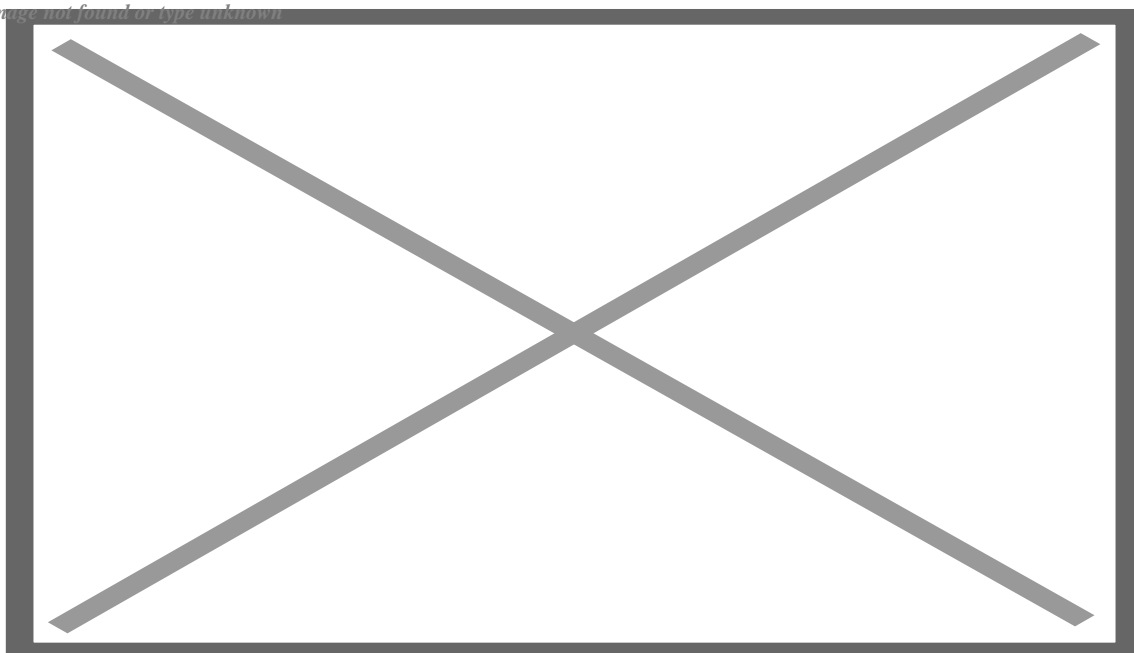


Cuban vice president checks food sovereignty programs in Villa Clara

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**Valdés Mesa (R) verified that actions are being carried out to start the sugar harvest.
Photo taken from Prensa Latina**

Havana, October 13 (RHC)-- Cuban Vice President Salvador Valdés Mesa checked on Thursday in the central city of Santa Clara, plans for food sovereignty, milk and meat production and preparations for the upcoming sugar harvest.

The also member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba indicated that it is necessary that each of the 13 municipalities that make up the province of Villa Clara, achieve self-consumption of food and vegetables and animal protein, programs that are being developed, but not with the necessary promptness.

One issue addressed was the theft and slaughter of cattle and the low rate of births and deaths due to different causes.

In this sense, he called for compliance with the measures adopted to protect the livestock mass, as well as to speed up agricultural development and, in particular, to take care of the resources of each entity.

Regarding the next sugar harvest, Valdés Mesa stated that, in spite of the difficult conditions and the energy situation, actions are being taken to start the harvest and, in particular, essential repairs are being carried out in the factories, while at the same time work is being done to improve the sugar cane roads and other roads.

In this harvest in Villa Clara, the 'Heriberto Duquesne', 'Quintín Banderas' and 'Héctor Rodríguez' sugar mills will intervene, and in the case of 'Carlos Baliño', a strategy was established to produce by-products such as molasses and organic sugar.

The governor of the province, Alberto López, emphasized that the difficulties in these vital areas of the economy of Villaclare are faced with ingenuity and creativity, and there is a commitment of the labor collectives to assume the tasks to expand the production of both branches.

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