

ABIEC partial data show a 27% increase in beef exports in May

Month recorded volume growth and billing; results contributed to the first rise of quarter GDP in two years.

São Paulo, June 2, 2017 - Demonstrating a recovery in the market, beef exports rose 27% in May, a month in which 115.3 thousand tons were shipped, according to partial data from the Brazilian Association of Meat Exporters (ABIEC). In May, revenues from the negotiations were U\$ 463 million, representing a 28% increase compared to the result recorded in April. Meanwhile, the average prices of exported products increased by 1%, also in comparison with the previous month.

The performance of beef exports, combined with other indicators in the agricultural sector - which increased productivity by 13.4% over the fourth quarter of last year - were the main factors behind the first increase in the Gross Domestic Product (PIB) in two years, which expresses the importance of agribusiness for the advance of Brazilian economy. According to data released by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), Brazilian economy grew 1% in the first quarter.

Considering only the sales of fresh meat, countries and regions that traditionally occupy the first positions in ranking of the main destinies of Brazilian beef remained in the list and increased the importation. Hong Kong was the country that most imported this product category, with a total of 19 thousand tons, which represents a 29% increase of the total marketed in April. China ranks second with a total of 14,000 tons (up 19%). Assuming the EU position in April, Russia appears in third place, totaling 11 thousand imported tons (increase of 14%).

ABIEC's expectation is that the results of the coming months will continue to show signs of improvement, as nations that had not yet removed the embargo on Brazilian beef exports reopened their markets to Brazil in May, as was the case in Algeria.

About ABIEC - www.abiec.com.br

Created in 1979, the Brazilian Association of Meat Exporting Industries (ABIEC) brings together 29 companies in the sector in the country, responsible for 90% of beef traded to international markets. Its creation was a response to the need for a more active performance in the beef export segment in Brazil, by defending the interests of the sector, increasing efforts to reduce trade barriers and promoting domestic products. Currently, Brazil produces around 9.1 million tons of beef, approximately 20% are traded to dozens of countries around the world, following the most stringent quality standards.

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