

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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POLICY

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Egypt

Post: Cairo

Nile Nuggets for March 2015

Report Categories:

Agriculture in the News

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Report Highlights:

News on developments in agriculture and food in Egypt.

Nile Nuggets

*News on Developments in Agriculture and Food in Egypt
March 2015*

26 FIRMS AGREE TO INVEST IN EGYPT'S AGRICULTURAL SECTOR: Egypt's Ministry of Agriculture has signed protocols with 26 local and international firms to invest in total area of 671,500 feddans (282,000 hectares). The investments will include land reclamations, agricultural manufacturing and others. According to the Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation, Dr. Salah Helal, 16 Egyptian firms will invest in developing 201,500 feddans, while 10 Arab and foreign firms will invest in developing 470,000 feddans. This came after the Ministry presented the plan for agricultural investments in Egypt during the Economic Development Conference (EEDC) that took place March 13-15 in Sharm El-Sheikh.

EBRD LOANS EGYPTIAN COMPANY \$20 MILLION TO DEVELOP GRAIN STORAGE FACILITY: The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) is providing a \$20 million loan to finance the construction of a grain storage and handling facility of a prominent Egyptian grain trader, Medsofts. The fund will help improve the terminal's utilization rate and its handling efficiency at the location which is just 1 kilometer from Alexandria port. The terminal is the fourth privately owned terminal in Egypt, where a lack of efficient port infrastructure is a clear obstacle to grain distribution and handling in the country.

ISAAA 2014 REPORT LAUNCHED IN EGYPT: With the participation of more than 200 attendees, the International Service for the Acquisition of Agri-biotech Applications (ISAAA) released its annual report "The Global Status of Commercialized Biotech/GM Crops: 2014" held on March 8, 2015 at Cairo University. The conference was held under the auspices of the Ministry of Scientific Research and the Academy of Science Research and Technology. Dr. Naglaa Abdallah, Director of Egypt's Biotech Information Center (EBIC), presented the highlights of the ISAAA report, highlighting EBIC activities and expressing the country's need for the adoption of biotechnology as a tool to address the myriad agricultural challenges facing Egypt such as pest resistance, climate change, and water shortages. Currently, a Biosafety draft law is awaiting approval from the Cabinet.

EGYPTIAN FALAFEL "TA'AMIA":



Ta'amia is a deep-fried ball or patty made of split fava beans, and lots of parsley or coriander is added for flavoring. The Ta'amia sandwich which is usually wrapped in balady bread is a popular breakfast staple in Egypt, and an exceptionally popular street food.

Upcoming Events

US Dairy Export Council's Seminar "Mitigating Volatility through Risk Management Tools"

Date: May 14

Venue: Conrad Hotel Cairo, Egypt

The event will provide dairy industry suppliers, distributors and end-users an overview of risk-management tools used in the dairy industry to hedge against volatility. The event will also feature face-to-face consultations with U.S. dairy suppliers.

Food Africa Cairo:

Date: 6-9 May 2015

Venue: Cairo, the Cairo International Convention & Exhibition Centre (CICC)

This event showcases products like bakery, cake, desserts, eggs, energy drinks, milk, cheese, and dairy products used in the food and beverage processing subsectors.