

agr^oriches

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GHANA TODAY

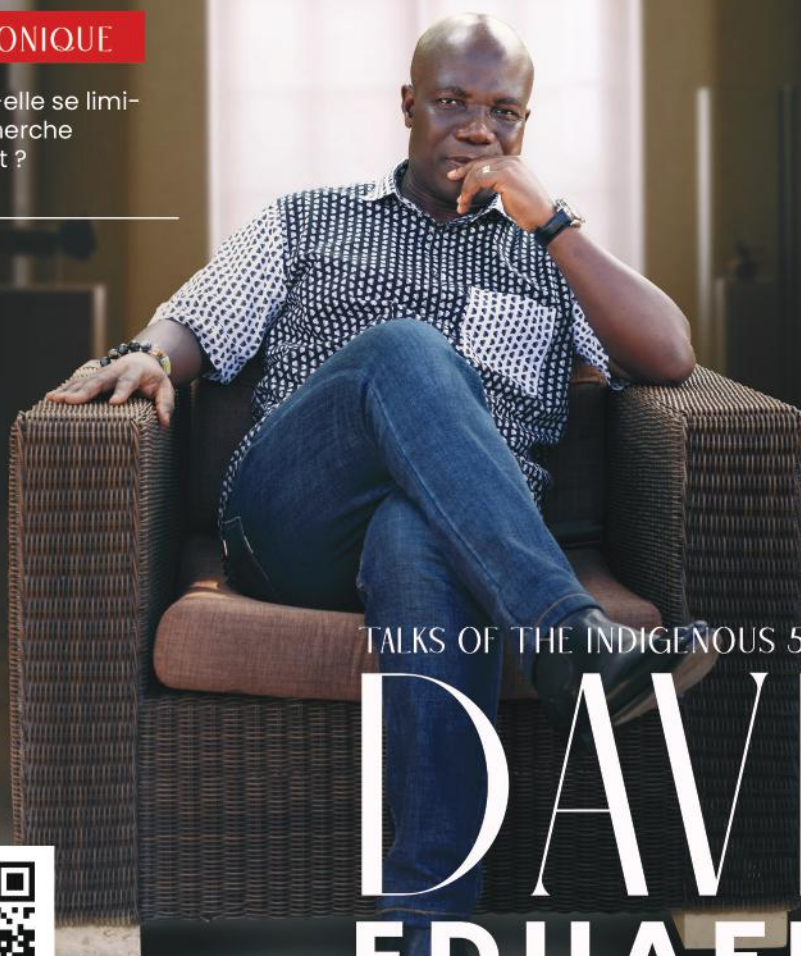
AfDB, SADEP launch \$32.53m project to boost food production

INSIGHT AFRICA

Tanzania's Warehouse for Cereal Storage in Final Stage

NOTRE CHRONIQUE

L'agriculture doit-elle se limiter à la recherche du profit ?



TALKS OF THE INDIGENOUS 5 STAR HOTEL

DAVID EDUAFUL

Ag. Managing Director, Labadi Beach Hotel.

FEBRUARY 2023





TIAST Group, originating from China has been in existence for over 30 years and has extended its services to West Africa with the sole purpose of adding value to the agriculture value chain and promoting the worth of the agricultural industry in Ghana. Through localization and standardization, we are devoted to adding value to the agricultural chain and boosting the agriculture industry's worth in all African countries. Our business scope includes designing, manufacturing, installation and maintenance of agricultural processing machinery. These machines are designed to process a variety of agricultural goods, including tubers like cassava and sweet potato, etc. rubber processing, fibre extraction and processing from sisal and pineapple leaf, and agricultural machinery for planting, harvesting, and other tasks. We also provide financial leasing for our agricultural processing factories through our partnership with Banks which supports up to 70-80% of the total cost of the entire project. This lease is spread out in a 5-year term of payment which is convenient after the project starts running.

TIAST Group ensures off-take services of all processed goods to the international market at competitive international market prices. This solves the problem of the unavailability of a ready market and promotes ready sales at the best rate. We have also secured a huge international market demand for most of the products that will be processed for ready export. These products will command competitive prices on the world market and will subsequently gain considerable market traction. TIAST facilitates the training of local employees and personnel on how to operate and maintain these machines through its localization scheme. We have technical staff on hand who are willing to train locals to operate these processing units. We are justifiably proud to be the market leaders in the agricultural industrialization space in Ghana and the sub-region. We are also proud of our footprint in Ghana and the impact we are making in the agricultural space. This life-changing opportunity is provided by TIAST Group for everyone interested in boosting agricultural value and promoting the value chain.

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OUR AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIALIZATION AGENDA IS AIMED AT PARTNERING WITH FARMERS AND INTERESTED PARTIES TO ADD VALUE TO THE AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN.

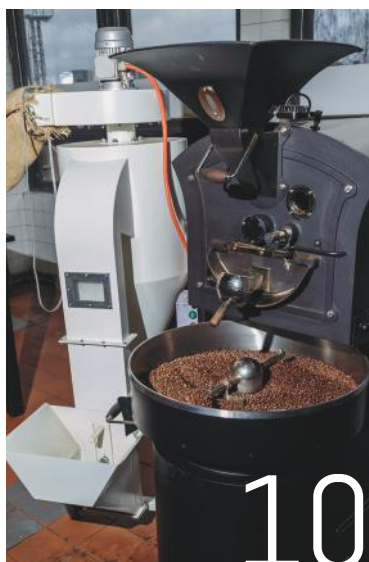
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Agriculture: The multi-million industry boosting economic growth

Through agricultural investments, the economy is opened up for economic activities to shoot up; thereby increasing the revenue base of the country. The agricultural sector has contributed tremendously to the sustenance of economic growth and development worldwide.

The role of the agricultural sector to the growth of nations cannot be underestimated, despite the fact that many other industries around the world contribute to economic development to some extent. Due to the increasing population worldwide, agricultural development has always been the top priority of every country in the world.

A growing population necessitates the expansion of agriculture in order to feed the population, provide jobs, and boost socioeconomic development.

Investing in agriculture brings a number of benefits. The most important factor is diversification. Agriculture has historically had little to no relationship with other asset classes, both conventional and non-conventional.

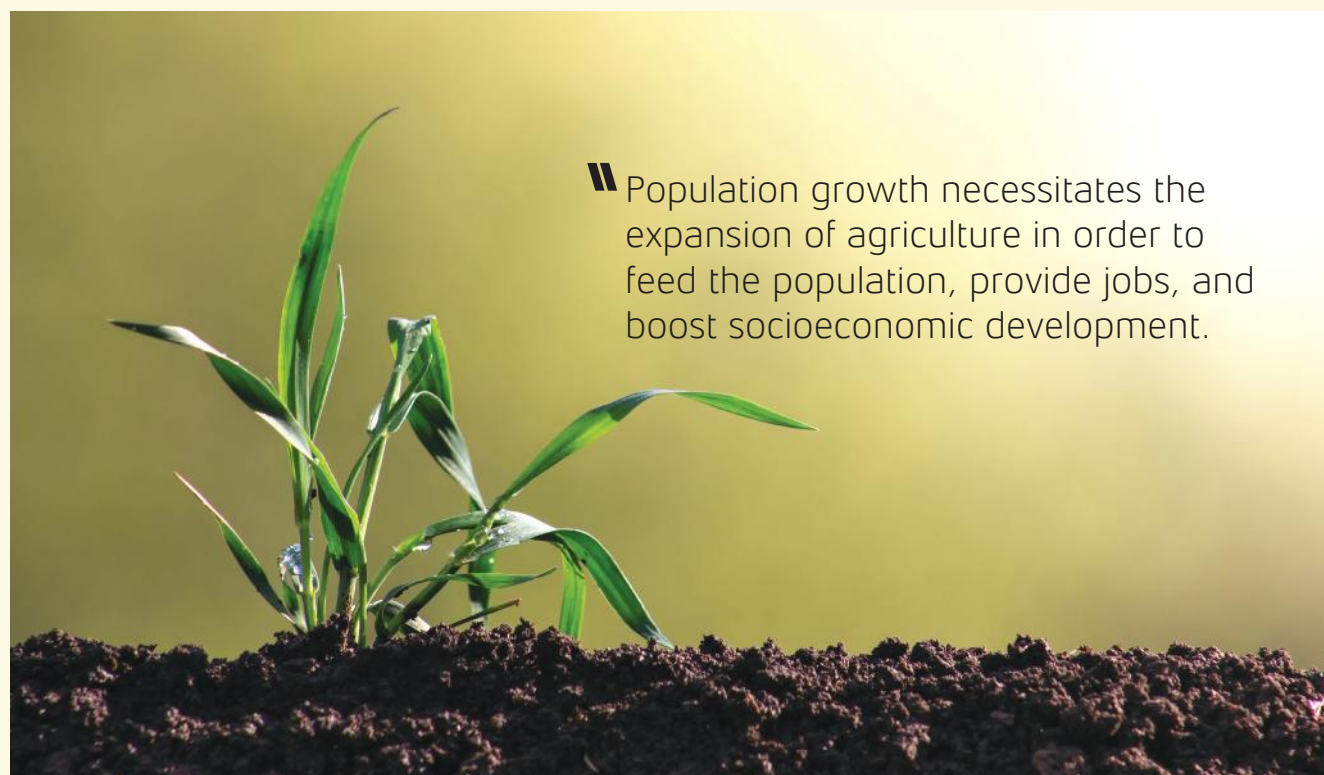
The vast majority of agriculture, which is farmland, is con-

nected to production. Food will always be needed by people, hence agricultural prices may not fluctuate in the same way as the stock market or other financial markets.

Investors and agribusiness personalities should look at investing into agriculture as the sector is capable of increasing returns in investments made.

Through agricultural investments, the economy is opened up for economic activities to shoot up; thereby increasing the revenue base of the country.

Agriculture has over the years proven to be a great financier for economic development. Meanwhile individuals who have seen the prospects in investing into agriculture such as the value addition sector have also made sustainable livelihoods out of the right investments they've made.



“Population growth necessitates the expansion of agriculture in order to feed the population, provide jobs, and boost socioeconomic development.”

Medjool Dates

By Nana Ama Oforiwaa Antwi

Have you ever had a date? Before saying yes, just know I mean the fruit date, and not what you may be thinking. A date is a fruit that grows in large clusters which hangs from the top of the date palm tree. Dates are native to the Middle East, and comes in different varieties and sizes. Examples of the fruit are; Medjool, Piarom, Deglet Noor, Thoory dates among others. However, our date for today is the Medjool. Originally from Morocco, the Medjool date turns brown and has a sweet caramel taste and chewy texture when ripe and wrinkles as more and more moisture leave the fruit. Dates can be likened to a large shriveled raisin with a large seed in the middle which should be removed before eating. They often range from large to very large.

Medjool dates are the only ones referred to as “the fruit for kings”, since they were eaten by royalty in the past and thought to fend off fatigue. Medjool dates are now grown in warm climates globally including the Mediterranean, Asia and the United States.

Health Benefits

Rich in Antioxidants

They provide various kinds of antioxidants including carotenoids, flavonoids among others which protects the body against diseases.

Helps in Bowel Movements

The natural fibre in dates help to regularize bowel movements and improve your overall digestive health.

Supports Liver Health

Dates and date extracts help to support liver health and also work to prevent liver fibrosis.

Rich in Minerals

Dates are rich in copper, selenium and magnesium which are important nutrients to keep your bone healthy and strong to prevent bone related disorders. Each date contains choline, vitamin B which are very beneficial for the learning and memory process, especially in the case of Alzheimer’s disease as it helps reduce inflammation and prevents plaque formation in the brain. It’s also an excellent source of vitamin C and D which helps to maintain your skin elasticity and keeps your skin smooth

Anytime you want to have a date, try Medjool dates.



AfDB, SADEP launch \$32.53m project to boost food production

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

A project fund of \$32.53 million has been launched to boost food production and address key constraints in the agriculture value chain in Northern Ghana, Tamale.

The initiative, known as “Savannah Agricultural Value Chain Development Programme (SADEP),” is anticipated to assist Planting for Food and Jobs (PFJ), Rearing for Food and Jobs (RFJ), skills development and entrepreneurship for women and young people, and develop resilient food systems in the north.

The \$32.53 million funding from the Africa Development Bank (AfDB) and the government of Ghana, the Savannah Agricultural Improvement Programme (SAPIP), in partnership with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, is starting the five-year initiative.

The Savannah Investment Programme (SIP) and SAPIP have so far increased the production of maize and soybean from 80 hectares in 2018 to 14,000 hectares in 2021.

The National Project Coordinator of SAPIP, Felix Dramani, provided an overview of the project at the launch in Tamale on last Tuesday. He said the project sought to build on those successes.

“Inputs such as fertilizers and seeds will be provided to commercial farmers and their out-growers to boost local production of rice, soybean and maize,” he said.

He claimed that the project would result in the creation of 20,000 employments, 40% of which were predicted to go to women and young people.

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture, Yaw Frimpong Addo, in charge of crops, praised the AfDB for continuing to support the agricultural sector and improving people’s lives.

According to him, the SEDAP project’s overarching

goals were to provide national food and nutrition security while being climate resilient, to foster industrialization, and to create jobs.

“We believe that prioritizing key agricultural value chains in different agro-ecological zones of Ghana will create the platform and support needed to catalyse investment, and unlock Ghana’s potential for transformation,” the Country Manager of AfDB, Eyerusalem Fasika, said.



Mobilize sustained resources to finance Africa’s agriculture - AU Official

By Prince Opoku Dogbey



A senior African Union (AU) official recently stated that in order to meet the rising food demand of their respective populations, African governments need to mobilize sustainable resources to fund agriculture in their various nations.

The African Union (AU) Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy, and Sustainable Environment, Josepha Sacko, said this at the ongoing 36th AU conference.

He exhorted African leaders to keep their end of the 2014 Malabo Declaration bargain.

“We need to invest. We need to put 10 percent of the national budget. When we say 10 percent, we are talking about agriculture, livestock and fishery development and crops. It is all about rural development,” she said.

According to Sacko, the AU is raising awareness that the majority of its members are “off course” since they do not devote 10% of their national budgets on agriculture.

She however, indicated that African nations do not make investments.

African nations national development plan or national investment plan are not being domesticated to the common policy in Africa, she disclosed.

The commissioner emphasized the need for African countries to transform their agriculture and feed their people during difficult times by investing at least ten percent of their national budgets, noting that one in four people in Africa experienced acute hunger as the COVID-19 pandemic hit the continent hard in 2021.

African countries need to put 10 percent of the national budget into agriculture.

China pledges commitment to support Malawi's Agriculture.

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

China has promised to offer its support for Malawi's agricultural sector and other industries as the two nations expand their relations.

The commitment was made by the Chinese Embassy in Malawi in Lilongwe at the start of a three-day program where Chinese agricultural experts train senior extension workers from the eight agricultural divisions of the nation on rice cultivation.

The training course is a component of the third phase of the China Assistance Programme for Agricultural Technical Cooperation in Malawi, according to the Chinese Agricultural Technical Team.

The project, according to Counsellor Zhang Chunfa of the Chinese Embassy in Malawi, will assist Malawi in modernizing its agricultural technologies, increasing agricultural output, reducing unemployment, and raising people's incomes.

He said, "It is a good project that truly brings benefits, especially with the zero-tariff treatment for 98 percent of Malawian exports to China."

"Under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative, the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, and the Global Development Initiative, China will strengthen its partnership with Malawi under the 2063 blueprint strategic dialogue," Zhang added.

The Chinese government, he declared, will exert unceasing efforts to advance the social and economic progress of the two nations and strengthen the friendship between them.

Alfred Mwenifumbo, Malawi's Controller of Agricultural Extension and Technical Services, commended the Chinese government for the technical assistance and praised it as essential, particularly at a time when Malawi is pursuing mega-farming as one of its strategies for reaching its 2063 Agenda.

// China will strengthen its partnership with Malawi under the 2063 blueprint strategic dialogue



Mwenifumbo said, "This training on rice production will help our extension workers adopt and share the new technologies with the farmers out there."

AGRICULTURAL MARKET INFORMATION SYSTEM

By Godwin Gilman



In order to increase food market transparency and promote coordinated policy action in response to market uncertainty, the marketing information system for agribusiness serves as an interagency platform. The G20 Ministers of Agriculture formally launched this platform in 2011 to address the increases in food prices that occurred globally in 2007–2008, as well as in 2010, and to bring together the major trading nations for agricultural commodities.

The AMIS is a platform that informs farmers, merchants, and other agribusiness sector participants about the agricultural market. The system gathers, analyzes, and disseminates data on prices, supply and demand, and other pertinent market data for agricultural commodities.

The main objective of AMIS is to improve market transparency and efficiency, reduce market risks, and enhance the competitiveness of the agricultural sector. By providing timely and accurate information about the market, AMIS can help farmers make informed decisions about what crops to grow, when to sell their products, and at what prices.

The AMIS platform consists of two main components: the data collection and processing system, and the information dissemination system. The data collection system involves the use of various sources, such as

government agencies, market intermediaries, and private sector actors, to collect and analyze market data. The information dissemination system, on the other hand, uses various channels such as radio, TV, newspapers, mobile phones, and the internet to disseminate the information to the end-users.

The benefits of AMIS are numerous. For farmers, it provides an opportunity to access market information that can help them plan their production and marketing activities, and to negotiate better prices for their products. For traders, it enables them to make more informed buying and selling decisions, and to reduce transaction costs. For policy-makers, it provides valuable information for designing and implementing policies that promote market efficiency and competitiveness.

In conclusion, the Agricultural Market Information System is a crucial tool for enhancing the efficiency and competitiveness of the agricultural market. It provides a valuable source of information to farmers, traders, and other stakeholders, helping them to make informed decisions and reducing market risks. AMIS is an important step towards building a sustainable agricultural sector that can support economic growth and development.



Mechanical Harvesters

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

A mechanical harvester is the name of the device that harvests agricultural goods. Large tractors known as mechanical harvesters cross over grapevine trellises to remove berries or fruit clusters by gently vibrating the vines, which separates the grapes from their stems.

Mechanical harvesting systems are made to remove a large quantity of a crop all at once during the harvesting season. Shaking plant canopies, branches, and trunks has been a common approach used.



The major advantages of mechanical harvesting are their low operating costs and excellent efficiency, which, despite their high initial cost, make them economically advantageous for large enterprises. For processing crops, mechanical harvesting is becoming a possibility, but almost all other crops are collected by hand.

A crop like sugarcane is harvested with a mechanized harvester that moves down the rows of cane, cutting the stalk into short pieces or billets and removing the green tops. Bins that are pulled along with the harvester are filled with billets. The bins are transported to the sugar plant by road or tramway once they are full.

The shocks are collected for wheat harvesting and then transported to a thresher machine that is conveniently situated. The machine receives a feed of wheat. The stalks are beaten in order to separate the wheat seeds from the stalks and chaff. All of those tasks were performed by the combine, a tractor-driven device.

The health benefits of food nutrition are the positive effects that eating nutritious food has on the body. Eating a well-balanced diet can improve health, reduce disease risk and promote good physical and mental health.

More than 40 distinct types of nutrients can be found in food, and they are typically divided into the following 7 primary groups; namely, Carbohydrates, Proteins, Fats, Vitamins, Minerals, Dietary fiber and Water.

CARBOHYDRATES

Our body uses carbohydrates, which are primarily found in grains like rice and noodles, as one of its main energy sources. Other sources of carbs include fruit, root vegetables, dry beans, and dairy products.

PROTEINS

Protein-rich foods include dried beans, bean products, dairy products, eggs, fish, and shellfish. Building, mending, and maintaining healthy bodily tissues are some of its primary duties.

FATS

Foods including meat, fish, shellfish, dairy products, nuts, seeds, and oils all include fats. Fats are a source of energy. They are in charge of assembling some of the cells in our bodies and moving fat-soluble vitamins including vitamin A, D, E, and K.

VITAMINS

There are many distinct types of vitamins that come from different food categories, and they play a role in a variety of bodily processes, including the maintenance of good skin and hair, the development of bones, and the release and utilization of energy from food.

MINERALS

Minerals are a class of important minerals that control a variety of bodily processes, including muscle contraction, and nerve impulse transmission. Certain elements, like calcium, support bone health and strength as well as body structure.

DIETARY FIBER

The component of plants that cannot be digested is called dietary fiber. It encourages gastrointestinal health, stabilizes blood sugar, and guards against constipation.

WATER

Water has a number of important roles in the body, including controlling body temperature, producing bodily fluids, transporting nutrients, and removing waste.



Who gets featured in the next edition? Write a one-page article on "Agricultural Industrialization". Send via editorial@tiastgroup.com

By Prince Opoku Dogbey



TANZANIA'S WAREHOUSE FOR CEREAL STORAGE IN FINAL STAGE

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

In an effort to reduce the threat posed by deadly fungi, which is jeopardizing food security, the Government of Tanzania is completing the construction of modern warehouses for the storage of cereal.

The Minister of agriculture, irrigation, natural resources, and livestock, Shamata Shaame Khamis, stated in front of the House of Representatives that inadequate storage is a role in the growth of toxic fungi.

According to the Minister, a situational investigation by the ministry found that the fungi constitute a severe issue in the islands, mostly harming maize and groundnuts.

The Minister was responding to a query from Mr. Ameir Abdalla Ameir, a representative for Mwanakwerekwe, who asked about the government's mitigation plans for the toxic fungi that are endangering the nation's food security.

According to a report in Tanzania's Daily News, the Minister claimed that 1,853 farmers had already received training in the best agricultural and storage techniques to fend off the fungi. He also added that the government had purchased two cutting-edge

devices for fungus testing.

Cereal grains are produced in significant quantities during the harvest season. These grains should be either consumed before their quality degrades or stored in a suitable location for preservation.

Although the first option is a realistic one, long-term storage of cereal grains is more advantageous. This guarantees that there will be a sufficient supply even after the harvest season is gone.

“**1,853 farmers had already received training in the best agricultural and storage techniques to fend off the fungi.**”



Agrie's Diversity

Many of the items we use on a daily basis, such as detergents, paints, X-ray film, crayons, books, chalk, musical instrument strings, are products from the agricultural produce of American farmers and ranchers.



Kesar Mango

The nutrients in Kesar Mango, a mango variety improves eye care, helps in digestion and strengthens the immune system.

The Indigenous 5 Star Hotel.

“

Labadi Beach Hotel has demonstrated a strong sense of perseverance and prowess in the hospitality industry

The Labadi Beach Hotel, a family-oriented and unrivaled serenity located in Accra's coastal city has made great strides toward becoming Ghana's most indigenous 5 Star Hotel.

The prestigious hotel, has demonstrated a strong sense of prowess in the hospitality industry by winning numerous honors since its establishment. In 2022, the hotel won three awards at the 5th Ghana Hotels Association Awards; namely, Best Five-Star Hotel of the Year, Most Digitalised Hotel of the Year Award (Five-Star Category), and the most Secured Hotel of the Year Award (Five-Star Hotel). While the hotel has been operating for 31 years now, it has created infrastructure and well-organized facilities that accommodates both Ghanaians and guests from other countries.

In this edition, Agroriches features Mr. David Eduaful, the Ag. Managing Director of Labadi Beach Hotel who has served the hotel for the past 30 years now since he joined as a junior staff.

According to Mr. Eduaful, the property has over the past 31 years, developed in character that has stood the test of time. He revealed that, the property is timeless looking at its well-structured infrastructure and facilities.

**DAVID
EDUAFUL**

Ag. Managing Director, Labadi Beach Hotel.

One would easily testify to this, when a visit is paid to the hotel. The property has been well structured and maintained with good customer service and the best security services. At the entrance of the hotel, there is an in-built scanner on the floor that scans vehicles, a feature that can't be found in any hotel in Ghana.

According to Mr. Eduaful, the guests who patronize the hotel are very loyal due to how family-oriented the hotel is.

"I would say it's like a family-oriented hotel, so we have guests who have stayed here before and their family also patronize us," he said.

Mr. Eduaful indicated that, the hotel ensures that everything done in the property is right and loved by guests. This, he said, is attributed to the best services rendered by the staff of the hotel which goes a long way to maintain guests who patronize the hotel.

Touching on the uniqueness of Ghana's most indigenous 5 star hotel, Mr. Eduaful said the dedication, passion and motivation of staff at the property are key elements sustaining the relevance of the hotel so far. He disclosed that, there are staff who have spent 30 years in the property; thereby exhibiting expertise and professionalism.

Addressing the hospitality sector, he said, "If you don't have motivation, you aren't able to be in the hospitality sector for long. In the hospitality industry, you need passion, experience, and above all you need to be motivated. This is because, you are serving people from diverse backgrounds."

Relating it to the staff at the property, he said, "The staff are committed to this organization and they have the experience. If you go to my kitchen right now, we have the best food in the city. Our executive chef is the only chef who is the longest serving chef in all the 5-Star Hotels in Ghana."

In addition, he indicated that, the average length of service in Labadi Beach Hotel's kitchen is fifteen (15) years. He attributed the delicious meals prepared by the hotel to the experienced staff present in the kitchen. Talking of most of the major events held in Ghana by the presidency and others,

the property handles all the catering services.

Career with family

Working in the hospitality sector demands a lot of time away from family, but Mr. Eduaful has been able to manage life with work and family. He said that he has a family that understands his profession. However, he spends time with the family to keep the bond and relationship healthy.

Way forward for Labadi Beach Hotel

The Labadi Beach Hotel, under the direction of Mr. David Eduaful, plans more growth and development over the next five years. The property looks forward to expanding, renovating, and holding extensive training sessions for staff. Also, the hotel is focusing on leveraging technology to provide the best service to its guests.

Profile at the Hotel

Mr. David Eduaful has risen through the ranks to hold the current position as the Ag. Managing Director of Labadi Beach Hotel. He served as the Rooms Division Manager, his diligence and hard work saw him occupy the position of the Head of Sales and Marketing. He later became the Executive Assistant at the hotel and now occupies the position of Ag. Managing Director.

"We are proudly local, but fiercely global."



Medjool Date Flapjacks

By Nana Ama Oforiwaa Antwi

John Taylor made a jokey reference to the moniker in his poem "Jack a Lent" in 1962, which is where the word or term flapjack first appeared. For the British in England, a flapjack is a sweet-densed cake consisting of oats, golden syrup, and melted sugar that is typically cut in rectangles. In America, a flapjack is the same as a pancake, and the two terms are interchangeable.

Ingredients

- 200g of rolled oats.
- 50g of blended seeds
- 75 grams of pitted and chopped medjool dates
- 100 grams of unsalted butter with an additional 100 grams of golden syrup.
- 250g peanut butter that is crunchy
- 200g of rolled oats.

Instructions

- Heat the oven to 180C/fan 160C/gas 4.
- Butter a 20cm square baking tin and line with baking paper.
- Melt together the butter, golden syrup and 200g of the peanut butter in a small pan until smooth and evenly combined.
- Tip into a large bowl with the oats, seeds and dates, mix well.
- Scrape the mixture into the prepared tin and smooth the top using a rubber spatula and bake for 20-25 minutes or until golden on top.
- Whisk the remaining 50g of peanut butter with 2-3 tbsp of hot water from the tap until it is a drizzling consistency.
- Leave the flapjacks to cool for 5 minutes in the tin, then drizzle with the peanut butter and cut into 12 rectangles using a cutlery knife.
- Leave to cool completely, then serve



6 things to know before starting a rubber plantation

By Prince Opoku Dogbey

Rubber is an elastic, waterproof material that is either synthetically produced or extracted from a tree that thrives in warm climates. Latex, a liquid tree sap produced by a number of trees and plants, is used to make natural rubber.



1

Required Climate

The humidity level must be around 75% during the 200–300 cm of heavy, evenly distributed rainfall needed for the rubber plantation. The range of 20°C to 35°C is ideal for rubber plant growth. The growth of rubber plants will be halted by freezing temperatures, and regions with strong winds are not suited for growing rubber. Moreover, the plantation needs at least 5 to 6 hours of sunlight each day.

2

Soil Requirements

Wild vegetation in the main field should be removed, and pits with measurements of 120 cm 45 cm 60 cm should be dug along the contour at appropriate intervals. Typically, 200 to 300 pits are needed for every hectare of land. Row plantation across the slope and along contour lines is advised in steep locations. But make sure to create a patio with a 2 m wide. The *Hevea brasiliensis* tree produces the majority of the latex. The type of land affects the rubber plantation. Square plantations work well on flat soil, whereas rectangle plantations are needed on sloped land.

3

Planting season

The ideal time of year for rubber plantations is from June through July.

4

Propagation

The three types of budding used in rubber cultivation are green, crown, and brown budding.

5

Organic Matter Preferably

Organic manure does help rubber plants grow. Each plant pit should have 225 grams of rock phosphate added to it as part of the basal application process. Yet, the fourth year of planting is when this is advised.

6

Weed Control and Intercultural Operations

In order to control weeds in rubber plantations, weeding is typically done by hand or using chemicals. To control the weeds, chemical herbicides such as Alachor, Simazina, and Diuron should be used.

Intercropping: Is the process of raising two or more crops close to one another. The main objective of intercropping is to increase the yield on a certain plot of land by utilizing resources that would otherwise go unused by a single crop. Adopting intercropping in rubber plantation will generate good revenue. Crops that can be grown as intercrops are ginger, tumeric, vegetables, pineapple or herbal plants.



The Harvest Season

*In late summer and early fall,
Lies tall, barren field that has
been plowed and is borne,
Lies the joy of the farmer,
With bounty harvest, enough to feed
the world, The winnowing fans,
Ready to turn circles,
On a thousand slopes, the corn waves
Which connotes the toils of the farmer,
Burned by the savage sunlight,
But much richer gifts has summer given.
The gift of the farmer,
Ready to help humanity,
The annual harvest in front of him
Waiting to tend to his farm.*



— Poem by Prince Opeku Dogbey

Growing Agriculture with Vertical Farming

By Nana Ama Oforiwaa Antwi

Agriculture is the world's oldest and most adaptable industry which continues to cater for the ever-growing population. However, with the well-known fact about our population constantly increasing, it is no news that humans won't be producing enough to feed themselves.

Coupled with less resources like arable lands and water at our disposal we'd need to come up with innovative and reliable ways to grow our produce and that is where vertical farming comes in.

The hanging gardens of the Babylonians, built nearly 2,500 years ago is said to be the first prototype of vertical farming. Vertical farming simply refers to growing upwards, or growing plants on top of each other to maximize growing space rather than horizontally.

Modern day vertical farming is the latest innovation of the Controlled Environment Agriculture; a farming system which looks at growing in spaces where climate change doesn't cause a difference or affect produce. This is because, conditions can be controlled and manipulated, one article likened the process to smart thermostats in modern homes, wherein certain rooms can be set to different temperatures, today's smart farms allow for variations in humidity, temperature, light, and nutrients from area to area within a single farm.

Unlike traditional farming which grows horizontally in the soil and depends on it for all, nutrients, modern day vertical farms do not use soil thus are not subjected to any geographical location, as plants are grown in warehouses. This means no land is deemed unsuitable to support growth and as such, farms are able to accommodate several plants at the same time on the same piece of land since crops grow upward.

In vertical farming, plants can grow hydroponically, which means plants are grown in a water-based solution filled with the required nutrients to foster growth. They can also be grown aeroponically, where plants are grown vertically, but suspended in air and misted with nutrients-solution or aquaponically, where plants are grown in water with fishes, the fish's waste serve as nutrients for the plants and the plants in turn use that to nourish thereby clearing the water; creating a balanced culture.

Vertical farming alone may not be enough to feed the entire population, but it sure is one of the ways of ensuring planting and cultivating 365 days in a year, and increasing productivity in agriculture.





Keep children away from machinery and vehicles

Children should be kept far away from machinery and automobiles. Tractors, ATS's, and other farm equipment cannot be used or driven by anybody under the age of 13. Older children are permitted to operate automobiles, but they must complete the necessary training and always buckle their seatbelts.

It is illegal to let a child under the age of 13 operate various types of farm equipment, including tractors, and other agricultural self-propelled vehicles. Employers must ensure that their risk assessments for young persons under the age of 18 fully account for their inexperience, immaturity, and lack of knowledge of pertinent dangers, according to the legislation.



THE 19TH CENTURY FARMER

By Nana Ama Oforiwaa Antwi

One may be well acquainted with who the 21st century farmer is, as the media and the internet do so well in giving us glimpses into their lives and how they contribute to the revenue of their respective economies, not forgetting the numerous technological inventions at their disposal.

But ever wondered what it was like to be a farmer in the 19th century? how they lived, worked and the challenges they faced?

Let's rewind the clock to the days of the 19th century farmer.

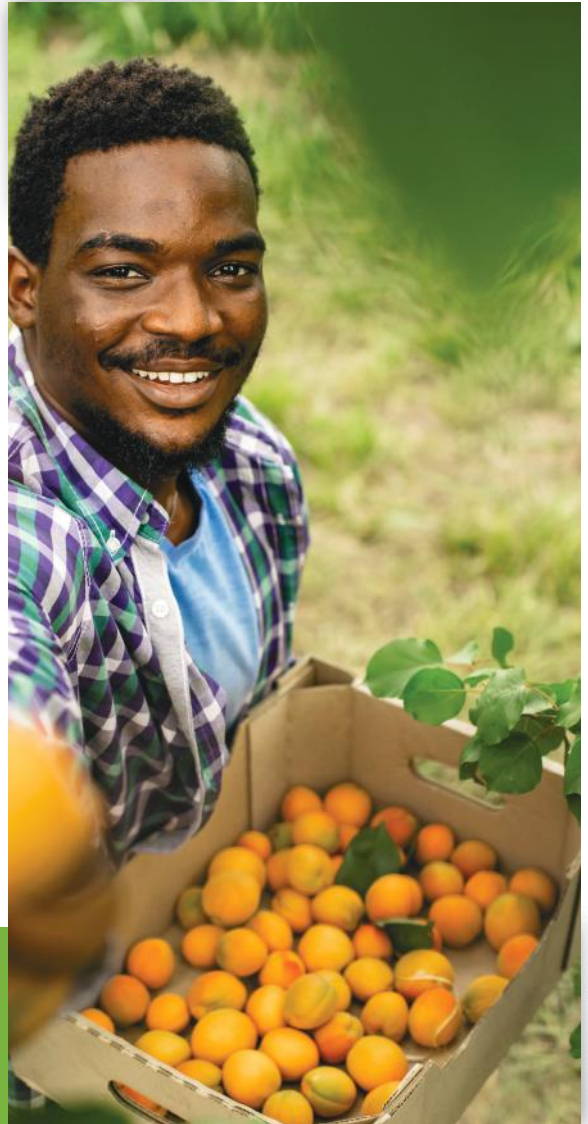
The 19th century farmer is hardworking and owns a big plantation yet he earns little. Yes, he, because women at the time were in charge of cooking, sewing and tending to the home in the 19th century, notwithstanding the fact that women in various parts of the world including Africa, worked on farms as a means of support to their husbands, the 19th century acknowledged men as the farmers and women as housewives.

A 19th century farmer cannot do without his animals, he wakes up very early in the morning to visit the farm and uses his cattle and oxen as his ploughing machine until Jethro Wood came through for him in 1882. He cultivates crops depending on where he lives; the farmer in the Americas grew tobacco, wheat, oats, cotton, etc, the Caribbean cultivated sugarcane while the Ghanaian 19th century farmer planted cocoa, cassava, plantain and many others.

Seasons also played a major role in his life as each season determined what work he had to do on the farm. During the fall and the summer, the farmer clears the field and uses animals to get the land prepared for planting during springtime.

Unlike the 21st century farmer who may depend on irrigation systems to water their fields in the dry season; ensuring cultivation all year long, the 19th century farmer doesn't have that at their disposal thus sticks to mending his fence and tending to injured animals during the dry season. This sometimes causes his crops to fail, sending him into debt, He could also continue to harvest crops with his family or laborers since there are no harvesters, while the 21st century farmer can allow his combined harvesters and agro-processing factories to deal with his post-harvest loss.

All the 19th century farmer thinks of when his crops are harvested is choosing which of the produce is good enough for the local market and which ones would be consumed at home, no machines or factories to process the goods to add value to the produce, not to mention nation or world-wide shipping. A look into the life of the 19th century farmer, gives the 21st century farmer and every other individual who benefits from agriculture today, a sense of appreciation for how far the world has come in regards to agriculture and innovation and sets prospects for growth and development for the future.



OGM : la Chine prend l'escalier américain dans la production agricole.

Par Yosua Domedjui

Importation des huit OGM autorisée par la Chine grâce à l'accord commercial du pays signer par les États-Unis.

La Chine a en effet autorisé des cultures et des productions de 32 OGM et octroie six autres nouvelles cultures comme le soja et le maïs transgénique.

Pour la première dans l'histoire de la Chine, il autorise la canne à sucre et la luzerne génétiquement modifiées.

C'est très inhabituel de la Chine d'octroyer un nombre si conséquent d'OGM. Mettons l'accent que la Chine est le plus grand marché agricole au monde.

Depuis 2019, le département de l'agriculture américain met en exergue que, la Chine est devenue le premier marché importateur des produits agricoles, dépassant à la fois l'UE et les États-Unis, avec une estimation de 133, 1 milliard de dollars.



La Chine prévoit de lever les obstacles tarifaires, sur une longue durée afin de faciliter l'exportation états-unienne des biotechnologies agricoles.

L'autorisation des OGM de la Chine est à des fins de transformation et des cultures.

Toutes ces mesures s'expliquent par le fait que la Chine cherche à être autosuffisante dans les technologies dites émergentes, dont les biotechnologies agricoles.

Depuis 2013, le gouvernement chinois a reconnu que le pays devait compléter son approvisionnement national par des « importations modérées » afin de répondre aux besoins en matière de sécurité alimentaire, ce qui est considéré comme un élément clé de la sécurité nationale dans un pays comptant environ 1,4 milliard d'habitants.

Cette déclaration marque également le point de départ d'une augmentation des investissements publics dans la recherche pour le développement des OGM

Priorité en Chine : le développement de l'agriculture.

Par Yosua Domedjui

Redynamiser le secteur de l'agriculture et ses vastes campagnes grâce à son voyage vers la modernisation.

L'autorité chinoise envoie un signal fort à la ferme agricole et au secteur de l'agriculture en général, lors de la conférence de presse de Beijing, Tang Renjian, le directeur du Bureau du groupe PCC ainsi que le ministre de l'agriculture déclare que l'objectif du pays est de renforcer et de redynamiser et soutenir le secteur de l'agriculture.

D'après Tang les tâches des responsables de l'agriculture sont la sauvegarde de la sécurité alimentaire nationale et d'empêcher que les agriculteurs qui ont été sortis de la pauvreté retombent dedans.

Le gouvernement charge les responsables locaux de favoriser l'industrie rurale, d'augmenter les revenus des agriculteurs et de faire de la campagne un meilleur endroit où vivre et travailler afin de raviver les régions moins aisées.

Ces efforts que fournit le gouvernement montrent l'attitude des autorités à l'égard du « sannong » un terme officiel désignant également l'agriculture.

Tout de même le 20e congrès national du PCC tenue en octobre à mettre l'accent sur le travail lié à l'agriculture.

Les autorités centrales prévoient d'accélérer la construction d'un secteur agricole. Le secrétaire du comité PCC déclare que « la modernisation socialiste serait incomplète sans la modernisation agricole » ceci montre sans aucun doute que l'agriculture occupe une place très importante dans l'écono-

omie de la Chine et qu'ils sont dévoués à mettre de la valeur à ce secteur grâce à leurs différentes structures d'industrialisation agricole.



« L'année a également vu les revenus par habitant augmenter de 4,2 % en zones rurales, pour atteindre 20 133 yuans, ceci revient à 1,2 point de pourcentage de plus que la croissance du PIB et 2,3 points de pourcentage de plus que la croissance des revenus en zones urbaines »

L'agriculture doit-elle se limiter à la recherche du profit ?

Par Yosua Domedjui

L'agriculture est l'un des plus vieux métiers au monde. A l'époque, ils n'avaient pas pour but de faire de l'argent, ni même de faire des profits. C'est pourquoi les récoltes de ces plantations étaient échangées contre d'autres biens. C'était l'époque du troc. Les grandes plantations des Amériques, cultivées par des esclaves venus d'Afrique et d'ailleurs, n'étaient pas vendues à des prix exorbitants ont survécu aux cultures et aux générations. Toutes les grandes économies ont bénéficié de cette activité humaine simple mais essentielle. Les États-Unis, par exemple, n'ont pas toujours été aussi grands. Pendant longtemps, ils ont dû cultiver pour faire vivre leurs citoyens. Avec le temps, ils ont développé des machines et des technologies qui leur ont permis de mécaniser l'agriculture.

Que voyons-nous aujourd'hui ? L'activité humaine qui était un moyen de survie pour les hommes pendant de nombreuses années est devenue un moyen de gagner beaucoup d'argent. Elle est devenue une activité économique comme les autres. On pourrait dire que les choses ont changé au fil des années et des siècles. C'est sans doute vrai. C'est un fait que beaucoup d'argent est investi dans les cultures ces derniers temps. L'achat d'engrais et d'autres outils agricoles est coûteux. Cela a donc une incidence sur le prix des cultures sur le marché.

Malgré cela, le monde entier est confronté à de nombreuses difficultés. Ces difficultés peuvent être associées à la poussée mondiale de l'inflation ainsi qu'à la guerre actuelle entre la Russie et l'Ukraine. Dans certaines régions du monde, comme l'Afrique, la majorité des citoyens se couchent le ventre vide. La raison en est que le prix de la nourriture est déraisonnablement élevé. Pour cette raison, la plupart des citoyens sont incapables d'acheter de la nourriture. Ceux qui essaient d'en acheter sont incapables d'en acheter beaucoup pour les satisfaire. C'est pourquoi je suis d'avis que nous devons revenir au début ; lorsque l'agriculture n'avait pas pour but de faire de l'argent mais de subvenir aux besoins des citoyens du pays.

Cela permettrait à chacun de disposer de suffisamment de nourriture pour survivre jusqu'au moment où tout redeviendra normal. Le monde pourra revenir à sa motivation de profit pour l'agriculture lorsque tout reviendra à la normale. En ce moment, tout le

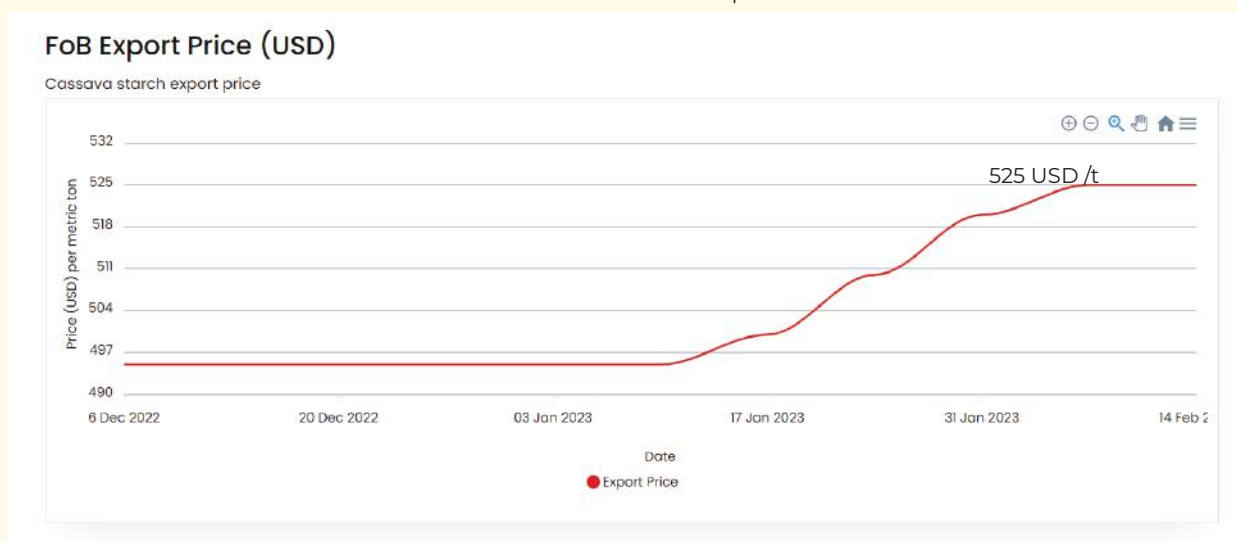
monde pourra acheter de la nourriture même si elle est très chère.



Market Analysis of Cassava Starch In Thailand

The market prices of cassava starch have reduced slightly over the last month. The price ranges from 510-525 US dollars/ton (3,564.49 yuan /ton). This week, the market price of cassava starch in Thailand’s tapioca starch quotation is FOB (Bangkok) 495 US dollars/ton (3,564.49 yuan /ton). The starch prices in the domestic cassava starch market are stable. In Thailand, the raw material supply of fresh cassava is stable. The average starch leavening of cassava starch is between 24-28 percent. Thailand is relatively stable, the open factories remain high, and the starch output continues to increase. The speed of cassava starch clearance is still low, and the quotations of traders are slightly confused.

● Thailand Cassava Starch price



Price Factors

Quality of cassava root: Factory owners demand cassava with high starch content for production. Higher starch content would receive a higher price than the lower one. The price offered by the collector is dependent on the quality of the cassava root, specifically, the starch content.

Cost of Labour: Total labour cost including farm labour for the cultivation and harvesting of cassava. The cost of labour during the harvesting period is high as compared to cultivation therefore the cost of harvesting directly affects pricing.

Harvest Yield: There is a high correlation between harvest yield and the price of cassava. The price of cassava is lower when there is a low yield. The lowest prices in June and July can be explained in a similar way but the opposite end. It is noted that the abundance of cassava roots drives the prices down.

Handling and Logistics: The storage and shipping costs from producing areas to importing countries are great determinants of cassava prices. When the shipping and transportation cost of cassava to consumers and industries are high, it affects the retail price of cassava. Cassava farmers bring their harvest to the collectors, where they are responsible for absorbing the cost of transportation from farm to collecting fields.

Harvesting time: The harvesting period is a great determinant for the price of cassava. The abundance and scarcity of cassava affect the price. The prices of fresh cassava roots often rise in November and December of every year as cassava is easily harvested during the rainy season. During the harvesting season, the prices are relatively high due to the limited supply.



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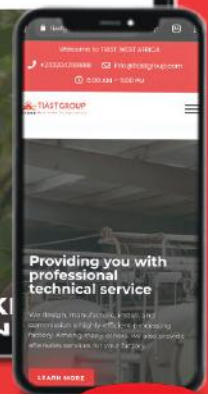
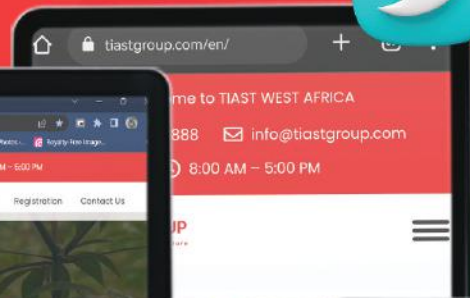
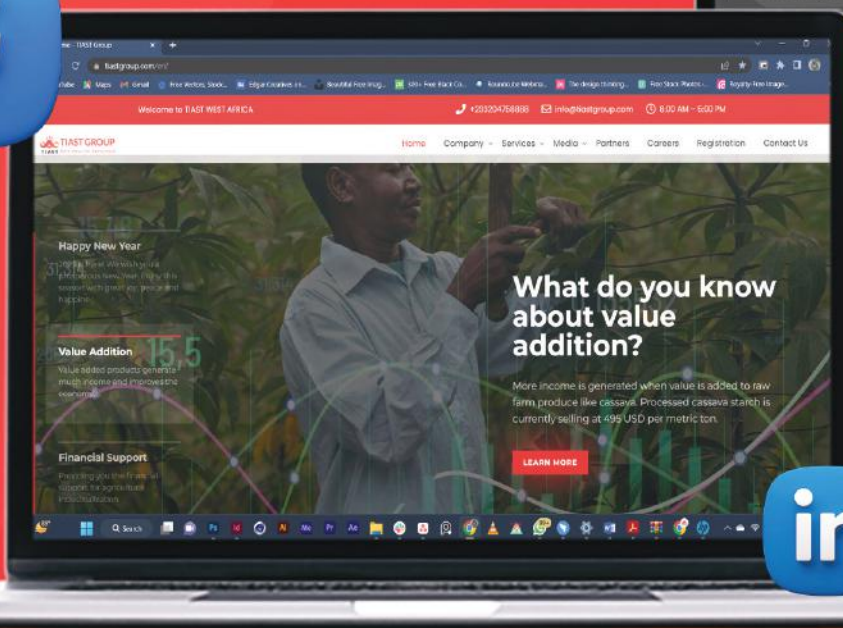
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