



SUGAR INDUSTRY

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Total production of sugar in the Republic of Belarus in 2011 was 985.5 thousand tons, which is 20.7% more in comparison with 2010. On the average, production of sugar have been increasing annually by 8.5% over past five years and in 2010 it exceeded the level of 2006. Production of sugar in the Republic of Belarus is carried out by four sugar factories. About 50% of all sugar is produced from sugar beet, 50% - from imported raw cane sugar.

High demand for sugar has increased average annual sugar consumption by 17%

As a result of excessive demand for sugar, retail sales of sugar in 2011 has increased by 60%, while average annual sugar consumption per capita increased by about 17% and reached 48.1 kg (compared with same European indicators showing 36 kg and 39 kg in Russia).

39% of produced sugar was exported in 2011

Currently, sugar exports from the Republic of Belarus can only be executed by four sugar factories. In 2011 a decrease of export by 23% is shown compared to 2010. Export has suffered for the first time since 2007. Export of sugar from the Republic of Belarus is characterized by predominance of CIS countries. The main foreign consumer of Belarusian sugar is Russia, which accounts for 38% of Belarusian export of sugar. Import of sugar to the Republic of Belarus almost completely consists of raw cane sugar supply from Latin America for further processing by Belarusian sugar factories. Thus, over the past 3 years sugar import to Belarus increased from 221 tons to 407 tons in 2010 and 462.8 thousand tons in 2011.

In 2011 the program of the Council of Ministers on the development of sugar industry was put into operation

In 2011 the program of the Council of Ministers on the development of sugar industry for years 2011-2015 was put into operation. The emphasis is placed on sugar beet. Raw materials processing capacities are planned to be increased to 49.5 tons per day, and the amount of sugar produced from it - up to 720 thousand tons in 2015 compared to 596 thousand tons in 2011. It is anticipated that improvement of cultivation technologies will increase average sugar content of roots from 14.7% to 17%, crop yield - from 412 to 524 centner / ha and the production of sugar from 1 hectare - more than to 10 tons.

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