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#### News:

**Global**
- **Meat and dairy producers are not doing their job on emissions (attached)**
  The meat, fish and dairy sector’s efforts to monitor and reduce greenhouse gas emissions makes for grim reading, with each stat in the Coller FAIRR Index more surprising than the last.

- **Latin America can become a 'global benchmark' for biofuels**
  The Brazilian biofuels industry is growing. Ethanol consumption is expected to rise to 50Bl in 2020, a 30% increase from 2015. A round 90% of new car sales in the country are fitted with flex-fuel engines, combining ethanol produced from sugarcane and gasoline.

**Caribbean**
- **Barbados**
  - **Barbados PM wants global political will to deal with impact of climate change**
    Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley Tuesday called on the international community to summon up the political will as well as a multilateral approach to deal with the impact of climate change saying also that new institutional structures are needed that will allow substantial more resources to be raised for Small Islands Developing States (SIDS) in building resilience in a changing global environment.

- **Dominican Republic**
  - **Dominican Republic: Coffee farmers hit by drought**
    According to the federation of coffee growers in the south of Dominican Republic, investments in excess of DOP 6bn (EUR 105.72mn USD 121.94mn) are needed to recover and renovate coffee
plantsations affected by pests such as rust disease and coffee berry borer. Rufino Herrera Puello, representative of this organisation, has also stated that the coffee sector is being seriously affected by the lack of rains and drought reported in the country.

**Central America and Mexico**

**El Salvador**

**El Salvador: Coffee farmers have debts in arrears of over USD 258.5mn**

Coffee farmers in El Salvador have debts in arrears of over USD 258.50mn (EUR 224.11mn), according to their association ACAFESAL. They are asking USD 260mn from the government to roll over their debts. They had debts with FICAFE and FEC and their financial situation worsened after the 2013 crisis when production dropped by 70% and 1mn quintals of coffee was lost.

**El Salvador: Super Selectos supports local farmers**

Salvadoran supermarket chain Super Selectos continues to support local farmers and suppliers through its 'Cultivando Oportunidades' (Growing Opportunities) programme. At present, more than 2,000 local producers benefit from this initiative, with small farmers accounting for half of the total.

**Honduras**

**Severe drought in Honduras takes heavy toll on farmers, ranchers**

A severe drought is battering the farming and ranching sectors in Honduras, where growers have seen their corn and bean production fall by more than half and cattle raisers in the eastern province of Olancho have lost more than 1,000 head of livestock.

**Mexico**

**Se enfoca Nestlé en capacitación y desarrollo de agronegocios**

La inversión que destina Nestlé para capacitar a jóvenes agricultores cafetaleros cuya edad promedio ronda los 25 años, es de medio millón de pesos por año para estas dos iniciativas.

**Nicaragua**

**Nicaragua: Dry weather has impacted on beans and corn production**

El Nuevo Diario, 20 Sep 2019, Online:- Dry weather has impacted on beans and corn production in Nicaragua, according to the country’s farmers’ organisation Upanic. 30% and 35% of corn and beans production is now lost.

**South America**

**Argentina**

**Crushing it: Argentine farmers cheer China soymeal deal while US growers fret**

Argentine soy farmers and crushers expect a boost in demand next year after the South American grains giant won long-sought approval from China to export soymeal to the world’s biggest consumer of the livestock feed.

**Brazil**

**Brazil: Agropecuaria Itaueira on its feet again**

Two years ago Agropecuária Itaueira, owner of the 'Melão Rei' brand, had a major setback in two of the Northeast-based farms that were closed due to lack of water supply, slashing total production in 30%. Forced to leave aside export of the melon, Agropecuária Itaueira strengthened investment in technology, corporate management and acquisition of lands that were oriented to other crops.

**Brazil: Fire-setting Amazon Farmers Not 'Villains,' Just Poor, Politicians Say**

Section: General News - Farmers living along the Trans-Amazonian Highway, near Humaita, a rural town deep in the Amazon, would rather not use fire to clear forest land so they can grow crops and raise cattle, their local representatives say.
But without the heavy equipment they would need to remove vegetation, the mainly poor farmers have little choice other than burning it, in order to feed their families - one reason this year’s fires have been so numerous, local officials say.

**Brazil: Tirol Alimentos to invest BRL 152mn in milk unit in Ipiranga**

Brazilian food company Tirol Alimentos, based in Santa Catarina, has announced plans to invest BRL 152mn (EUR 34.34mn USD 39.61mn) in a new dairy factory in Ipiranga, Parana.

**Brazil: Vigor invests in cheese manufacturing**

Dairy company Vigor Alimentos is investing R$25mil to begin manufacturing of processed sliced cheese, aiming to double up turnover of the fast food segment within two years, reaching R$1bil. It currently accounts for 15% of sales.

**BNDES expects higher disbursement to sugar-and-ethanol mills**

The prospects of higher investment among Brazil’s sugar-and-ethanol mills are encouraging the Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES) to forecast higher disbursement to the industry. Mauro Mattoso, the development lender’s head food production and biofuels, says the idea is to back long-term projects and encourage new technologies, including biogas.

**Bradesco sets aside R$400m to invest in startups**

Pursuing innovation, Bradesco is beginning to look beyond the City of God, the campus that hosts its headquarters in Osasco, Greater São Paulo. Agribusiness, management software and discount coupons are some bets of its venture-capital fund, which has been investing in Brazilian and foreign tech startups since May 2017.

**Farm credit at market rates becomes more competitive**

Farm credit with market interest rates is gaining ground in the current crop season, reflecting cuts in the Selic policy rate, the government’s decision of reducing subsidies and a greater willingness of private-sector banks to advance in the fastest-growing sector of the Brazilian economy. For lower-risk farmers, loans already charge as low as 6.5% - therefore below the cap of 8% set in loans with regulated interest of the Crop Plan.

**New rule may attract R$25bn of foreign investors to agribusiness debt**

The corporate-debt market is expected to get another strong boost this year, in addition to the interest rate cut that has been attracting investors in search for better yields. It’s the "Agribusiness MP," a provisional measure that will allow, for example, pegging contracts used to back those issues, known as rural producer bill (CPR), to foreign currency. The goal is to attract foreign investors to this market, estimated at up to R$25 billion per crop season

**Brazil Agribusiness associations and NGOs urge Government Action on Amazon Fire**

Brazils leading agribusiness associations joined hands with non-government organizations (NGOs) to call for an end to deforestation on public lands, demanding government action as the Amazon rainforest burns. Meat group Abiec and NGOs Imazon and IPAM are among the 11 Brazilian groups signing on to a campaign that also calls for protected conservation areas in the country to be maintained and the creation of a justice ministry task force to resolve conflicts over public land, representatives of the groups told reporters.

**Colombia**

**Colombia: Coffee productivity initiative launches in Norte del Tolima**

Ibagué’s chamber of commerce (CCI) in Colombia has announced over COP 1.50bn (EUR 428,861.09 USD 494,662.39) will be invested to support the branding and productivity of coffee growers in Norte del Tolima. It is being funded by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (Seco) and will support 230 farmers which are members of the Aprocal, Asprafal, Agrocamus, Asocamelias, and Asosanpedro exporting associations.
Colombia’s Duque: Region must take action to preserve Amazon

Colombia’s president on Friday urged the representatives of several other countries attending a summit on Amazon fires to take policy action to combat the effects of climate change and make a concerted effort to preserve the world’s largest rainforest.

Ecuador
Ecuador: Cocoa farmers receive training from Nestle’s experts

Swiss food and beverages company Nestle is organising training courses for cocoa growers in the Ecuadorian provinces of Guayas and Los Rios in order to improve production. Christian Saavedra, head of Nestle's agricultural promotion service, revealed that the six-month course would benefit 370 farmers, who would learn pruning and grafting techniques. Saavedra indicated that the training programme targeted to instruct 1,500 cocoa growers by 2022.

Peru
Agroindustrias AIB prevé duplicar las ventas de congelados en cuatro años

En la compañía Agroindustrias AIB, que hoy cuenta con 3.000 hectáreas propias en la región sureña (700) y en Lambayeque (2.300 en Jallanca, Motupe y Olmos), son conscientes de que el negocio en el que están es dinámico. Así lo define su gerente general, Roberto Falcone.

Peru: Coffee growers demand VAT exemption for less contaminating fertilisers

The National Federation of Coffee Growers and Farmers in Peru (FENCAAP) has proposed that more efficient and less contaminating fertilisers should be exempted from VAT, with the aim of reducing production costs and improving the situation for these sectors.

Uruguay
Uruguay: Dairy industry workers to consider 24-hour strike

El Observador, 17 Sep 2019, Online:- Uruguay’s dairy industry workers members of FTIL union are set to meet on 17 September 2019 to consider the possibility of a 24-hour strike. Workers at firms that are now restructuring their operations, such as Lactalis, Calcar and Conaprole, are set to strike.