



UKRAINE
OPEN FOR BUSINESS

“GRAIN INITIATIVE” WORKS AT LESS THAN 20% OF ITS THROUGHPUT CAPACITY



“Grain Initiative” is already operating at less than 20% of its normal throughput capacity because of the Russian Federation’s position in the joint coordination center and the situation is getting worse every day, Deputy Infrastructure Minister Yuriy Vaskov told Interfax-Ukraine in a commentary.

“We have had only 43 vessels inspected for entry since May 1 until today. Accordingly, on average, since May 1, the Russian Federation has let in a little more than one vessel per day for inspection. Fifty-four vessels are currently awaiting inspection, some of which have been awaiting inspection for more than three months. The port of Pivdenny is not fully operational. If we talk in numbers, the initiative is already working at less than 20% of its normal capacity. And the situation is deteriorating day by day, solely because of Russia’s position in the joint coordinating center,” said Vaskov.

The deputy minister pointed out that the UN and Turkey are informed of the situation and negotiations are being conducted through them. “Negotiations are being conducted through the UN and Turkey. They are aware of the situation. Every day we communicate. At this time, we have no information that the situation can improve,” Vaskov said.

Answering the question about the prospects for Russian ammonia transit in exchange for guarantees of normal functioning of the secure grain export agreement, he recalled that the ammonia pipeline is currently non-operational. “The ammonia pipeline has been damaged twice in the last three days by Russian shelling. At the moment it is inoperable. To say how long it can be repaired, only the relevant specialists will be able to say when they get access and it is safe,” Vaskov said.

HEADLINES

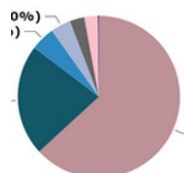
21 June 2023



VIENNA COURT DECIDES
TO REVIEW CASE ON
EXTRADITION OF DMYTRO
FIRTASH TO USA



ENERGOATOM’S
CORPORATIZATION MAY
TAKE PLACE IN SIX
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UKRAINE’S EXPORTS
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IN 2022



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AND POLAND



COCA-COLA PLANS TO
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PRODUCTION IN UKRAINE



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VIENNA COURT DECIDES TO REVIEW CASE ON EXTRADITION OF DMYTRO FIRTASH TO USA

The Vienna highest state court (Wiener Oberlandesgericht, OLG) decided on Friday to reconsider the extradition case against Dmytro Firtash to the US and return the case to the court of first instance.

“The February 2017 decision of the Vienna District Court (on Firtash’s extradition) has been reversed. Now the Vienna State Criminal Court (OG) will re-examine the question of the admissibility of extradition on the basis of new evidence,” the court said in a press release

The statement issued by Group DF, which unites the assets of the Ukrainian businessman, also said that the first instance court will consider the case based on new evidence and facts provided by the parties and that Firtash’s extradition is now stopped.

“According to the lawyer of the Ukrainian businessman Dieter Böhmdorfer (Dieter Böhmdorfer), which are cited in the report, the defense has been seeking this decision since June 2019.

“Dmitry Firtash is grateful to the independent Austrian judicial system for the objective consideration of the case and quite logically – the appointment of a retrial on the basis of new facts and evidence provided to the court,” the lawyer pointed out.

The press service of Group DF and the lawyers would not comment on the details of the court battles and arguments to persuade the Austrian court to make an objective decision, the release said

As reported, the head of the Board of Group DF Firtash was arrested in Austria on March 12, 2014 at the request of the US authorities, issued in 2013, but then released on bail of EUR125 million. Under the US administration of Barack Obama, the Ukrainian businessman was accused that he wanted to obtain permits for titanium mining in India for the subsequent sale of finished products in the USA to Boeing with the help of bribes totaling \$18.5 million. Firtash denies all accusations and calls them politically motivated, aimed at limiting his influence on the processes in Ukraine.

SUPREME COURT OF NETHERLANDS UPHELD DECISION TO TRANSFER “SCYTHIAN GOLD” TO UKRAINE

The Supreme Court of the Netherlands upheld the decision of the previous court in the case on the fate of the “Scythian gold” from the collection of museums of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and decided to transfer it to Ukraine, follows from the message on the website of the court.

“In October 2021, the Court of Appeal ruled that the collection should be transferred to Ukraine. This decision remains in force. That’s what the Supreme Court ruled today,” the message says.

As reported, the exhibition “Crimea. Golden Island in the Black Sea”, representing the collection of Scythian gold jewelry, was formed in the Allard Pearson Museum from the collections of five museums, one of which is located in Kyiv, four – in Crimea. After the occupation of Crimea by the Russian Federation, which occurred after the opening of the exhibition, the question arose as to whom to return the collection – 565 museum items with a total insured value of EUR 10 million.

After the occupation, the Russian Federation claimed its rights to the part of the collection belonging to the Crimean museums. Ukraine, in turn, said that the exhibits cannot be returned to the occupied territory, which is temporarily not under Ukrainian control, and must be transferred directly to the state of Ukraine.

In December 2016, the District Administrative Court of Amsterdam recognized Ukraine’s rights to the collection and ordered it transferred to Kyiv. In October 2021, the Court of Appeal of Amsterdam confirmed the decision of the court of first instance. After that, in January 2022, “Crimean museums” filed a cassation against the decision of the Court of Appeal.

UKRAINIAN FOREIGN MINISTER OFFERS AFRICAN COUNTRIES TO DEVELOP TRADE AND CYBERSECURITY

As part of the Ukrainian-African renaissance, Ukraine seeks to develop relations of mutual respect and benefit with African countries, in particular offering a number of beneficial areas of cooperation for Nigeria’s new leadership, Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmitry Kuleba said in an interview with the Nigerian edition of The Guardian Nigeria.

“In May, I became the first Ukrainian foreign minister to attend the presidential inauguration ceremony in an African country. It was Nigeria. This fact shows Ukraine’s commitment to developing relations with Nigeria’s new leadership. This way we show other African countries that Ukraine seeks to develop partnership based on mutual respect and shared benefits,” he said, according to the press service of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry.

According to Kuleba, Ukraine has made steps towards each other in the spirit of mutual respect and now counts on reciprocal steps of the new leadership of Nigeria to develop mutually beneficial relations.

“We propose to increase the volume of trade and consider the possibility of attracting Ukrainian construction companies to projects in Nigeria. Ukraine also has a lot of experience in digitalization. Our “State on Smartphone” program allows citizens to do almost everything online, receive public services. We are ready to share this experience with you. Another promising area of cooperation is cybersecurity. Nigeria is one of the countries that suffer from the highest number of cyber attacks. We know how to counter them effectively,” he said.

CONSENSUS FORECAST OF RISKS FOR ECONOMY OF UKRAINE FROM NBU

		Probability of risk occurrence		
		Low <15%	Medium 15–25%	High 25–50%
Degree of influence on the baseline scenario	Weak		Growing banking crisis in economically developed countries	
	Moderate	Emergence of power shortages due to damage to power infrastructure	Increased Emigration	Blockage of the grain deal and/or food supplies by individual European countries
	Strong		Unbalancing of public finances (emission financing of the budget, cuts in international aid, freezing of housing and utilities tariffs)	Prolonged war, escalation

UKRAINE WILL NEED UP TO 7 YEARS TO RESTORE IRRIGATION SYSTEM – MINISTER

Kakhovka canal supplied water to more than half a million hectares of land in the south and east of Ukraine, so the problem of irrigation will be the biggest in agriculture, its solution will take three to seven years, said Minister of Agricultural Policy Nicholas Solsky in the air of the telethon “United News”.

“The consequences of the cessation of irrigation are much larger. Not half a million hectares, but a million and a half hectares will not be used (for farming) to the fullest extent. It takes three to five to seven years to restore irrigation. And it should be a priority. For this is not only an issue of agribusiness, ecology, but also a social one. Farmers maintain social life in neighboring villages, pay taxes, pay landlords, who are mostly elderly people, for their shares”, said the Minister.



According to him, lands without irrigation systems will also suffer – farmers will have no working capital to cultivate them.

Solskyy reminded that farmers in the south of Ukraine used to get their main and stable income from crops from fields that had irrigation systems.



The Minister also noted that the Kakhovka reservoir was the source of two irrigation and water supply systems – the Kakhovka system and the North Crimean Canal. These systems were built based on water levels to minimize the use of electricity for pumps. Now the water level has dropped, so water simply does not reach the systems. To raise it, it is necessary to restore the dam.

“UKRNAFTA” PLANS TO DOUBLE OIL PRODUCTION BY 2027

PJSC Ukrnafta has a strategic goal to ensure Ukraine’s energy independence in oil products by 2027 by doubling its oil and gas production, the Verkhovna Rada’s Committee on Energy and Housing and Utilities said Tuesday, citing the company’s director Serhiy Koretsky.

“Our company’s plan is ambitious enough, but there is a reason to announce it. Ukrnafta has every opportunity to be on the list of Ukrainian companies stabilizing the work of Ukraine’s financial and economic system,” he said during a visiting meeting of the Rada energy committee on the prospects of the Ukrainian oil refining industry in western Ukraine on June 1.

According to Koretsky, by 2027 the PJSC plans to increase oil production from almost 1.5 to 3 million tons per year. The company will achieve such indicators by drilling new wells and intensifying production, restoring production at idle wells, as well as by introducing methods to improve oil recovery at existing fields.

As Koretskyy noted, Ukrnafta started implementation of the plan to drill 9 wells in 2023 and at least 30 wells in 2024. At that, the company has been drilling 1-2 wells a year on average in recent years. “Ukrnafta also did not participate in auctions for new licenses.

“Analysis of the external environment shows that in the medium term, the company’s products will remain in demand and Ukrnafta will have the potential to develop on key markets. We believe that very soon the company will be talked about as the best employer, universal supplier of oil products and highly profitable national enterprise,” summarized the head of PJSC.

“In 2023, Ukrnafta plans to increase its oil production by 5.8% (by 0.08 million tons) to 1.45 million tons compared to the previous year, and gas production by 0.3% (by 0.003 million cubic meters) to 1.04 billion cubic meters.

OSTCHEM LAUNCHES ADBLUE PRODUCTION AT CHERKASSY-BASED AZOT

Production of AdBlue, a special additive for diesel engines used to reduce NO (nitrogen oxide) emissions, was launched by Ostchem on the basis of Cherkassy Azot

“Today, Cherkassy Azot is capable of producing volume that provides 80% of the Ukrainian market and, if necessary, can ramp up production to cover all domestic consumption and for export to EU markets,” the company said in a press release on Friday.

It is specified that the market volume in Ukraine in 2022 was 23.4 thousand tons, and it decreased by more than 10 thousand tons due to military actions. Growth potential of Ukrainian market after introduction of standard Euro-4, Euro-5, Euro-6 exceeds 250 thousand tons, as the company believes.

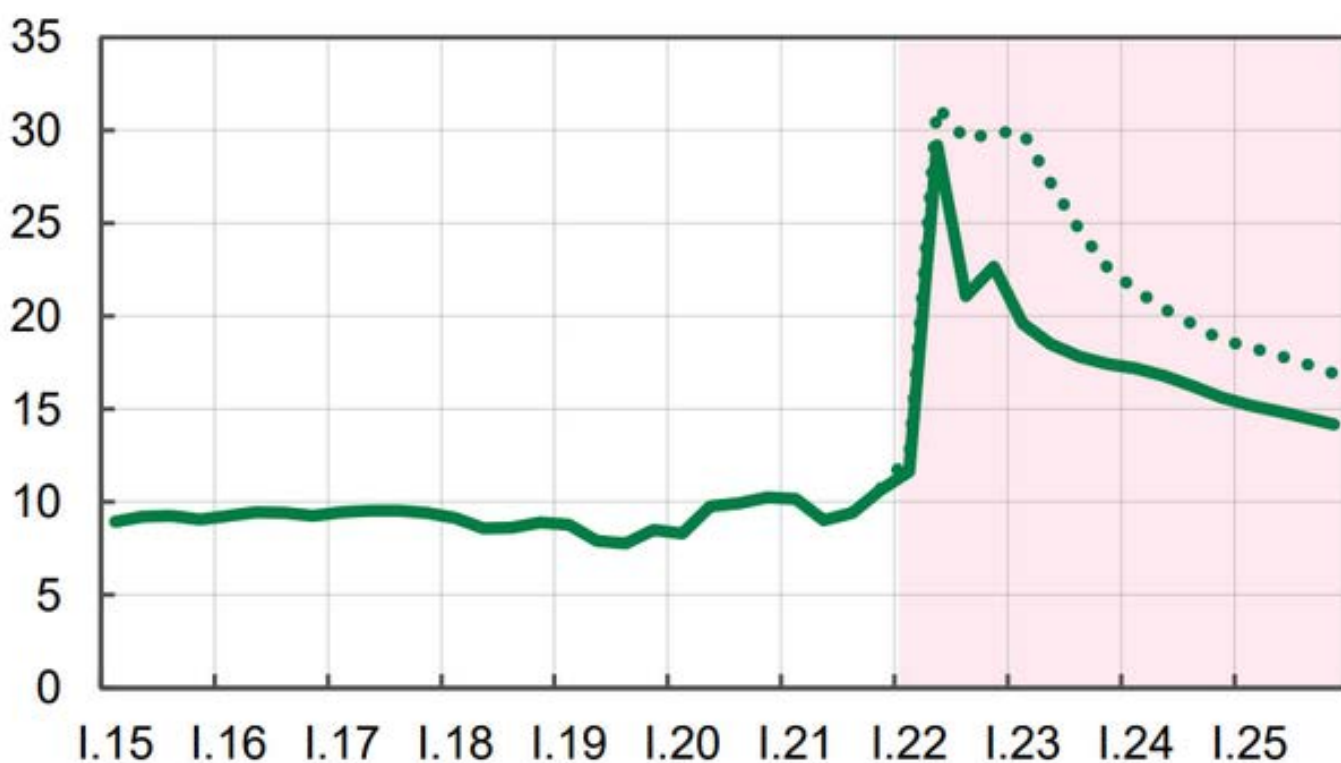
Project on AdBlue production at Cherkassy “Azot” was announced in February 2022, in May 2022 the plant began to produce the first batches of product, and today the volume of urea solution production accounts for 30% of Ukrainian market needs.

“We are capable of becoming a major national player and gradually displacing imports. Our plans are to become a strong player in the EU markets, where demand for AdBlue is at a high level,” said Sergey Pavlyuchuk, head of Ostchem’s nitrogen business.

According to the release, the new production facility passed an international audit and this week received all required certificates confirming the quality of the product and allowing to use the AdBlue trademark and enter the EU markets, where, according to Ostchem, Ukrainian AdBlue has good prospects.



FORECAST OF UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN UKRAINE ACCORDING TO METHODOLOGY OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION UNTIL 2025



UKRAINIAN MARKET OF ELECTRIC CARS GREW BY 15% IN MAY

Primary registrations of electric cars in Ukraine in May increased by almost 15% compared to April this year – up to 2,451, while demand for new ones increased by 23% – to 559, and for used ones – by 13% – to 1,892, Ukravtoprom reports in Telegram channel.

Thus, the share of new cars in the total registrations of electric cars last month rose to 23% compared to 21% in April.

Earlier it was reported that in April 2023 there was a decline in demand for new electric cars by 14% compared to March, while demand for used cars increased by 21%.



The top five new electric cars in May formed Volkswagen ID.4 (168 vs. 129 in April), DongFeng/Honda M-NV (107 vs. 53), Volkswagen ID.6 (23 vs. 36), Honda e (23 as in April) and BMW iX – 18.



In the used segment, the Nissan Leaf consistently leads (388 vs. 366 in April). Next are Volkswagen e-Golf (259 vs. 145), Tesla Model 3 (144 vs. 156), Renault Zoe (123 vs. 113 units) and Tesla Model Y – 119.

According to the Association, a total of about 9.5 thousand vehicles were first registered in Ukraine in January-May 2023, of which 24% are new and 76% used.

As reported, Ukrainians in 2022 bought 13.6 thousand electric cars – 1.5 times more than a year earlier, with the share of new cars rose to 17% from 14%.

ALUMINUM EXPORTS FROM UKRAINE IN JANUARY-MAY 2023 INCREASED BY 0.7%

According to customs statistics released by the State Customs Service of Ukraine, the export of aluminum and aluminum products in January-May this year increased by 0.7% compared to a year earlier – to \$39.735 million (in May – \$8.306 million), lead and aluminum products decreased by 17.2% – to \$6.684 million (\$1.214 million).

Exports of aluminum and aluminum products for 2022 decreased 42.7% from 2021 to \$96.972 million, lead and lead products decreased 68.7% to \$11.970 million, and nickel and nickel products decreased 73.9% to \$1.268 million.



UKRAINIAN ENTERPRISES ALMOST DOUBLED IMPORTS OF COPPER IN JANUARY-MAY

Ukrainian enterprises in January-May this year increased imports of copper and copper products in value terms by 93.2% as compared to the same period last year – up to \$47.614 million.

According to customs statistics, released by the State Customs Service of Ukraine, the export of copper and copper products for the period decreased by 27.5% – to \$33.701 million.



In May, imported copper worth \$10.122 million and exported – \$6.399 million.

As reported, Ukrainian companies in 2022, imports of copper and copper products in value terms reduced by 64.3% compared to the previous year – up to \$ 65.370 million, and their exports decreased by 56.3% – to \$ 90.245 million.

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PASSENGER TRANSPORTATION BY RAIL TO EU INCREASED 2.3 TIMES

JSC “Ukrzaliznytsia” (UZ) in January-May this year carried in communication with the European Union 2.3 times more passengers (786 thousand) compared to the same period of 2022, reported the press service of UZ in Telegram-channel. In addition, for five months carried 6.4% more passengers than for the same periods of 2016-2019, when in communication with the EU and back by rail was carried a total of 735 thousand people, calculated in the press service.



“In 5 months of 2023, Ukrzaliznytsia carried more passengers in communication with the EU than in the same period cumulatively during the previous four (dokovidnye) years,” said in the message of UZ.

It is specified that in the five months of 2016 was carried 19.8 thousand passengers, 2017 – 98.2 thousand, 2018 – 230.4 thousand, 2019 – 387.2 thousand, 2020 – 171.7 thousand people. Data for January-May 2021 are not given, but in 2022 during this period UZ carried 341.6 thousand passengers in the EU.

The Company notes that there is a clear trend of Ukrainians returning home: the number of people who have left the country since the beginning of 2023 is 369 thousand, and in the opposite direction – to Ukraine – 417 thousand people.

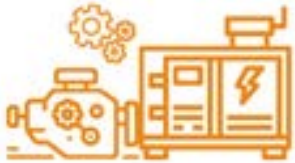
In the UZ also clarified that if in 2016 in communication with the EU were only 8 trains, now their number has increased to 27, of which 15 formed “Ukrzaliznytsia”, and the rest – foreign carriers.

IMPORT OF GOODS IN JAN-MAR 2023 IN MOST IMPORTANT POSITIONS TO PREVIOUS PERIOD 2021



Means of land transport,
except railway transport

▲ +38,3% (1 349,6 millions USD)



Electrical machines

▲ +48,2% (1 771,2 millions USD)



Mineral fuels; oil and products
of its distillation

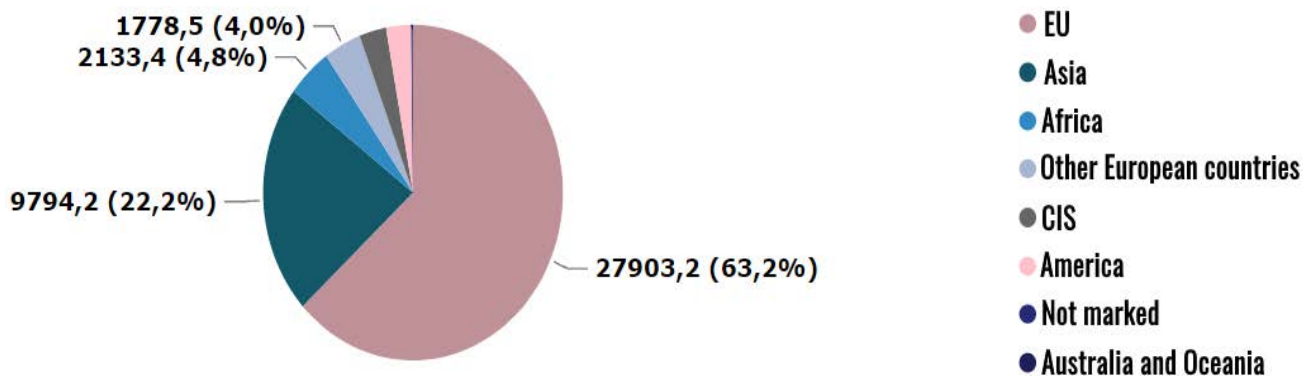
▼ -2,3% (3 778,8 millions USD)



Nuclear reactors, boilers, machines

▼ -14,5% (1 027,2 millions USD)

UKRAINE'S EXPORTS BY WORLD REGIONS IN 2022



ENERGOATOM'S CORPORATIZATION MAY TAKE PLACE IN SIX MONTHS – OPINION

NNEGC Energoatom expects to complete corporatization of the enterprise, according to optimistic estimates, in half a year, according to pessimistic estimates, in a year, said the president of the company Petr Kotin.

“Energoatom’s corporatization is moving at quite a fast pace. According to pessimistic estimates, it will take us a year to be fully corporatized. On the optimistic side, half a year. There are many processes going on now; one of them is the stocktaking of all assets and collection of creditor claims. This is not an easy procedure,” said Mr. Kotin in his interview to journalists during visit of one of the NPPs.

At the same time, he specified that with regard to the Zaporizhzhya NPP occupied by the Russian invaders “we will use preliminary, pre-war inventory data for the time being, and then (after the return of the plant under Ukrainian control – ER) we will adjust.

“ *As reported, at the beginning of May the Cabinet of Ministers reorganized the state enterprise by transforming it into the National Nuclear Energy Generating Company Energoatom, 100% of the shares in the authorized capital of which belong to the state and are not subject to privatization or alienation in any other way.*



As noted by the Prime Minister of Ukraine Denis Shmygal, it will improve the efficiency of management, attract additional funds for new projects and strengthen energy independence.

The Cabinet of Ministers also created a commission for Energoatom’s transformation and approved its composition, set a two-month deadline for lenders to file their claims against the company, and formed an inventory commission.

Before that, on February 6, 2023, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine passed the draft law 8067 on corporatization of the state-owned enterprise Energoatom during the second reading.

The corporatization of Energoatom is stipulated by the loan agreement between the company and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the guarantee agreement “The Integrated

KHERSON VODOKANAL RECEIVED MODULAR WATER PURIFICATION UNIT

Kherson Vodokanal received a modular water purification unit worth more than 3 million hryvnias, the regional military administration said.

According to the OVA’s Telegram channel on Thursday, the purchase of the unit was made possible thanks to the Kherson Regional Charitable Foundation “Unification” with the financial support of the United States (USAID) in coordination with the Kherson OVA.

“The cost of the installation is more than 3 million UAH. This mobile container will be effectively used by the city water utility to meet the drinking water needs of Kherson residents and after the liquidation of the consequences of flooding,” the message reads.

“UKRZALIZNYTSIA” RECORDED FREIGHT TRAFFIC GROWTH BY 45.7% IN JUNE

JSC “Ukrzaliznytsia” (UZ) in the period from 1 to 15 June recorded an increase in rail freight traffic by 45.7% compared to the same period of 2022, the press service of UZ reported on Friday.

“Freight rail shipments between June 1 and June 15, 2023, according to operational data, increased by 45.7% compared to the same period in June 2022 and by 12% compared to the same period in May this year. The average daily load for the period increased by 26.2% compared to June 2022 – up to 390.4 thousand tons, “- said in a report UZ.

According to the company, the volume of domestic shipments in the first half of June rose by 47% compared with the same period last year and by 8.3% compared with the first half of May – up to 3.715 million tons. Export traffic rose by 50.8% and 19.5%, respectively – to 2.191 million tons.

UZ specified that according to the cargo types minerals, coal, grain and milling products, manganese and iron ore traditionally lead in terms of transportation volumes.

Transportation of grain cargo from June 1-15 has increased by 71.2% against the same period of 2022 and by 24% against the first half of May – up to 1.106 million tons. At the same time, export shipments of grain increased by 2.3 and 54.3% respectively up to 849.9 thousand tons. Coal carriages increased by 29.2% and 7.2%, respectively – to 1.136 million tons, iron and manganese ore – by 12.8% and 2% – to 1 million tons. The volume of transportation of Ministry materials doubled in comparison with the same period of 2022 and increased by 24% compared to May.

According to Yevgeniy Lyashchenko, head of the board of UZ, these figures give reason to predict that the company can approach breakeven in 2023.



“We have cautious optimism and good indicators of the main work of Ukrzaliznytsia – freight transportation. Thanks to the painstaking work of the Ministry of Reconstruction, business, our specialists, the unblocking of the “grain corridor”, the revival of traffic in the direction of the western borders, we record the growth of freight traffic in the first half of June almost by half. These figures allow us to come close to break-even in 2023”, – he was quoted by the press service of UZ.

Earlier it was reported that in May UZ increased the volume of cargo transportation by 19.2%.

DAIRY ASSOCIATIONS INSIST ON COMPLIANCE WITH PRINCIPLES OF FREE TRADE BETWEEN UKRAINE AND POLAND

The Union of Dairy Enterprises of Ukraine (UDMU) and the Polish Dairy Chamber (Polska Izba Mleka) call on their governments to actively address the dairy sector of both countries, which arose due to political turmoil in spring 2023, while respecting the principles of free trade.

“*“We want to express our concern about what is happening to the dairy sector right now. We, as an industry, want to ensure that our firms and our farms are continually operating for our consumers. We don’t want small groups that are not connected to the dairy sector to complicate our relations,” Agnieszka Maliszewska, director of the Polish Dairy Chamber (Polska Izba Mleka), said Friday at the first Ukrainian-Polish Dairy Dialogue, which was held at Interfax-Ukraine.*”

The executive director of UMSU Arsen Didur reminded that since June 2022 the European Union had abolished all customs duties and quotas for Ukrainian products for a year, which was of mutual benefit to the economies of Poland and Ukraine, and the dairy sector in particular, so this regime has been extended for another year.

“*The executive director of the SMPU expressed regret that since April 2023 in relations between Ukraine and Poland “some incomprehensible actions began to occur. “These events have not benefited our brotherly relations and trade relations as well,” he stated.*”

Didur said that representatives of the Polish and Ukrainian dairy sectors do not intend to remain indifferent to what is happening and have developed a single coordinated position, insisting that any unlawful interference in business does not benefit either party.

“Although Poland has a stronger position in the mutual trade of dairy products, the LSU is categorically against the interference of the two governments and the creation of problems in free trade. We do not accept both the ban on deliveries of Ukrainian dairy products to Poland and the creation of any additional veterinary control from the Ukrainian side. All actions of the governments should be based on the principles of democracy, free trade and the rule of law”, – emphasized the executive director of UMSU.

An analyst at the International Food & Agri Hub BNP Paribas Poland Pawel Wierzykowski said that before a full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russia in 2021, Ukraine was the third largest market for Polish dairy products with a share of 5% after Germany (19%) and the Czech Republic (7%). In particular, 10.5% of all exports of Polish cheese and cottage cheese, 5.3% of yogurt and 3.4% of butter were sent to Ukraine.

According to the Polish expert, in 2022 the share of exports of dairy products from Poland to Ukraine has decreased to 3.3%, but the Ukrainian market still remains a very important export vector for Polish dairy products outside the European market.

In monetary terms, export of dairy products from Poland to Ukraine in 2022 decreased by 13% compared with the prewar year 2021 – down to EUR 108 million. In 2022 Poland reduced the supply of whey to Ukraine by 32%, cheese – by 31%, milk and sour cream – by 28%, while at the same time increased the supply of yogurt by 3%.

At the same time for 4 months of 2023 a positive tendency was observed and the export of Polish dairy products to Ukraine increased, – said Wierzykowski.

He noted that Poland is the largest European supplier of dairy products to Ukraine with 50% presence. In particular, in the structure of European supplies the share of Polish products in Ukraine reaches 79% for milk and sour cream, 79% for yogurt, 72% for cheese, 51% for curd, 44% for whey powder and 15% for butter.

At the end of the first Ukrainian-Polish Dairy Dialogue, both associations will send the governments of Poland and Ukraine a joint statement with proposals for resolving the situation.

COCA-COLA PLANS TO RESTORE PRE-WAR PRODUCTION IN UKRAINE

Coca-Cola Beverages Ukraine, the official bottler of Coca-Cola in Ukraine, is close to reaching its pre-war production and distribution volume in 2023, Coca-Cola HBS Director of Logistics Vladimir Choban said.

“In 2021 it was 120 million unit cases (all products, including imported products). In 2023, we expect 115 million unit cases (1 unit case equals 6 liters – IF) ... We are so confidently moving towards this bar, realizing that it is the middle of the year ...”, – said Choban at the logistics exhibition XXVIII Day of Logistics in Kyiv on Friday.

“ According to him, the company resumed production at its plant in Bolshaya Dymarka in the Kyiv region last May. However, due to problems with the ingredients, it produced only one fifth of the items in the assortment portfolio. Now it has already fully restored it, reaching 190 positions.

“I can say that we started producing 40 SKU (positions) in 2022. We were only putting on the shelf and distributing products that rotate quickly. As of today, we are producing almost 190 items... (full range – IF)”, – said Choban. He noted that before the war, the company formed buffer stocks and dispersed them throughout the country, which allowed for a quick recovery in distribution. “That’s something we did ahead of time as a company, understanding the risks that there could be an escalation in 2022, and we did take almost everything we could take out to the regions and kept it there until a certain time. And that allowed us to resume distribution almost immediately after we de-occupied the region,” the director of logistics for Coca-Cola HBS pointed out.



The company continues to import carbon dioxide (CO₂) used to make carbonated beverages from abroad, as its own combined heat and power (CHP) production is still in the process of recovery, the company said in a presentation.

“In May 2022, the lines at the plant were restarted, we started doing distribution, but there was nowhere to get CO₂, we were importing CO₂ from overseas. And now we continue to import. Now it is cheaper to bring it from abroad than to produce it in Ukraine,” said Choban.

UKRAINE COMPLETES SOWING SEASON WITH OVER-FULFILLMENT OF PLAN

Ukrainian agrarians are completing the sowing season: last week they sowed 14 thousand hectares of grain and leguminous crops, compared to 133.3 thousand hectares during the previous week and 193.5 thousand hectares a week earlier, the Ministry of Agricultural Policy and Food reported on Friday.

According to its data as of June 15, the area under spring cereals and leguminous plants reached 5.618 million hectares, which is 3% higher than in March forecast.

Sown area is 9.3% lower than last year: as of June 9, 2022, according to reports of the Ministry of Agrarian Policy, they accounted to 6196.6 million hectares.

The gap is formed mainly due to the most popular crops – corn, spring barley, sown by 13,5% and 14,9%, respectively, less than last year's and amount to 4.014 and 810.0 thousand hectares.

At the same time, corn is 11% ahead of the Ministry of Agricultural Policy forecast of 3.618 million hectares, while barley was sown on 78% of the expected 1.041 million hectares.

Sown millet is exceeded last year's figures, with 49.2 thousand hectares of area, but it is 82% of this year's expected area.

At the same time areas under other crops are already more than a year ago. It concerns spring wheat – 271.1 thousand hectares (41.9%), pea – 138.5 thousand hectares (5.7%), buckwheat – 119.7 thousand hectares (59%).

Agrarians of 14 regions (Vinnitsa, Zakarpattya, Ivano-Frankovsk, Kirovograd, Lviv, Odesa, Poltava, Rivne, Sumy, Ternopol, Khmelnytsky, Cherkasy, Chernihiv and Chernivtsi regions) have sown spring crops, as the Ministry of Agriculture informed.

BEER PRODUCTION IN UKRAINE INCREASED BY 20.5%

Beer production in Ukraine in January-May of this year reached 51.1 million dal, 20.5% more than during the same period last year, according to the website of the brewers' organization Ukrpivo.

It is specified that such growth is connected with the prohibition on manufacture and sale of beer, which was in force in 2022 (because of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russia – IF-U) in January of this year the lag in manufacture of this drink was 15.2% compared to January-2022 indicators.



At the same time, this figure is only 77,5% of the volume of beer production in Ukraine in 2021, the industry association specified.

As it was reported beer production in Ukraine in 2022 decreased by 27,9% compared to 2021 – up to 122,8 million dal.

EXPERTS CLUB WILL HOST SECOND TASTING SEMINAR IN SUPPORT OF UKRAINIAN WINEMAKING

On June 23, 2023, Kyiv Think Tank Club, within the framework of the initiative aimed at supporting and developing the wine industry, will hold the second tasting seminar-presentation dedicated to the winners and finalists of the VIII All-Ukrainian Tasting Competition “Variety and Terroir. Micro winemaking. Unbreakable”.

According to the organizers, this event will be an interesting event for all wine lovers, both expert sommeliers and restaurateurs, representatives of retail, media community and ordinary consumers. At the seminar, visitors will be able to learn about the products of the leading craft producers of Ukrainian wines and spirits, as well as join the platform for the exchange of opinions and ideas between leading experts in the field of winemaking.

Maksim Urakin, founder of the Club of Experts, PhD in Economics, emphasized the importance of supporting domestic wine and spirits producers.

“Our event is not just aimed at developing a culture of wine consumption in Ukraine. It also contributes to the growth of domestic production, helping the economic revival of our country. Each bottle of wine produced in Ukraine is a step towards creating jobs, increasing tax revenues and enhancing economic stability,” said Maksim Urakin.

The wine samples presented at the event will be presented by the finalists of the VII All-Ukrainian Tasting Competition “Variety and Terroir. Micro winemaking. Unbreakable” of the All-Ukrainian Association of Winemakers and Sommeliers, which will give visitors the opportunity to experience a rich bouquet of flavors created using traditional winemaking methods and modern technologies. Natalia Blagopoluchnaya, President of the Ukrainian Association of Winemakers and Sommeliers, noted that all wines presented at the event have been expertly evaluated according to all criteria, from aroma and taste to texture, color and overall harmony.

The following Ukrainian wines and spirits will be presented at the wine evening:

“Sparkling pink, 2019” by 46 Parallel TM;

“Riesling, 2022 by Babchuk Winery;

“Rkatsiteli Orange, 2020” from TM “Driukivski Wines”;

“Pinot Noir, 2021 from Chateau Pinot TM;

“Pinot Noir, 2020 by Georgiy Samsoniuk;

“Merlot, 2021” and “Cabernet Sauvignon, 2021” from TM “My Wine”, Eduard Gorodetsky;

“White dessert vermouth” and “Honey casserole, 40%” from TM “Winemaker Vinokur”;

“Chacha Odesa Black, 2022, 42%” from TM “Winemaker Vinokur”;

“Apple, 42%” from TM “KALYUS WINERY”;

“Calvados, 42% from Ivan Gorobets.

The partners of the event are the All-Ukrainian Association of Winemakers and Sommeliers, the House of Ukrainian Wine and the Public Union Ukrsadvynprom, which actively support the revitalization of domestic winemaking and expansion of its influence on the global wine market.

Information support for the event is provided by Open4business portal and Interfax-Ukraine news agency.

The special partners of the evening, Zakarpatski Kovbasy TM and Kozatski Kozyrni Cheese TM, will provide the perfect gastronomic pairings for the wines, which will help to further reveal the taste of each bottle presented.

Each participant will have the opportunity to personally taste the wines of leading Ukrainian winemakers, evaluate their character and quality, exchange opinions with other visitors and experts, and ask questions to the representatives of the producers. The seminar-tasting, which will be held at the Club of Experts, promises to be a bright event in the life of the Ukrainian wine community, bringing together wine connoisseurs, experts and producers under one roof.

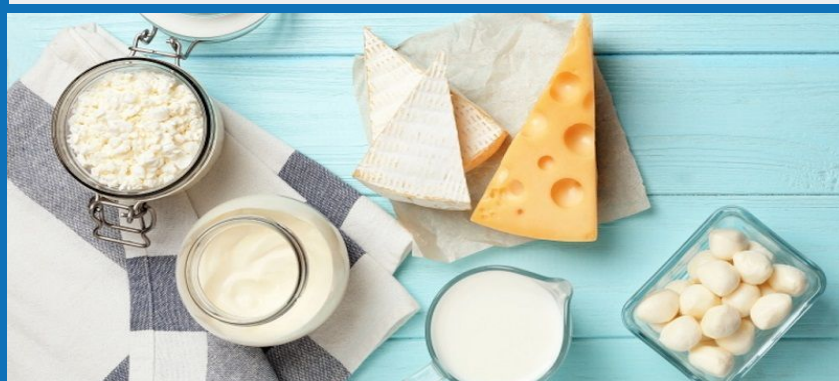
In addition to supporting domestic winemaking and getting acquainted with the best samples of Ukrainian wine, the event participants will have the opportunity to engage in an important dialog about the future of winemaking in Ukraine. This includes discussing the current problems and challenges faced by the industry, sharing experiences and finding potential ways of development.

The organizers of the event hope that this initiative will not only raise the status of Ukrainian winemaking, but also stimulate the development of this industry by attracting investors’ attention, facilitating international dialogue and opening new prospects for Ukrainian wine on the global stage.

CANADA HAS OPENED ITS MARKET FOR DAIRY PRODUCTS FROM UKRAINE

Canada has opened its market for Ukrainian products, particularly milk and dairy products, the press service of the State Service of Ukraine for Food Safety and Consumer Protection said.

“Thanks to the joint work of the State Service for Food Safety and Consumer Protection and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a new market for the sale of Ukrainian products, namely milk and dairy products to Canada has been opened,” the statement said.



Explanation of the requirements of Canadian legislation on producers of dairy products and indicated in the zoo-sanitary certificate are published on the official web-portal of Gosprodpotrebbey.

The form of the certificate for export of milk and dairy products agreed by the competent authorities of both countries can be found on the official website of the State Consumer Service in the section “International Cooperation” in the section “Certificates for export and zoo products”.

To start the export of food products the market operator must apply to the territorial body of the Service at the location of the production facilities.

This digest is a mutual project of the Interfax-Ukraine News Agency and the Open4business.com.ua. Maksim Urakin is a project director of the Biweekly news digest of Open4business.com.ua.
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