

NEWS FROM WORLD OF SPICES

Kerala to host Global Agro Meet in November

Kerala will host a Global Agro meet and an exhibition on hi-tech agriculture and food processing at Kochi November 6-7, Chief Minister Oommen Chandy said Wednesday

Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC) will be the nodal agency for the meet, being organised in association with the department of agriculture, the Confederation of Indian Industry, and the ICCOA.

There will be special sessions on value-added products with a focus on pineapple, spices, coconut products, processed food, dairy, poultry, fisheries, animal husbandry and horticulture.

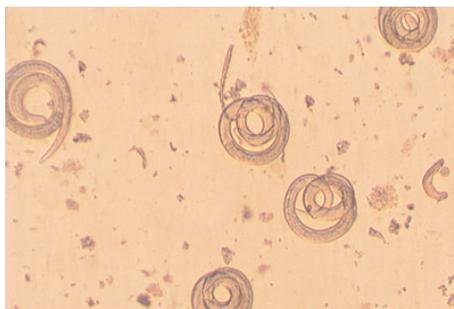
For More Detail:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/kerala-to-host-global-agro-meet-in-november-114072301026_1.html

UN Report Ranks Global Health Impact of Foodborne Parasites

When it comes to food safety concerns, foodborne parasites might not receive as much attention in the U.S.. compared to bacteria such as E. coli and Salmonella.

A new report from two agencies within the United Nations ranks 24 foodborne parasites according to their impact on global health, identifies the foods of greatest concern associated with those parasites, and discusses strategies for protecting against them.



For More Details:

<http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2014/07/un-report-ranks-global-health-impact-of-foodborne-parasites/>

Are Spices Safe for a Gluten-Free Diet?

Gluten can hide on the spice shelf. But with a little precaution, you can keep your favorite flavors.

Herbs and spices have been used in foods and medicines for thousands of years by many cultures, and prized for their unique scents and flavors. Fresh or dried leaves, such as basil, dill, parsley, rosemary and thyme, would be examples of herbs. Spices are from the dried part of plants such as the root (ginger), seed (caraway, cardamom, cumin), bark (cinnamon), bud (clove), berry (allspice, peppercorn) or flower (saffron

for More Details:

<http://allergicliving.com/2014/07/02/are-spices-safe-for-a-gluten-free-diet/>

Give Pepper Status of Focus Products

A Jayathilak A pro-active Budget with a special thrust on agriculture especially to the spices sector is expected from the new government. My Budget expectations are as follows:

The total annual plan outlay of Spices Board approved for the year 2014-15 is `95 crore. In order to achieve the XII Plan targets, the Spices Board has requested Govt. of India for enhanced Budget allocation.

For More Details:

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/business/news/Give-Pepper-Status-of-Focus-Products/2014/07/03/article2311326.ece>

Government to plan new Foreign Trade Policy aimed at minimum paperwork

The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) is aiming at making the new Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) smoother, free from manual hassles and mostly digitised.

Pravir Kumar, director general, FT, said, "The new FTP 2014-2019 would be on the lines of maximum-governance through simplifying procedures,

thereby minimising human interference."

For More Details:

http://www.fnbnnews.com/article/detnews.asp?articleid=35720&SectionId=1&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+FnBNews+%28FnBNews.com+Today%27s+Top+News%29

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Saudi Arabia bans import of pepper from India

NEW DELHI: Saudi authorities have decided to impose temporary ban on import of pepper from India with effect from May 30, Parliament was informed on July 30.

According to reports, presence of high levels of pesticides in the Indian consignment was the reason to put the import restriction.

Saudi authorities have decided to impose temporary ban on the import of all types of pepper from India with effect from May 30,

“Commerce and Industry Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha.

She also said that due to incidence of pest infestation in some consignments of potatoes imported from India, the Russian authorities have warned imposition of restrictions.

Fore More Details:

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/saudi-arabia-bans-import-of-pepper-from-india/articleshow/39301066.cms>

Study: 175 Hazardous Chemicals Used in Food Contact Packaging

According to a new study by the Food Packaging Forum, 175 chemicals with known hazardous properties are legally used in the production of food contact packaging in Europe and the U.S.

Many of the 175 substances identified are classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic, or reprotoxic. Others are considered to interfere with the hormone system, the so-called endocrine disruptors. A third group of chemicals is considered persistent and bioaccumulative.



Food packaging and other materials coming in contact with food (e.g. foils, cans, pans, storage containers) continuously release mixtures of synthetic substances into food at low levels, which are then ingested by the consumer

on a daily basis.

Fore More Details:

<http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2014/07/study-175-hazardous-chemicals-legally-used-to-produce-food-packaging/>

Coriander price to spice up

Coriander (dhaniya) prices have surged some 19 per cent since May to record highs on the National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange (NCDEX). Strong domestic demand in the spot market, coupled with weaker supply in recent times, has triggered the rally. Also, the threat of a lower supply this year

following the heavy and unseasonal rainfall in Rajasthan, the largest producer in India, has supported prices

Fore More Details:

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/features/investment-world/real-assets/coriander-price-to-spice-up/article6182981.ece>

In '13-14, exports of agri produce increase by 5.1% to \$37,292 million

Indian agricultural exports (including those of marine products) grew by 5.1 per cent in 2013-14 over 2012-13 to \$37,292 million according to the Economic Survey 2013-14 released in New Delhi. The exports of marine products alone increased by 44.8 per cent over the same period.

Fore More Details:

http://www.fnbnews.com/article/detnews.asp?articleid=35729&SectionId=1&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+FnBNews+%28FnBNews.com+Today%27s+Top+News%29

Economic Survey '13-'14 released; Sharp decline in agri's share in GDP

The Economic Survey 2013-14, which was released in New Delhi, highlighted several challenges and reforms required in the agriculture sector. It stated that as a concomitant of growth, the share of the agricultural and allied sector in India's gross domestic product (GDP) declined to 15.2 per cent during the Eleventh Plan, and further to 13.9 per cent in 2013-14

Fore More Details:

http://www.fnbnews.com/article/detnews.asp?articleid=35730&SectionId=1&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+FnBNews+%28FnBNews.com+Today%27s+Top+News%29

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Process and Substance in Third-Party Food Safety Audits

As the result of numerous national and international outbreaks of food-borne illness, food industries worldwide have come under increasing pressure to ensure that their products are safe, wholesome and meet government standards.

FDA and USDA have the primary authority for our food supply nationally,

while individual states typically regulate local food operations through state and county departments of agriculture and health.

Fore More Details:

<http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2014/07/process-and-substance-in-third-party-food-safety-audits/>

Food Safety in China Still Faces Big Hurdles



China has been scrambling to right its gargantuan processed-food ship ever since six infants died and thousands more were hospitalized with kidney damage in 2008 from milk adulterated with an industrial chemical. But as the latest scandal involving spoiled meat in fast-food shows,

the attempted transformation over the last six years has run up against the country's centuries-old and sprawling food supply chain.

Fore More Details:

<http://www.nytimes.com/2014/07/24/business/international/food-safety-in-china-still-faces-big-hurdles.html>

Pepp It Up-2014, culinary competition for chefs, on Aug 6 - Pepper Day

Spices Board India in collaboration with International Pepper Community is conducting 'Pepp it Up-2014,' a national level culinary competition for budding chefs, to commemorate the International Pepper Day.

The winners will be awarded with a total cash prize of Rs 1 lakh, trophies and certificates.

Fore More Details:

<http://www.fnbnews.com/article/details.asp?articleid=35776§ionid=1>

Ensuring high food safety standards in Nigeria with HACCP

Recent events have underlined the importance of food safety in Africa. An unprecedented number of food-borne disease outbreaks have been reported recently, including salmonellosis, enterohaemorrhagic Escherichia coli (EHEC), hepatitis A and acute aflatoxicosis. There have also been poisonings associated with consumption of vegetables and beans containing residual pesticide.

Fore More Details:

<http://www.ngrguardiannews.com/features/science/172081-ensuring-high-food-safety-standards-in-nigeria-with-haccp>

UK's FSA Revises Guidance on Controlling E. coli O157 Cross-Contamination

The UK's Food Standards Agency (FSA) announced last week that it has revised and updated its guidance on E. coli O157 control of cross-contamination, taking into account the results from independent research into the effectiveness of disinfecting complex equipment, as well as the views of industry and local authority stakeholders.

Fore More Details:

<http://www.food.gov.uk/business-industry/guidancenotes/hygguid/ecoliguide>

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High imports drive Cochin Port into trade deficit over the last decade

KOCHI: The surplus in trade enjoyed by the Cochin Port in its exports and imports when compared with the rest of the world has vanished over the last decade, revealed data from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS). Based on the import-export data for fiscal 2014, imports through the Cochin Port touched Rs 50,099 crore, which is roughly double the size of the Rs 25,664 crore exports during the same period.

A decade ago, the Cochin Port's imports were only half of its exports - Rs 4,249 crore against Rs 7,839 crore.

Fore More Details:

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kochi/High-imports-drive-Cochin-Port-into-trade-deficit-over-the-last-decade/articleshow/39569798.cms>

Rs 10 crore scheme to boost black pepper cultivation

PANAJI: The crunchy Goan cashewnuts are almost synonymous with the state, their flavour was unmatched until now. The Goan black pepper is now set to give a tough competition to the cashewnuts' delicious flavour.

The spice board of India, based in Cochin, recently inspected the black pepper, occasionally cultivated in Goa's arecanut and coconut plantations by farmers, and found them to be on par with international standards. The board will now offer 10 crore under a central government scheme to expand black pepper cultivation in Goa, in an area of 500 hectares over five years.

Fore More Details:

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/Rs-10-crore-scheme-to-boost-black-pepper-cultivation/articleshow/38507179.cms>

Leveraging FDA's cGMPs and HACCP Regulations to Protect Your Company

That is the animating principle of two related sets of U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations affecting the food and beverage industry: current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMPs) and HACCP

Fore More Details:

<http://www.foodsafetymagazine.com/fsm-edigest/leveraging-fdae28099s-cgmps-and-haccp-regulations-to-protect-your-company/>

Troubling Times for Food Safety Diagnostic Companies

For much of the past 20 years, the food safety market has been very, very good to the diagnostic companies, especially those making pathogen testing instruments and consumables.

A number of dramatic shifts in the market, however, resulting from increased competition, the growing dominance of food contract testing labs and the subsequent change in product mix, have turned good times to troubled ones for some pathogen test manufacturers.

As test volumes increased, food diagnostic companies began to introduce new technologies to help food plant labs (FPLs) handle the growing workload and testing requirements.

Fore More Details:

<http://www.strategic-consult.com/2014/06/food-safety-diagnostic-companies-troubling-times/>