

Crude oil sets the pace – vegetable oils pick up momentum

Berlin, 29 April 2026. — Geopolitical risks and higher crude oil prices are supporting vegetable oil markets. Palm oil is also benefiting from biodiesel policy developments in Southeast Asia.

Vegetable oil prices edged up at the beginning of March. After the escalation in the Middle East, crude oil surged, incorporating a considerable risk premium. Since then, the oil price shock has been affecting agricultural markets primarily via the energy and biofuel markets, providing particular support for vegetable oil prices. Higher crude oil prices tend to improve the competitive advantage of biodiesel and, consequently, also the demand outlook for soybean oil and rapeseed oil. At the end of March, asking prices for soybean oil were at EUR 1,155 per tonne fob German mill, up approximately 6 per cent from the end of February. The US biofuels policy provided additional support. However, this price level could not be maintained as the situation developed, with prices recently falling to around EUR 1,105 per tonne.

Rapeseed oil prices were at roughly EUR 1,165 per tonne on 21 April 2026, representing a nearly 18 per cent increase compared with the same time a year ago. Demand remained generally muted. Market participants acted with restraint, observing further developments. The increasingly tight supply of rapeseed oil raffinate has so far failed to stimulate further purchases.

From the perspective of the Union zur Förderung von Oel- und Proteinpflanzen e. V. (UFOP), the extent to which the resolution adopted by the German Bundestag on the future development of the greenhouse gas quota will affect the national market remains to be seen. Other EU member states are also required to transpose the RED III requirements into national law. The higher RED III targets give reason to expect that quota obligations for biofuels will have to be raised in all member states. UFOP expects EU rapeseed production to benefit from the more ambitious quota requirements. In view of the 2026 harvest and sowing, the association anticipates a sustained supportive effect on oilseed prices.

UFOP has also pointed out that the amount of biofuels derived from rapeseed oil and other crops used is limited due to national caps. Against this backdrop, the association sees no reason to revive the 'food versus fuel' debate.

Palm oil prices have also increased since the beginning of March and recently climbed to the top of the vegetable oil price ranking, reaching the equivalent of EUR 1,345 per tonne. Particular support comes from expectations of rising demand for biodiesel in the two largest palm oil-producing countries, Indonesia and Malaysia. These expectations could limit the export potential of the leading palm oil suppliers and tighten global supply. On the other hand, prospects of record global palm oil



**Union zur Förderung
von Oel- und Proteinpflanzen e. V.**

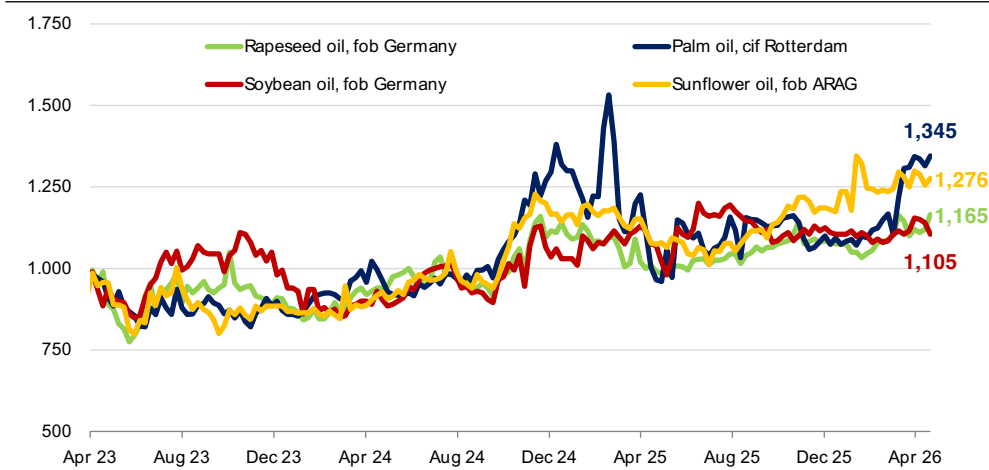
Herausgeber:

UFOP e. V.
Claire-Waldoff-Straße 7
10117 Berlin
Telefon 030/235 97 99 - 0
Telefax 030/235 97 99 - 99
E-Mail info@ufop.de
Web www.ufop.de

INFORMATION
Union zur Förderung von Oel- und Proteinpflanzen e. V.

production and a simultaneous slowdown in demand could counteract these price-supportive factors.

Changes in vegetable oil prices Wholesale prices, in euros per tonne



Source: AMI

Note: ARAG = Antwerp, Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Ghent

Editorial contact:

Stephan Arens

Tel. +49 (0)30 235 97 99 – 10

E-Mail: s.arens@ufop.de

Quick information on UFOP e. V.:

The Union for the Promotion of Oil and Protein Crops e. V. (UFOP) represents the political interests of companies, associations and institutions involved in the production, processing and marketing of domestic oil and protein crops in national and international bodies. UFOP supports research to optimise agricultural production and for the development of new utilisation possibilities in the food, non-food and feed sectors. UFOP public relations aim to promote the marketing of domestic oil and protein crop end products.