

Press release

26 January 2010

Nordic Sugar's 2009/10 sugar output sets new record

On the back of a bumper sugar beet harvest, Nordic Sugar achieved a sugar output at an all-time high in 2009/10, while also reducing energy consumption in production.

Nordic Sugar's five sugar factories in Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Lithuania together produced a record volume of 1,013,000 tonnes of sugar in 2009/10, exceeding last year's level by approx 175,000 tonnes. The output is considerably above Nordic Sugar's national EU sugar quotas and higher than the level forecast at the start of the campaign.

The positive result was achieved in particular on the strength of a bumper harvest of sugar beet with an exceptionally high sugar content in Denmark and Sweden, boosted by a near-optimum mix of sun and rain during the sugar beet growth period. Furthermore, targeted efforts over the past few years to ensure a high level of operational dependability are now paying off.

Thomas B. Olsen, Managing Director of Nordic Sugar A/S, says in his comment to the result:
– It has been an excellent campaign for us in every way in 2009. We've had fine raw materials of high quality, and the big harvest meant that the campaign was longer than normal, which helps to ensure efficient facility utilisation. Despite a few technical challenges and the winter weather of recent weeks, several of our factories have managed to set production records thanks to both professional endeavours and efficient cooperation with the sugar beet growers.

Improved energy efficiency

The high beet quality and operational efficiency at the factories, in combination with targeted initiatives in the energy area, helped to reduce energy consumption during the campaign.

– Energy efficiency is a strategic focus area for us, and we're pleased to see that we succeeded in bringing down our consumption of energy in the campaign just ended, in some places by up to 10 per cent per tonne of sugar produced. This has a positive climate impact too, of course. Now,

we're looking forward to being able, as previously, to offer our customers high-quality and sustainable sugar products, says Thomas B. Olsen.

Nordic Sugar's sugar production 2009/10 in the four production countries:

Country	Production in 2009/10 (tonnes of sugar)	Production in 2008/09 (tonnes of sugar)	Sugar yield (tonnes of sugar/ha)	EU quota 2009/10 (tonnes of sugar)
Denmark	445,000	397,000	12.6 (11.4)	372,000
Sweden	403,000	327,000	10.8 (9.3)	293,000
Finland	88,000	69,000	6.4 (5.7)	81,000
Lithuania	77,000	43,000	8.1 (7.2)	64,000

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Nordic Sugar boasts market leadership in the Nordic and Baltic countries. Our sugar products are used in all food industry segments, and we develop many of our tailored solutions in close collaboration with our customers. Consumers benefit from our range of speciality products marketed under our Dansukker trademark.

Production takes place at plants in Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Lithuania and is based on natural raw materials, primarily sugar beet grown locally. After the sugar is extracted, we manufacture a line of high-energy animal feed from the beet. In all we do, we are guided by our ambitions for environmental, social and financial sustainability: We want to be an attractive workplace, a strong business partner and an asset to the local community.

In 2009 Nordic Sugar became a member of Nordzucker, Europe's second largest sugar producer.