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A Weekly Review of Business Opportunities

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## Vale pays US\$3.8 billion for Bunge's operation in fertilizers

Vale finished the purchase of fertilizers from Bunge with a US\$ 3.8 billion cash transaction. The company had already announced, in mid-January, that it was involved in this negotiation. Vale will pay US\$ 3.8 billion for 100% of the assets that belong to Bunge Participações e Investimentos S.A. (BPI), controlled by Bunge Ltd. (Bunge), established in New York. BPI has, in Brazil, a portfolio made up of phosphoric rock mines, and phosphate processing units, as well as 42.3% of direct and indirect shares in Fosfertil's total capital. "The transaction does not involve fertilizers' retailing and/or distribution", highlighted Vale in a press release. Out of the total amount, US\$ 1.65 billion will be allocated to the purchase of BPI's phosphoric rock and phosphates assets, and US\$ 2.15 billion to the purchase of BPI's shares in Fosfertil. [...]

Source: [Gazeta do Povo \(for subscribers\) \(01/28/2010\)](#)

## Marfrig purchases Argentine lands for confinement

Marfrig group's Quickfood slaughter house purchased 150 hectares in the Argentine municipality of Monte Ralo, in Córdoba, where it will build the largest feedlot (space for cattle confinement) in Argentina, with a capacity of 22 thousand heads of cattle. The operation was confirmed by a company source, which refused to reveal the amount paid. In the market, it is said that the group paid US\$ 2 million for the lands. This will be the first of a series of feedlots that the Brazilian group expects to install in Argentina, as part of its self-supply strategy, as it was announced last June by Marfrig. [...] Source: [DCI - Diário do Comércio & Indústria \(for subscribers\) \(01/28/2010\)](#).

## HPB and SIMISA join to invest R\$60 million in the bioenergy sector

Two traditional providers of the sugar-energy sector will join to establish a new company: HPB-SIMISA. The new business' joint investment, that will begin with the building of a new factory in Sertãozinho for the production of boilers and thermolectric plants, will be of R\$ 60 million until 2014. During this period, the aim is to reach approximately R\$ 500 million in sales and a capacity to produce 15 boilers annually. "We need to reach R\$ 200 million in sales in 2010, and from then on a 30% share in this market", says Renato Malieno Nogueira from HPB-SIMISA. [...] Source: [DCI - Diário do Comércio & Indústria \(for subscribers\) \(28/01/2010\)](#).

## Granol invests in soy industrial park in Tocantis

Granol Indústria, Comercio e Exportação is expanding its activities to Tocantins, where it will invest in a complete agribusiness that foresees the construction of four soy warehouses and one crusher. The unit will be the first grain processor in the state. At the beginning, the plant that is expected to begin operating in 2013 will have a crushing capacity of close to one thousand tons of soy per day, an amount that could be increased. The crusher will be installed in the city of Aguiarnópolis, where one of the warehouses will be constructed. The other three will be located in the municipality of Porto Nacional, Figueirópolis and Guaraí. [...] Source: [DCI - Diário do Comércio & Indústria \(for subscribers\) \(01/27/2010\)](#).

## Plant of LANGUIRU will have Fundopem

RS granted Fundopem and Integrar benefits to Cooperativa Languiru, allowing an investment of R\$ 33 million in the pork slaughter house in Poço das Antas. The project is expected to conclude by the second semester of 2011. The plant will have a slaughtering capacity of one thousand animals per day and it will create 270 jobs. "We will be back in charge of the slaughtering of animals, that is currently outsourced", says the director Pedro Mallmann. Other R\$ 8.5 million will be invested in the production of piglets in Bom Retiro do Sul. Source: [Correio do Povo \(01/26/2010\)](#).

## Embrapa and Petrobrás will invest in sunflower in Semiárido

[...] The project valued in R\$ 1 million will be executed between 2010 and 2012, under the coordination of Embrapa Soja with the participation of Embrapa Tabuleiros Costeiros, Embrapa Meio Norte, Empresa Baiana de Desenvolvimento Agrícola (EBDA), Instituto Pernambuco de Agropecuária (IPA), Empresa de Pesquisa Agropecuária do Rio Grande do Norte (EMPARN), Secretaria de Agricultura de Alagoas, Instituto Centec, among other regional institutions. From 2009, Brazilian government's aim is that all diesel oil commercialized in Brazil contain 4% of biodiesel. Soy is the main raw material for the production of biodiesel in Brazil, but they expect to expand the production of sunflower oil, dendê, canola and mamona [...]. Source: [Embrapa Soja \(01/26/2010\)](#)