

Press release 11 | 25 August 2022

Nordzucker secures sugar supply

Nordzucker starts processing sugar beet on 3 September. Due to the drought in large parts of Europe, Nordzucker expects the Group harvest to be below last year's level. Solutions have been found throughout the Group to meet the challenges of energy supply. Nordzucker expects the campaign to conclude at the end of January 2023.

Braunschweig. Nordzucker is producing its first sugar this year as part of the organic beet campaign at its plant in Schladen (Germany). Nordzucker processes organically grown beet in Schladen, Nykøbing (Denmark) and Kėdainiai (Lithuania) at the beginning of each campaign. The other Nordzucker plants in Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Lithuania, Poland and Slovakia start processing beet between 11 September and the beginning of October.

With slightly higher sugar contents than in previous years, Nordzucker expects the overall harvest to be slightly below the average of previous years. The partly extreme dryness leads to significant regional differences in beet yields. Current planning assumes that beet processing will be completed by the end of January 2023.

Sugar cane processing in the Australian factories has already been underway since mid-June. Heavy rainfall had temporarily delayed harvesting and processing there. A harvest above the previous year's level is expected.

Securing energy supply has priority

In many factories, Nordzucker had switched the energy supply to natural gas for energy and environmental reasons and had already reduced CO2 emissions by 60 per cent compared to 1990. The current uncertainty in the gas supply has led to particular challenges. "Where possible and necessary, our colleagues have switched the factories from gas as an energy source to oil since the end of February in order to secure the processing of the sugar beet. In this short period of time, this is a

tremendous achievement," Alexander Godow, COO, elaborates. "In this way, we are securing the supply of sugar from regionally grown sugar beet for our customers. In addition, Nordzucker is helping to relieve the tight gas market for the benefit of all consumers." Nordzucker expects to have sufficient gas available during the campaign even at those locations where conversion was not possible.

The current energy situation encourages Nordzucker to stick to its long-term strategy of producing biomethane from beet pulp to cover its own energy needs. "Our goal is to do without fossil energy in the long term," explains Dr Lars Gorissen, CEO, adding: "In concrete terms, this means producing biomethane from the beet pulp produced during sugar extraction to generate our own heat and electricity needs, thus becoming climate-neutral and energy self-sufficient. We are ready to start the associated investments once the political framework is in place."

Planned campaign start of all Nordzucker plants:

Country	Factory	Start of beet delivery
Germany	Clauen	10.09.2022
	Nordstemmen	13.09.2022
	Schladen	01.09.2022
	Uelzen	10.09.2022
	Klein Wanzleben	12.09.2022
Denmark	Nakskov	13.09.2022
	Nykøbing	15.09.2022
Sweden	Örtofta	15.09.2022
Finland	Säkylä	04.10.2022
Lithuania	Kėdainiai	20.09.2022
Poland	Chełmża	14.09.2022
	Opalenica	21.09.2022
Slovakia	Trenčianska Teplá	21.09.2022

Background

Background Campaign

Sugar beet campaign, or campaign for short, is the period of the year during which sugar beet is processed in sugar factories. The campaign usually lasts from mid-September to January.

Nordzucker Group

The Nordzucker Group, headquartered in Braunschweig, Germany, is one of the world's leading sugar producers. The company extracts a wide range of sugar products from beet and cane at 21 sites in Europe and Australia - some of it in organic quality. Nordzucker also produces animal feed, molasses, fertiliser, bioethanol, biogas and electricity. The raw materials beet and cane are fully utilised. Circular economy and sustainability along the entire value chain have been a priority in the company for decades. A total of around 3,800 employees across the Group stand for sustainably produced products and excellent service.

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