



DrumBeat: July 24, 2006

Posted by [threadbot](#) on July 24, 2006 - 9:16am

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

[Update by Leanan on 07/24/06 at 9:23 AM EDT]

[Heatwaves and biofuel demand in Europe and US to fuel bread, pasta and beer price rises](#)

[Grain Drain](#): With unstable supplies of staples, we'll need to rethink ethanol as an alt fuel source.

Brace yourself for crises at the cash register. Major price hikes for food are coming, as Peak Grains join the lineup of life-changing events such as Peak Oil and Peak Water. Unless this year's harvest is unexpectedly different from six out of the last seven, the world's ever-decreasing number of farmers will not produce enough staple grains to feed its ever-increasing number of people. Quite a shift from obsessing about obesity, isn't it?

[Gas tops \\$3 a gallon, hitting 25-year high](#)

[Bush told to plan for Chávez oil shock](#)

"Venezuela's leverage over global oil prices and its direct supply lines and refining capacity in the US give Venezuela undue ability to impact US security and our economy," Mr Lugar wrote in his letter to Ms Rice.

[Iraq ready to restart northern oil pipeline](#)

LONDON - Iraq has completed repairs to one of two sabotaged oil pipelines that export crude from its northern fields to Turkey and aims to restart the flow this week, Iraq's oil minister said on Sunday.

India: [Soaring oil takes us for a ride](#)

[Discontent clouds Angola's oil boom](#)

...On the outskirts of the African nation's bustling capital of Luanda, the talk is not of a more prosperous future but rather of a stolen one.

Led by a collection of reformed Marxists and Western-leaning technocrats, Angola's government is struggling to convince sceptical citizens that it will use the proceeds of vast oil reserves to improve living standards in a country shattered by a brutal 27-year civil war.

100° - get used to it

They were the images that finally demonstrated the irreversible climate change now taking hold in Britain. Where green parklands once provided cool refuges in our cities, newspaper photographs last week showed them to be bleached, white landscapes. Reservoirs were revealed as cracked, arid deserts. And from Cornwall, pictures of the nation's first cage-diving trips for shark-watching tourists, an experience normally confined to Australia's Great Barrier Reef.

In addition, schools closed, steel railways buckled, and road surfaces melted.

[Update by Leanan on 07/24/06 at 12:02 PM EDT]

Los Angeles Times
BUSINESS
 Monday, July 24, 2006
 Selling a New Digital Tune



PUTTING FLAMES: At the Cantarell oil field in the Gulf of Mexico, shown in 2004, production has declined 23% since 2004, when it peaked at about 2.2 million barrels a day.

Putting Universal's Chiefs to the Test
 Marc Shmuger and David Linde must prove to the creative types that they're not just suits.

Will Mexico Soon Be Tapped Out?
 A rapid demise of Cantarell, the country's chief oil field, could pose a serious economic threat.



Apple has raised about 10% of the digital music market's revenue by offering iTunes music players to its iTunes software as content stores, making it easy to transfer files to MP3 files, say for them into playlists and for their own devices.

[Will Mexico Soon Be Tapped Out?](#)

A rapid demise of Cantarell, the country's chief oil field, could pose a serious economic threat.

Output at Mexico's most important oil field has fallen steeply this year, raising fears that wells there that generate 60% of the country's petroleum are in the throes of a major decline.

Production at Cantarell, the world's second-largest oil complex, in the shallow gulf waters off the shore of Mexico's southern Campeche state, averaged just over 1.8 million barrels a day in May, according to the most recent government figures. That's a 7% drop from the first of the year and the lowest monthly output since July 2005, when Hurricane Emily forced the evacuation of thousands of oil workers from the region.



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 United States License](#).