111
Florida	2090	1933	1989	1989
Louisiana	1918	1924	2006	2025
Texas	134	124	96	97
Imports	3221	3646	3441	3494
TRQ 3/	1749	1579	1691	1691
Other Program 4/	292	298	250	250
Non-program	1180	1769	1500	1552
Mexico	968	1379	1425	1477
High-tier tariff/other	212	390	75	75
Total Supply	14072	14487	14341	14347
Exports	49	29	35	35
Deliveries	12277	12578	12605	12605
Food	12161	12470	12500	12500
Other 5/	116	107	105	105
Miscellaneous	40	66	0	0
Total Use	12367	12673	12640	12640
Ending Stocks	1705	1814	1701	1707
Stocks to Use Ratio	13.8	14.3	13.5	13.5

1/ Fiscal years beginning Oct 1. Data and projections correspond to category components from "Sweetener Market Data" (SMD). 2/ Production projections for 2021/22 and 2022/23 are based on Crop Production and/or processor projections/industry data and/or sugar ICEC analysis where appropriate. 3/ For 2021/22, WTO raw sugar TRQ shortfall (77) and for 2022/23 (255). 4/ Composed of sugar under the re-export and polyhydric alcohol programs. 5/ Transfers accompanying deliveries for sugar-containing products to be exported (SCP) and polyhydric alcohol manufacture (POLY), and deliveries for livestock feed and ethanol. Total refiner license transfers for SCP and POLY inclusive of WASDE-reported deliveries: 2020/21 -- 298; estimated 2021/22 -- 314; projected 2022/23 -- 315

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Mexico Sugar Supply and Use and High Fructose Corn Syrup Consumption 1/

		Beginning Stocks	Production	Imports	Domestic 2/	Exports	Ending Stocks
				1,000 Metric Tons,	*Actual Weight*		
Sugar							
2021/22 Est.	Nov	1053	6185	31	4629	1676	964
	Dec	1053	6185	31	4629	1676	964
2022/23 Proj.	Nov	964	5900	35	4701	1219	979
	Dec	964	5900	35	4662	1266	971

1/ HFCS consumption by Mexico (1,000 metric tons, dry basis): 2020/21 = 1,320; Estimated 2020/21 = 1,291; Projected 2022/23 = 1,291; Estimated Oct. 2022 = 122; Estimated Oct. 2021 = 103. Footnote source for estimate: Comite Nacional para el Desarollo Sustentable de la Cana de Azucar. 2/Includes deliveries for consumption, Mexico's products export program (IMMEX), and Other Deliveries/Ending Year Statistical Adjustments. IMMEX: 2021/22 (532 est =508 dom.+24 import); 2022/23 (494 proj = 469 dom.+25 import). Statistical Adjustments: 2021/22 (-16), 2022/23 (0).