

Europe Biodiesel Production May Decline for First Time in 2011

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Oct. 18 (Bloomberg) -- European Union biodiesel production may fall for the first time in 2011 as Argentina and Indonesia increased exports to the region, an industry association said.

Output rose 5.5 percent to 9.57 million metric tons in 2010, the European Biodiesel Board said today in an e-mailed statement. Output growth slowed from 17 percent in 2009 and 35 percent in 2008, according to the Brussels-based group.

"Forecasts for 2011 show a reduction of European production compared to the same time last year," the statement said. The region's plants operated at 44 percent in the first half of this year, according to the group.

--Editors: Rob Verdonck, Raj Rajendran