

August 31, 2008

Ukraine



Cabinet of Ministers intends to approve National Program “On cattle breeding development” until 2014

The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine is intending to pass a National Program “On cattle breeding development” until the end of 2014, according to Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

The basic idea of the National Program is Ukraine’s transformation from importer of live-stock products into exporter.

For this purpose the Cabinet of Ministers is suggesting to simplify allocation of land for construction of cattle-breeding objects, and also to simplify the procedure of obtaining coordination agreement for such plots.

In its program the Cabinet of Ministers intends to order the State Committee for Technical Regulation and Consumer Policy to introduce new standards of meat products in 2009 to control its quality.

The Government is also initiating negotiations with the National Bank and international financial establishments to switch from seasonal lending of agricultural enterprises to long-term lending. - *Source: Ukrainian News Agency*

Government of Ukraine verifies producers and importers of meat products

Prime Minister of Ukraine Yulia Tymoshenko has commissioned to hold check-ups of producers and importers of meat products in terms of their conformity with the European prices within approximately two weeks beginning from August 20.

Yulia Tymoshenko informed that corresponding profile Ministries in association with the State Customs Service and State Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine will carry out check-ups of meat enterprises with regards to correspondence of prices for the imported produce with real prices at the European market.

At the same time local meat producers will also be checked as to the conformity of their prices with the analogous producers at the European market.

The Head of the Government announced that a practice of supporting mediators instead of meat producers has to be immediately terminated at Ukrainian meat market.

Yulia Tymoshenko promised that results of the check-ups would be made public at the Government sitting: “All the country has to know if prices for meat are so high, who makes a profit out of this.”

Besides, Prime Minister of Ukraine has empowered Ministry of Health together with State Committee on Technical Regulation and Consumer Policy and also Ministry of Agrarian Policy to check quality and safety of imported meat. “The Government will not let our citizens to be fed neither with imported meat garbage nor with domestic,” Yulia Tymoshenko stressed.

- *Source: Unian News Agency*

Association of Meat Producers predicts shortage of pork and beef in 2008

“Ukrm’iaso”, the National Association of meat producers of Ukraine, predicts shortage of at least 450,000 MT of pork and 100,000 MT of beef in 2008, according to Association Chairman Vladimir Popov.

However, the Ministry of Agrarian Policy predicts shortage of only 200,000 MT of pork this year.

Vladimir Popov has underlined the fact that Ukraine has produced 570,000 MT of meat over the seven months, 70% of which was poultry meat. At the same time during January – July 2008 Ukraine imported 121,000 MT of poultry.

The Chairman of the Association also stressed that most of the meat import volume is delivered to small meat plants, which produce products of poor quality. In this connection Vladimir Popov recommended to toughen poultry meat imports.

In early August 2008 aiming to support the local meat producers the Cabinet of Ministers raised subsidies for beef by 52.6% or UAH 1 (\$0.21) to UAH 2.9 (\$0.60) per kilo; pork by 53.6% or UAH 0.75 (\$0.15) to UAH 2.15 (\$0.44) per kilo; chicken by 53.8% or UAH 0.35(0.07) to UAH 1(\$0.21) per kilo; and for duck, geese and turkey meat by 55.6% or UAH 0.5 (\$0.10) to UAH 1.4 (\$0.29) per kilo in 2008.

- *Source: Ukrainian News Agency*

Moldova



Inflation rate decreased by 0.9% in Moldova

The level of Moldova's deflation in July made up 0.9%. The prices for food products went down by 3.3%, while the prices for non-food products rose by 0.3%. The services provided for the population increased by 0.7%.

According to the Ministry of Economy and Trade of Moldova, the prices for fresh vegetables have decreased by 24.6%, for potatoes by 18.3%, for fresh fruits by 17.1%, for milk and milk products by 1.2%.

At the same time, the non-alcoholic beverages in July grew dearer by 6.9%, honey by 3.9%, sausages by 2.3%, medicines by 1%, detergents by 0.9%, building materials by 0.5%.

The January-July inflation made up 5.3%, while the yearly (July 2007-July 2008) inflation was 13.4%.

Experts predict that the 2008 inflation will be about 14.2%. The Central Bank has earlier informed that the inflation rate this year will not exceed 10%. - *Source: Moldova.org*