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BRF plans investment under 1 billion reais in 2010

This year, BRF and Sadia together will invest nearly 800 million in permanent assets and around 370 million reais in matrixes, totaling 1.17 billion reais. "In 2010, we expect figures to remain slightly below these. As from 2011, it is hard to say, as we still do not have total visibility of the company's state after the integration of operation", said an executive at a meeting with analysts and investors convened by the Association of Capital Market Investment Analysts and Professionals in São Paulo (Apimec-SP). **Source:** [Portal do Agronegócio](#) (12/11/2009)

Puccinelli confirms that fertilizer factory belongs in Três Lagoas

Governor André Puccinelli has confirmed that the Petrobrás fertilizer factory belongs in Três Lagoas. This information comes from the two main news sites from the capital (Campograndenews and Midiamax). According to the media, the Governor informed on December 10 that Petrobrás officials' coming to the city on Dec. 14 is confirmed. "The factory is ours", he claimed. The confirmation came up after André was asked about a possible dispute over the facility with the Minas Gerais state Government. To him, the possible dispute may be mere speculation. It arises from comments to the media that the dispute over the factory would be between Mato Grosso do Sul and Mato Grosso states. According to the news, it was too early to boast about the possible coming of Petrobrás officials to the Três Lagoas. To control news shows, politicians were stopped by Casa Civil (Civil House). This came to the surface on the national press on November 24 when the Minister of Agriculture, Reinhold Stephanes, said to Reuters, after a meeting with President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, that the fertilizer factory would be put up in Três Lagoas. **Source:** [Jornal do Povo](#) (12/10/2009).

Goiás business group to invest in Piauí

It was with the intention of expanding business and investing in Piauí state that Francisco Tomazini met with Governor Wellington Dias on December 7 in Karnak to discuss the willingness to invest in lands in Piauí. The group's idea is to set up an agro-industrial complex in south Piauí. The final decision, according to Tomazini, will be made after the conduct of surveys on municipalities, infrastructure conditions, fiscal and financial incentives, as well as environmental requirements. **Source:** [TV Canal 13](#) (12/9/2009).

BASF to build factory in São Paulo for biodiesel market

German company BASF will build a new chemical factory in the Guaratinguetá (São Paulo state) complex. The facility, which is expected to start operations in the second half of 2011, will produce sodium methylate, a catalyst for biodiesel production. The company forecasts an annual turnover of US\$70 million (nearly 50 million euro) for the new production line based on present values, amounting to nearly 3% of the company's income in Brazil in 2008, which was around 1.6 billion euro. **Source:** [Portal Exame](#) (12/9/2009).

Imcopa completes agreement with creditors and announces strong comeback

Imcopa, one of the largest national capital soybean crushers, announced, after a year of tight financial liquidity resulting from the global crisis, that last year it concluded the agreement to restructure its debts to the biggest creditor banks. With the five-year extension on the debt, the company can pause for breath before going back to the normal pace of its operations. "Negotiations continue with small-loan banks, but we believe they will finally adhere to the agreement made with big creditors, as the signed agreement represents nearly 70% of total industry debt with banks", said Imcopa President, Frederico José Busato Junior. According to Busato, the company has met all its 2009 commitments in spite of cash flow limitations. **Source:** [AgroLink](#) (12/8/2009).

Bertin system provides for beef tracing

Almost six months after being accused by the State Public Ministry (Ministério Público Federal) of Pará state of contributing to the Amazon deforestation, along with other beef packers, Bertin SA is launching a system expected to ensure product traceability and sustainable beef processing. As from this week, fresh beef marketed under the Bertin brand and sold at retail will carry a label with a traceability code with information on the origin of the product. The company's marketing director, Marcos Scaldelai, explains that the consumer will have information on the origin and will be assured that the product does not come from animals raised in deforestation areas or slave labor. He says the consumer should key in the number in Bertin's website (www.bertin.com.br) to obtain information including the ratio of farms supplying animals on a specific slaughter day and place. **Source:** [Canal do Produtor](#) (12/7/2009).