



HAITI / HONDURAS ESSENTIAL OIL UPDATE
JANUARY – 2008

HAITI

POLITICAL: With a hopeful new year ahead, the UN has pledged to help the Haitian government improve their border security during 2008. The Secretary General Ban Ki-moon through his Special Representative, Hedi Annabi, pledged also to continue to improve state administration and reforming the judicial sector. The UN's UNICEF Executive Director, also on a recent visit, stated that the more than half dozen UNICEF programs will continue to monitor and assist the education, health and protection of children. As usual, the feasts of Christmas and the "Fete de Rois" were widely celebrated.

VETYVER OIL: Production has resumed as usual after the Christmas and "Fetes de Rois" celebrations. Most of the distilleries have started up and the rush for the roots has caused firmness in the cost price of the roots, but this is compensated by the increase in oil yields. The export market has taken up most of the early production. It is too early to judge whether export prices may stabilize or not. In another few weeks we should have a better feel and a more definite opinion of the market tendency. We have limited stocks to offer and sample.

AMYRIS OIL: Production, which had slowed because of excessive rains, has now resumed. Wood supplies are being replenished. Demand continues to be active. Prices are firm with a rising tendency. Our stocks are limited but we welcome your inquiries.

HONDURAS

CARDAMOM OIL: Due to the quick and sharply increasing prices for seeds caused by strong export demand, we were forced to discontinue production. We would resume only if we can produce by paying very high prices for the seed and being able to sell the oil at record high prices.

STYRAX GUM AND OIL 645P: The arrivals from the forest did improve during December and hopefully may continue during the first few months of the new year. Prices are very firm. Stocks are sold as new arrivals come in from the forest. After commitments are covered, we may have some moderate stocks to offer for both the purified gum and oil.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Michael & Bernard Champon
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