

Fatty Alcohol trends 2020

Demand/Availability/Price

Fatty alcohol has been impacted heavily by COVID-19, do you know how the market is faring in these times? Here is your update on how demand, availability and pricing has changed over the past few months, and how it will change before year's end.



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PKO pricing 2020

Fatty alcohols players monitor palm kernel oil (PKO) prices closely and quarterly contract prices often follow feedstock movements.

PKO prices were on a downtrend coming into 2020 and hit a low in May 2020 before steadily rising again towards August.







Maintenances planned in the market between August-November



"Demand is minimal for fatty alcohols right now, with Q3 contracts just settling in mid-July. Q3 contract settlements were less than usual as well because players stockpiled in Mar-Apr when the fears about the pandemic first began."

Samantha Wright

Senior Editor Manager, ICIS Pricing



Fatty alcohol availability trends 2020

Availability for fatty alcohols remains healthy so far in 2020, however three maintenances are planned later in the year. Wilmar have a maintenance at their Netherland's plant in Sept-Nov, while two other plants will begin maintenance in Q3/beginning of Q4.

Fatty alcohol demand trends 2020

Though overall demand for fatty alcohols is low, consumption for surfactants production and detergents demand remain strong. This strength is expected to remain until the end of the year with some spikes expected due to warm weather.



Want to learn more?

In times like these markets are in a constant state of flux. Fatty alcohols is no exception, keep up to date with the latest industry developments at the ICIS World Surfactants Virtual Conference, 16 - 18 September 2020, 8am - 4pm EST, Online.

The conference will host a variety of talks relevant to the fatty alcohols industry, including:

An update on North American fatty alcohols: the impact of increasing palm consumption vs rising synthetic production on the supply chain.

The talk will be followed up by a round table, where you can pose your questions to the experts.

For more info, check out: bit.ly/WorldSurfactantsVirtual20