

**SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL
CENTER NEWSLETTER**

中国农业中心新闻摘要

June 2017 (Issue No 6)

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Celebrating 60 Years Of Success

[China Daily, 26.05.2017] -- China's top agricultural scientific institution, The Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) celebrated its 60th anniversary on May 26, 2017. CAAS, ranking the first in China's agricultural industry, has been central to improving food supply, security and safety worldwide. CAAS will continue to work on scientific innovation and technology transfer to better serve the strategic planning of the country, said Tang Huajun, president of the Academy.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 53, May 2017)

Chinese institutions rise in THE's list of world's most prestigious universities

[China Daily, 15.06.2017] --The Times Higher Education (THE) on 14th June 2017, published its World Reputation Rankings, the list of the world's most prestigious universities compiled from research insight from leading global academics. Chinese universities performed well in this year's rankings. Tsinghua University is the highest ranking Chinese university, placing 14th and is the second most prestigious Asia-Pacific university. Peking University ranks 17th overall.

[Full article](#)

China's biotech sector to exceed 4% of GDP by 2020: Authority

[People's Daily Online, 02.05.2017] --China's biotech sector will exceed four percent of GDP by 2020, according to a special plan for biotechnology innovation in the 13th Five-Year Plan issued by China's Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST). Based on the plan, China's major achievements in biotechnology will promote its development in fields including medicine, agriculture, resources, and environmental protection by 2020.

[Full article](#)

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Drones drive intelligent agriculture

[China Daily, 02.05.2017] --Drones are now used as agricultural machinery in China, as acknowledged by Vice Minister of Agriculture Zhang Taolin. On wheat fields in Xinghua, East China's Jiangsu province, the authorities are using drones to spray pesticide. Agricultural drones have a huge market potential since they have clear advantages over manual operations on operation efficiency, pesticides efficiency, water consumption, and cost, according to a report by SWS Research.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 53, May 2017)

Project of China-UN development fund launched at UN headquarters

[Xinhua, 27.05.2017] --In order to help developing countries reduce hunger and explore renewable energy, a project named Juncao Technology, promoted by China-UN Peace and Development Trust Fund, was launched 26th May 2017 at the UN headquarters in a bid. Juncao Technology provides an agricultural technology to cultivate edible and medicinal fungi by using wild grasses and herbal plants instead of trees or woods. It is a priority project for the China-UN Fund, because it fits the needs of eradicating poverty in Asian and African countries and it is a solution contributed by China. Juncao grass has been used to control soil erosion, desertification or manage saline-alkali soil because it can develop its root system in deserts and grow fast.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 53, May 2017)

China aims to improve logistics system to protect food safety

[Xinhua, 21.04.2017]--According to an official document released on 20th April 2017, China will build a cold chain logistics system to improve food safety and boost consumer spending. The document calls for a significant increase in the use of cold chain to transport fresh farm produce and perishable food by 2020, including establishing a cold chain temperature tracking system, and building logistical infrastructure in major food producing regions and consumer markets across the country.

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GMO crop approval may open door to biotech seed imports in China

[China Daily, 19.06.2017]--China has decided to approve the use of two new varieties of genetically modified crops from the United States [for use as animal feed]. This may signal that China is willing to allow US agricultural companies to market biotech seeds on the mainland. The decision to accept genetically engineered corn and soybean varieties developed by Dow Chemical Co and Monsanto Co comes after China agreed in May to accelerate a review of several US seed varieties as part of a trade pact with the Trump administration. [Comment: China does not permit the planting of genetically modified food crops but does allow GMO imports, such as soybeans, for use in its animal feed industry.]

[Full article](#)

“Transformers” help tend farmland

[China Daily, 15.06.2017]--A special type of machine is used to spray farmland in Taohai Town, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region. Because of their flexible design, the machines are called “Transformers” by local farmers. The machines are run by the Xinguang Agricultural Machinery Cooperative and are part of a national pilot program run by the Ministry of Agriculture since 2013.

[Full article](#)

Researcher hails ‘milestone discovery in agricultural science’, with implications for all genetically modified plants

[SCMP, 20.05.2017] -- Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States (PNAS) published a study of an 11-year investigation spanning six Chinese provinces, which suggested that the black-market cotton seeds, a hybrid of genetically modified (GM) and traditional cotton plants, cut pesticide use and boosted cotton yields because of their long-term resistance to pests. The production and trading of such seeds are banned in China because they are considered as fake seeds. “This is a milestone discovery in agricultural science,” said Professor Wu Kongming, a lead scientist of the research with the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences’ (CAAS) Institute of Plant Protection.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 53, May 2017)

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Experts emphasize scientific, technological innovations in agriculture

[Xinhua, 27.06.2017] -- Chinese scientists have emphasized the role of scientific and technological innovations in the development of agriculture. On 25th June, 2017, Han Jun, director of the central agricultural work leading team office, said at a forum held by the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) that China will provide more quality and green agricultural products through technological advances.

[Full article](#)

China and UK work to cultivate cutting-edge farming technology

[China Daily, 30.06.2017] -- China and the UK are teaming up to seek new ways to apply technology in the agriculture industry. The UK government's Newton Fund encourages British organizations to apply for a share of up to 8 million pounds (\$10.4 million) to fund work on innovative agricultural solutions for China. "We are focusing on agricultural technologies, particularly looking at digital technologies, as well as robotics and biotechnologies," said Denisa Naidin, Newton Fund portfolio manager.

[Full article](#)

'Pandemic' possible with H7N9 virus

[China Daily, 14.06.2017] -- Mutations in the bird flu H7N9 virus could lead to a "pandemic" that may cause worldwide sickness and death, as warned by a study published by a prestigious international medical journal. This study, led by Yu Hongjie and fellow researchers at Fudan University's Public Health Institute in Shanghai, is based on information from all lab-confirmed human cases of H7N9 reported in the Chinese mainland as of late February 2017.

[Full article](#)

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Chinese scientists predict “green tides”

[Xinhua, 12.06.2017] -- An index to predict scale and severity of coastal algae blooms, or "green tides", for up to 40 days has been invented, as claimed by Chinese oceanologists. The index was based on study on the algae that appeared in the Yellow Sea over the past decade, and developed by scientists from multiple research institutes led by the Institute of Oceanology under the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS).

[Full article](#)

Green finance to help reduce pollution, boost industrial upgrading

[China Daily, 20.06.2017] -- China becomes the first country to build a national system for boosting green finance. China's financial sector helps to contain pollution and help advance the industrial transformation to protect its ecological integrity. At an executive meeting presided over by Premier Li Keqiang on June 14, 2017, the State Council, China's Cabinet, decided to set up five pilot zones, in Zhejiang, Jiangxi, Guangdong, Guizhou provinces and the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region. The pilot zones also show China's continuing commitment to the Paris climate accord.

[Full article](#)

Soil monitoring network passes milestone

[China Daily, 22.06.2017] -- Devices that can detect heavy metals are used in most grain-growing areas now. According to a senior environment official, China has reached the halfway point in setting up a national soil monitoring network, with about 20,000 quality control devices that now cover 99 percent of all counties, while the goal is to have 40,000 devices nationwide by 2020. Qiu Qiwen, head of soil quality management at the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP), said on 21st June 2017, that 88 percent of the main grain-growing areas are covered by the initial network already.

[Full article](#)

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The most neglected threat to public health in China is toxic soil

[The Economist, 08.06.2017] -- Soil contamination is one of the largest and most neglected problems in China –the world’s largest producer of food and of heavy industrial commodities. China’s soil pollution is not only severe but also very extensive. Unlike water or air pollution, toxins remain in the soil for centuries, and are hugely expensive to eradicate.

[Full article](#)

China unrolls nationwide soil pollution survey

[Xinhua, 21.06.2017] -- China is to assess all soil pollution nationwide, a senior official said 21st June, 2017. Qiu Qiwen, an official at the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP), said at a press conference that the survey will identify soil pollution in agricultural land and the effect on farm produce by the end of 2018, and will locate hotspots for pollutants and evaluate risks by 2020.

[Full article](#)

Water law approved with 'chief' system

[China Daily, 28.06.2017] -- On 27th June, 2017, China's top legislature passed the revised Water Pollution Prevention and Control Law to better protect water environment. The law includes provisions for a river chief system, a new mechanism under which leading officials assume major responsibility for addressing water pollution.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 54, June 2017)

China stresses law enforcement on solid waste management

[Xinhua, 22.05.2017] -- At a meeting on 22nd May, 2017, China's top legislature emphasized monitoring the implementation of a solid waste control law through dispatching monitoring teams, launching a national survey, etc. Zhang Dejiang, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), underlined the need for the government to strongly punish any violation of the law.

[Full article](#)

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China appoints new minister of environmental protection

[Xinhua, 27.06.2017] -- China's top legislature appointed Li Ganjie as Minister of Environmental Protection on Tuesday, replacing Chen Jining; Wang Menghui was appointed as Minister of Housing and Urban-Rural Development, replacing Chen Zhenggao.

[Full article](#)

China to hit polluters harder in new soil protection law

[Reuters, 23.06.2017] -- According to a new draft law submitted to the country's parliament, China will fine polluters 2 million yuan (\$293,000) for dumping untreated contaminants into the soil as well as provide state funds to support clean-up projects and establish a nationwide monitoring network. China has promised to take action to tackle polluted soil after years of overmining, unregulated industrial discharges and excess use of pesticide and fertilizer, although the Ministry of Environmental Protection (MEP) has warned that clean-up efforts will be slow and costly.

[Full article](#)

China Focus: Chinese lawmakers sift through new draft law on soil pollution

[Xinhua, 22.06.2017] -- On 22nd June 2017, Chinese lawmakers began deliberating a draft for the country's first law on soil pollution as part of an escalating national war against pollution. The draft law promised funds and a nationwide soil survey every ten years. Luo Qingquan, deputy head of the NPC's environment and resources protection committee, said that a strict environmental protection system, such as the one proposed in the draft law, is the only way to improve soil quality and ensure agricultural produce is safe for consumption.

[Full article](#)

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ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY

Cameras to keep watch for fires

[China Daily, 19.05.2017] -- Henan province plans to install 20,000 surveillance cameras this year to monitor the farmlands and prevent people from burning straw or rubbish, which can cause fires and pollute the air. According to the Henan provincial Department of Agriculture, Blue-Sky Guard system is part of the province's plan to achieve a goal of zero-fires through real-time monitoring.

[Full article](#)

China's rural waste management campaign to cover most villages by 2020

[Xinhua, 14.06.2017] -- A ministry official said on 14th June 2017 that China plans to treat rural household waste in 90 percent of all villages by 2020. Special funds have been set aside to finance the program by most provincial governments. The housing ministry will improve waste collection and treatment as a priority and promote garbage sorting in the future, said Zhang Xueqin, an official with Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development (MOHURD).

[Full article](#)

Chinese vice premier calls for green development of Yangtze River Economic Belt

[Xinhua, 09.06.2017] -- Zhang Gaoli, Chinese Vice Premier, called for green development of the Yangtze River Economic Belt on 9th June 2017. He emphasized water resource protection, waterway construction, industrial upgrades, and urbanization along the river, as well as the connection and market integration between the Belt and Road and Yangtze River Economic Belt. "We should prioritize the protection and repair of the Yangtze River's environment and strive to make the Yangtze River Economic Belt into a demonstration of innovation-driven and coordinated development," said Zhang.

[Full article](#)

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Economic Watch: Authorities promote mandatory environmental disclosure as listed companies fail test

[Xinhua, 13.06.2017] -- As many listed companies recently failed an environmental disclosure test of their 2015 annual reports, China is introducing mandatory environmental disclosure by listed companies. Despite strong public demand for environmental transparency, environmental disclosure in the reports was inconsistent. Pharmaceuticals, brewing and textile sectors were among those ranked lowest, while the petrochemical sector was better than average.

[Full article](#)

Chinese vice premier calls for joint efforts in clean energy push

[Xinhua, 07.06.2017] -- On 7th June 2017, Chinese Vice Premier, Zhang Gaoli called for joint efforts to improve global energy governance to push green and low-carbon development. Zhang said that China is willing to work with the international community on the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change. He called for deepening innovative cooperation in clean energy, improving the energy use system and promoting greener and more efficient energy consumption to build a low-carbon and clean energy supply system.

[Full article](#)

Xi stresses green development

[Xinhua, 27.05.2017] -- As China seeks to better balance economic growth and environmental protection, Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, has called for more efforts to push green development and green lifestyles. Xi listed six key tasks, including speeding up the transformation of growth models and intensifying anti-pollution measures at a study session on 19th May, 2017.

[Full article](#)

China's desert greening inspires world: UNEP

[Xinhua, 27.06.2017] -- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) executive director, Erik Solheim, said on 21st May, 2017, that China's success in reforesting a major desert, Kubuqi Desert in Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, inspired other countries to look at desertification as an opportunity for economic development and for jobs instead of a problem. The UNEP chief will attend a meeting of United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Kubuqi this September. The meeting is expected to draw a roadmap to end desert expansion by 2030.

[Full article](#)

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AGRI-BUSINESS AND TRADE

'Golden offers' look to draw people back to the countryside

[China Daily, 14.06.2017] -- In April 2017, Wuhan, capital of Hubei province, proposed a program - the "20 Golden Terms" that allow entrepreneurs to build infrastructure and invest businesses like agritainment and agritourism in the countryside. This offer would encourage urban residents, especially elderly people, to move to the city's rural areas. The drive came in response to rapid urbanization that has caused empty villages and crowded cities.

[Full article](#)

The green shoots of organic growth

[China Daily, 23.06.2017] -- With increasing awareness of health, the environment and food safety among Chinese consumers, organic products have been gaining popularity in China. As China encourages improving the quality and safety of food, China is applying strict standards for organic certification and inspection. China has been making progress in ecological development, certification and supervision mechanism in the past decade and its organic industry is facing opportunities of strategic importance.

[Full article](#)

The labels said 'organic.' But these massive imports of corn and soybeans weren't.

[Washington Post, 12.05.2017] -- False certifications for organic agricultural products have been found in U.S. imports. Many "USDA Organic" labeled produce were found to have pesticide residues, including those from China. The USDA Organic system suffers from multiple weaknesses in enforcement, including uneven certifying agencies and their organic rules, farmers hiring their own inspection agencies, etc. The main issues Chinese organic farms facing are water and soil pollution, as well as pesticides drifting from neighboring farms.

[Full article](#)

100 European geographical indications set to be protected in China

[SATPRNWS, 03.06.2017] -- The EU and China agreed on June 3, 2017, to formally publish a list of two hundred European and Chinese geographical indications –100 from each side– that will be considered for protection through a bilateral agreement to be concluded in 2017.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 53, May 2017)

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ADB loan to promote inclusive and sustainable livestock farming in China

[ADB, 18.05.2017] -- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$95 million private sector loan with Jiangsu Lihua Animal Husbandry Stock Company (Lihua) on the 18th May, 2017, to develop inclusive and sustainable livestock farming in China. ADB's financing will support Lihua to expand breeder farms as well as contract farming in rural areas and to increase capital expenditure for the environment, animal health, and food safety.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 53, May 2017)

Syngenta OKs ChemChina bid

[China Daily, 06.05.2017] -- China National Chemical Corp, also known as ChemChina, said on 5th May, 2017 that its \$43 billion takeover bid has been accepted by shareholders of Syngenta AG, the Swiss agrochemical and seed producer, paving the way for completion of China's biggest international acquisition deal. DingLixin, a researcher at the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) in Beijing, said "The completion of this deal will help ChemChina become one of the world's largest suppliers of pesticides and other crop-care chemicals."

[Full article](#)

Belt and Road Initiative helps achieve sustainable development: FAO chief

[China Daily, 14.05.2017] -- The Belt and Road Initiative is all about sustainable development and should therefore be connected to the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, said the chief of United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on 13th May, 2017. Jose Graziano da Silva, the FAO director-general said that the initiative will become a new model of cooperative development.

[Full article](#)

China and US reach agreement on beef, poultry and natural gas

[Telegraph, 12.05.2017] -- A new trade deal between China and the United States was announced on 12th May, 2017. China will open its borders to US beef after the meat was banned in 2003, while cooked Chinese poultry is set to enter the American market. US companies would also be able to ship liquefied natural gas to China.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 53, May 2017)

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FAO and partners encourage social innovation to reduce food loss and waste in China's biggest city

[FAO, 22.05.2017] -- The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and Bottle Dream, an organization devoted to social innovation in China, co-organized a one-day event in Shanghai, dedicated to finding ways to stem food loss and waste. The event was designed primarily to raise public awareness about these issues, and invited influential speakers to share their experiences and perspectives on food loss and waste through innovative ideas and approaches.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 53, May 2017)

China conditionally approves Dow-DuPont merger

[Xinhua, 02.05.2017] -- After nearly a year of antitrust investigations, China has decided to greenlight the merger of chemical giants Dow Chemical and DuPont, but asked the two to divest some businesses as preconditions of the approval.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 53, May 2017)

China's Cofco to import more European dairy, meat products

[Reuters, 04.05.2017] -- China's state-owned Cofco Corp will import more dairy and pork products from Europe to meet the growing demand for high-end food products, the conglomerate's Chairman said on 4th May, 2017. The higher imports, as well as an expansion of its domestic production, come as China works to reform its sprawling agriculture sector, to optimize the supply structure, and to keep up with changing consumer demand.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 53, May 2017)

Alibaba buys stake in major Chinese supermarket chain

[Xinhua, 27.05.2017] -- As part of its plan to combine online and offline retail, Alibaba has become the second largest shareholder of a major Chinese supermarket chain through share purchasing. According to the supermarket majority shareholder Shanghai-based Bailian Group, Alibaba bought 201 million shares from Yiguo.com to obtain an 18 percent of stake in Lianhua Supermarket on 26th May, 2017.

[Full article](#)

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Chinese officials promote food safety

[China Daily, 29.06.2017] -- On 29th June 2017, senior Chinese officials attending the 8th Belt and Road Eco-Agriculture and Food Safety Forum in Beijing have called to improve international exchanges and cooperation in food safety. Food safety was a global issue with economic and trade globalization, and added food safety could only be ensured with the adoption of unified standards globally, said Zhang Baowen, vice-chairman of the National People's Congress Standing Committee.

[Full article](#)

Two worlds collide in rising agricultural tourism sector

[China Daily, 23.06.2017] -- More and more people are choosing to visit the farms scattered throughout Beijing's suburbs during weekends. The concept of a "smart farm" emerged this year and tourists can simultaneously experience cutting-edge agricultural technologies applied to their growing processes, such as artificially-lit planting factory, growing plants in a nutrient solution using floating plates, etc.

[Full article](#)

First shipments of New Zealand chilled meat leave for China

[Xinhua, 30.06.2017] -- The first export consignments of chilled meat have left New Zealand shores bound for China as part of a six-month trial, said Nathan Guy, New Zealand Primary Industries Minister, on 28th June 2017, "The air-freighted consignments from Alliance Group and Greenlea Premier Meats mark a significant step towards enabling permanent access for New Zealand chilled meat to China."

[Full article](#)

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AGRICULTURAL POLICIES

Fishing ban imposed earlier this year

[China Daily, 02.05.2017] -- In order to better protect fisheries and the environment, an annual fishing ban was introduced nationwide on 1st of May 2017, weeks earlier than previous years for some regions. This is because the spawning season of most fish has begun earlier, owing to the decay of fishery resources and global warming, said Zhang Xianliang, director of the Ministry of Agriculture's Bureau of Fisheries. For the first time, auxiliary vessels must obey the off-season as well to prevent covert fishing.

[Full article](#)

China to encourage private capital in agriculture development

[China Daily, 07.06.2017] -- China's Ministry of Finance released a guideline on 6th June 2017, on public-private partnerships (PPP) in agriculture to diversify funding for the industry. Private capital is encouraged to participate in green agriculture, high-standard farmland development, modern industrial parks, logistics and trading platforms for farm produce, etc. PPPs are collaborative projects between governments and private companies and are mainly funded and operated by the latter.

[Full article](#)

Vice premier urges improved rural credit guarantee system

[China Daily, 02-05-2017] -- Wang Yang, Chinese Vice Premier, called for a better rural credit guarantee system to direct more loans into the money-starved rural economy. During a meeting on 28th April 2017, Wang said establishing a government-backed system is significant to boosting efficiency of support policies for rural areas and for carrying out the agricultural supply-side structural reform.

[Full article](#)

VAT to be reduced on agricultural products in July

[China Daily, 03.05.2017] -- Value-added tax (VAT) on agricultural products and some other goods will be reduced starting in July, the Ministry of Finance said on 3rd May 2017. According to an online announcement by the ministry, the VAT rate faced by companies to import or sell agricultural products will be reduced from 13 percent to 11 percent.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 53, May 2017)

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Arable land and soil monitoring system

[China Daily, 04.05.2017] -- The Ministry of Agriculture has set up a center to monitor and protect the country's arable land on 2nd May, 2017. According to Zeng Yande, an official at the Ministry, the center will establish a nationwide network to monitor the quality of arable land and treat degradation and pollution. It will also create a nationwide arable land quality data platform and a national arable land soil supervision system.

[Full article](#)

农业部成立耕地质量监测保护中心 [Original document in Chinese](#)

Call to make manure fertilizer of choice

[China Daily, 10.05.2017] -- According to plans announced on 9th May, 2017, the Ministry of Agriculture will encourage the use of manure and reduce chemical fertilizers to make its agricultural industry more environmentally friendly and cost-efficient.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 53, May 2017)

China 2017/18 corn planting area to drop 2.5 pct

[Reuters, 10.05.2017] -- The agriculture ministry said on 10th May 2017, that Chinese farmers are expected to sow 35.84 million hectares of corn this year, down 2.5 percent from last year, as Beijing looks to boost alternative crops, e.g. soybean, cotton, etc., to reduce its corn glut.

[Full article](#) (From China Agri-food News Digest No 53, May 2017)

Revised draft regulates Chinese farmers' specialized cooperatives

[Xinhua, 22.06.2017] -- On 22nd June, 2017, a draft revision to the Law on Farmers' Specialized Cooperatives was submitted to the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) for reviewing. The draft expands the scope of specialized cooperatives, adding several new businesses to the cooperatives, including folk arts and crafts, leisure agriculture, and rural tourism. It also clarifies membership qualification of specialized cooperatives and property rights division in some cooperatives as well as improving system of financing and accounting.

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China pushes fertilizer-replacement program

[Xinhua, 14.06.2017] -- The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) launched a program on 14th June, 2017, to replace chemical fertilizers with organic alternatives in 100 counties and districts. Yu Xinrong, Vice Minister of Agriculture, said that the central government will earmark a fund to support the fertilizer-replacement plan, which targets tea, vegetables, and fruit, by providing subsidies and encouraging social capital to participate.

[Full article](#)

China to boost recycling of agriculture waste

[english.gov.cn, 12.06.2017]-- The State Council has set goals to establish a recycling system for poultry and livestock husbandry waste with scientific regulations and clear responsibility by 2020, to prevent further pollution in agricultural production and support sustainable agricultural development. To achieve the target, implementation, supervision, local management, and financial support should be strengthened.

[Full article](#)

Redistribution of roles to increase efficiency, vitality

[China Daily, 27.06.2017] -- Beijing, Tianjin and Hebei province are going to integrate, transfer industries and services in the next five years for optimizing China's industrial structure. According to Wang Haicheng, an official of the Beijing Municipal Commission of Development and Reform, the planning and construction of Beijing's subcenter, Tongzhou district, and Xiongan New Area in Hebei are major components of this integration, and the reallocation of Beijing's non-governmental functions.

[Full article](#)

Use of antibiotics in poultry and livestock to be reduced

[China Daily, 24.06.2017] -- According to a national plan released by the Ministry of Agriculture on 23rd June, 2017, irregularities in the use of antibiotics in poultry and livestock in China will be strictly monitored to reduce drug resistance. More than 97 percent of poultry, livestock and aquatic products in the domestic markets are expected to pass tests for antibiotics residue by 2020. To control animal-sourced drug resistance, authorities will develop and promote new drugs and ban more than 100 kinds of high-risk drugs for both human and animal use.

[Full article](#)



SINO-GERMAN AGRICULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER

中国农业中心新闻摘要

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NEWS ABOUT DCZ

For news on activities carried out and forthcoming events at the German-Chinese Agricultural Center (DCZ), please directly consult our website, which is updated frequently:

www.dcz-china.org

News items covering recent events:

4th German-Sino Agribusiness held in Beijing

The DCZ 4th Agri-business Forum took place successfully in Beijing on 16 May 2017. The Forum focused on the topic of “Rural Structure Change”, and the presentations from each speaker reflected the dynamic development in Chinese rural area, and technology innovation and professional farmers’ education were once more addressed as important factors for moderation of farming.

[Read more](#)

Sino-German Symposium on Integrated Management of *Drosophila suzukii*

In order to identify current knowledge gaps and potentially efficient strategies to control “Spotted Wing *Drosophila*” (SWD), *Drosophila suzukii*, in both Asia (area of origin) and Germany (area of invasion), the Julius Kühn-Institut, Federal Research Centre for Cultivated Plants organized a Symposium at the Institute for Biological Control, Darmstadt, and Institute for Plant Protection in Fruit Crops and Viticulture, Dossenheim, June 26 to July 1, 2017.

[Read more](#)

Agricultural Support Policy: DCZ organized a visit to Germany for Chinese Government Officials

From 18 to 24 June 2017, a high-ranking delegation of officials from MoA, FECC and CAAS got acquainted with European and German policies supporting the agricultural sector, such as direct payments and rural development measures. The delegation visited the Federal Ministry of Agriculture (BMEL) in Bonn, the Ministry of Agriculture in Saarland, four farms and DLG Headquarters in Frankfurt. China is seeking experience on how to improve its own support system in view of the supply side reforms.

[Read more](#)

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DCZ supported a study visit on organic farming of Chinese farmers and county officials to Germany

From 18 to 24 June 2017, a group of 16 farmers from Wenzhou, Zhejiang Province and officials from Dongliao County, Jilin Province Visited farms, an exhibition and enterprises specialized on organic production in Germany and The Netherlands. The trip was supported by DCZ through the German consulting company IAK.

CAAS and Thünen Institute sign cooperation agreement

On 11 July 2017, Vice-President Wang Hanzhong, leading a delegation of representatives of CAAS, and Research Director Mr. Stefan Lange, representing Thünen Institute, Federal Research Institute for Rural Areas, Forestry and Fisheries, formally signed a Memorandum of Understanding at the Thünen Institute in Braunschweig, to develop cooperation in the fields of agricultural sciences and rural development. DCZ had facilitated the contacts and the elaboration of the document and is closely cooperating with both institutions on different topics.

[Read more](#)

Save the date: 17.8.2017: Workshop on Agricultural Support Policy

Following the above mentioned study visit to Germany, the participants will report on their findings and discuss possible options for China. Please follow further announcements on our website.

New DCZ publication on Chinese Farmer Cooperatives

An article on “Chinese Farmer Cooperatives: History, status quo and institutional challenges” by Wei, Rong(DCZ) and Ren, Dapeng (CAU), has been accepted for publication in the Journal Magazine “Rural 21” (due Sept. 2017). Chinese cooperative-type of farmer organizations have evolved against the backdrop of different socio-economic systems for more than 90 years. The first 10 years following the promulgation of the law on farmer cooperatives 2007 witnessed a rapid development of farmer cooperatives in China. The authors briefly review the history, elaborate the recent development of Chinese cooperatives, and summarize lessons learnt based on a three-year project “Sino-German Farmer Cooperative Promotion” in China.

[Link to “Rural 21”](#)

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