

## BRASIL BRAZILIAN TROPICAL AGRICULTURE

#### BRAZIL RANKING IN GLOBAL PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS

## OPENNESS, INNOVATION AND TRANSPARENCY

Brazil is a leader in providing food security to the world





Brazil has a huge potential for agricultural production, but this has not always been the case. In the mid-70s, Brazil was a large food importer. Four decades later, we have evolved to be **the largest net food exporter in the globe**. As a consequence of migratory movements by farmers from the South and Southeast towards the Central West and Northeast regions of Brazil and of the research developed by public and private institutions, which have allowed for crops in less fertile lands in the country, Brazil has become one of the main global players in the agriculture and livestock sectors. Currently, the sectors contribute to **over 20% of Brazil's GDP.** 

**Brazil:** the country with the world's largest positive net balance in the food product trade



# A TROPICAL COUNTRY

Abundant or sufficient **water availability** throughout almost the entire territory

Deep, well-drained soils with productive capacity in the Cerrado (biome in the Central region of Brazil), **with improved fertility resulting from soil acidity correction.** 



OF THE CROP AREA IN BRAZIL USES IRRIGATION, CONTRIBUTING TO MEET GLOBAL CHALLENGES OF WATER SCARCITY

SOYBEAN CROPS IN BRAZIL USE BIOLOGICAL NITROGEN FIXATION Brazil's rainfall regime and lack of extreme temperatures ensure that **production remains viable all year round**, with no need for irrigation in most areas.

The ample use of biological nitrogen fixation in our tropical agriculture reduces the application of nitrogenated fertilizers and, as a result, **avoids CO2 emissions.** 

#### Percentage of other countries' cultivated area equipped for irrigation: Source: FAO/2012-2016

China - **52%** India - **42%** Costa Rica - **29%** Mexico - **29%** USA - **17%** EU - **16%** Switzerland - **12%** 

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## UP TO 30 YEARS AGO,

the leading food-producing countries were those with temperate climates, and the natural conditions in Brazil were not right for the technology available then. Moreover, a considerable portion of Brazilian soil presents low fertility and acidity issues, which limit agricultural production.

Science and innovation in soil chemistry and physics, crop management; pest, disease and weed control; animal nutrition and health; genetics and agricultural meteorology have been decisive for the achievements in Brazil's agriculture and livestock sectors.

More recently, productivity gains in Brazil have attracted multinational companies and overseas investors, who promote innovation in agricultural techniques adapted to tropical conditions.





#### EVOLUTION OF CROP AREA & GRAIN PRODUCTION IN BRAZIL



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