

NEWSLETTER

CHEMICAL & PHARMACEUTICAL

25 - 31 May 2026



China Releases 2 Million Ton Urea Export Quotas

On May 27, 2026, China announced its second round of urea export quotas, totaling nearly 2 million tons for the June–August window. The allocation includes 1.5 to 1.6 million tons of regular quotas and a 400,000-ton government-to-government (G2G) expansion. Supported by NDRC floor-price controls, this release exceeds expectations and forms a major part of China's 3.3 million ton annual export framework. **(ChemNet Chemical Industry Headlines)**

Announcement regarding the "Catalogue of Precursor Chemicals for Export to Specific Countries"

The Ministry of Commerce, the Ministry of Public Security, the Ministry of Emergency Management, the General Administration of Customs, and the National Medical Products Administration have decided to adjust the "Catalogue of Precursor Chemicals for Export to Specific Countries (Regions)," adding three varieties, including methyl 1-tert-butyloxycarbonyl-4-oxo-3-piperidinecarboxylate. **(Ministry of Commerce)**

Natural Rubber Prices Surge

As a core industrial raw material for products such as tires, medical gloves, and footwear, natural rubber prices have been rising continuously since 2026, stabilizing at a near two-year high. Affected by multiple factors including a global supply-demand gap, and geopolitical conflicts, processing companies have increased raw material procurement efforts, and inventory turnover has continued to accelerate. **(ChemNet Chemical Industry Headlines)**

China's first in vivo gene editing therapy approved for genetic blindness

China has approved the first in vivo CRISPR gene editing therapy for an inherited form of blindness, Leber congenital amaurosis. The one-time injection directly edits retinal cells to restore a functional copy of the defective gene. In clinical trials, 85% of treated patients showed significant improvement in light sensitivity and visual function. The approval establishes China as a leader in the clinical translation of in vivo gene editing. **(National Medical Products Administration)**

World's first oral GLP-1/GIP dual agonist for obesity approved in China

China has approved the world's first oral dual agonist targeting both GLP-1 and GIP receptors for chronic weight management. The once-daily pill demonstrated superior weight loss (average 24% of body weight) compared to existing injectable therapies in pivotal trials. Its approval is expected to significantly improve patient adherence and accessibility to next-generation obesity pharmacotherapy. **(Nature Medicine)**