

European Biofuels: Market review and outlook

Simone Burgin Editor, *Argus Biofuels* Argus Media



A broad topic, but a couple of key takeaways:

Most significant changes for next year in Germany and the Netherlands

HVO expected to carry the weight of higher mandates and end of double counting

Increased focus on advanced feedstocks, leading to increased competition and new pricing benchmarks



RED III: Series of changes required by 2030, but flexible transposition

	RED	REDII	REDIII
Overall target	10pc energy by 2020	14pc energy by 2030	14.5pc GHG reduction by 2030 <i>Or</i> 29pc Renewable energy by 2030
Target transport sectors*	Road and Rail	Road and Rail	All transport sectors
Part A mandate		3.5pc by 2030	5.5pc by 2030 (pc energy) including RFNBO's
RFNBO submandate	-	-	1.0pc by 2030 (pc energy)
Part B cap	-	1.7pc	1.7pc
Сгор сар	7pc (post ILUC)	7pc or 1pcp higher than 2020 crop pc (whichever is lower)	7pc or 1pcp higher than 2020 crop pc (whichever is lower)
Double counting	Permitted	Permitted	Not permitted in GHG, permitted for compliance with 29pc renewable energy target
Sector Multipliers	5x electricity in road; 2.5x electricity in rail (post ILUC)	4x for electricity in road; 1.5x for electricity in rail 1.2x for biofuels in aviation/marine (excl. 1G)	4x for electricity in road; 1.5x for electricity in rail In aviation and marine: 1.2x for advanced biofuels; 1.5x for RFNBOs Not applicable to Part B/C/RCF)



Pressure mounting to soften on 2035 ICE phase-out

The European Commission is set, on 10 December, to present legislation on CO₂ standards for cars and vans

European Parliament, EU states and (some) industry pushing for technological neutrality

The European Parliament and EU states favour legislation that takes account of:

"The role of zero-, low carbon and renewable fuels in the decarbonisation of transport, including road transport beyond 2030 and concrete measures to assist heavy duty vehicles manufacturers to reach their targets, taking into account European content"

RED III deadline has passed but transpositions are underway







How are member states changing their approach?

Targets		Feedstocks	
Switched from energy to GHG targets	FR ES NL	Lowered crop cap	NL CZ IE
Removed of double-counting	FR ES NL DE	Lowered 9B cap	NL BE
Introduced maritime target	FR ES NL BE PT	Increased 9B cap	DE FR
Introduced aviation target	FR	Pome oil restriction	DE* IE PT

The Netherlands is planning sector-driven switch to emissions savings

GHG-savings mandate

- End of double counting
- HBEs to EREs (emission reduction units)

Expansion into maritime, inland waterways

- Maritime separate from road
- Very limited cross sector compliance

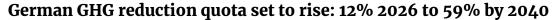
Feedstock restrictions

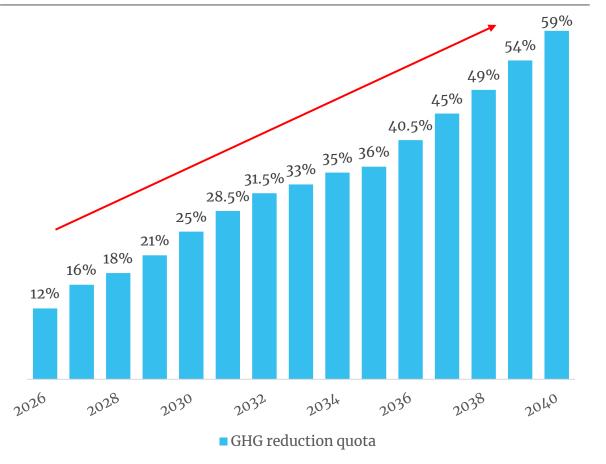
- Feedstocks depend on transport sector
- 0.5x multiplier category 3 tallow

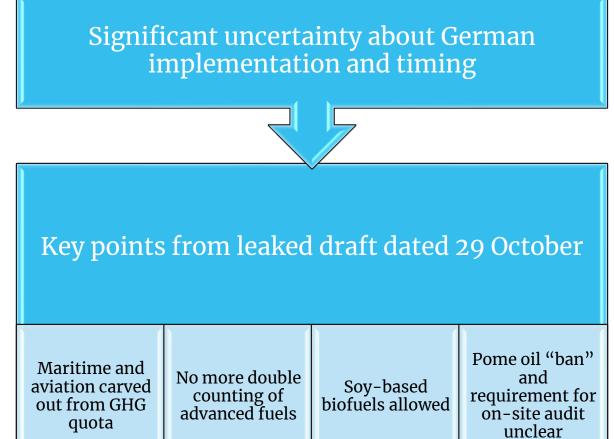
Sector	2026
Land mandate	14.4%
Advanced sub-quota	3.10%
RFNBO sub-quota	0.05%
Crop cap	1.20%
IX-B cap	4.30%
Maritime mandate	3.60%
RFNBO sub-quota	0
Crop cap	0
IX-B cap	0
Flexible credit allowance (from road or inland waterways)	1.10%
Inland waterways mandate	3.8%
RFNBO sub-quota	0.02%
Crop cap	0
IX-B cap	11.10%
Flexible credit allowance (from road or maritime)	0.80%



Germany eyeing major increase to mandates, but plagued by delays

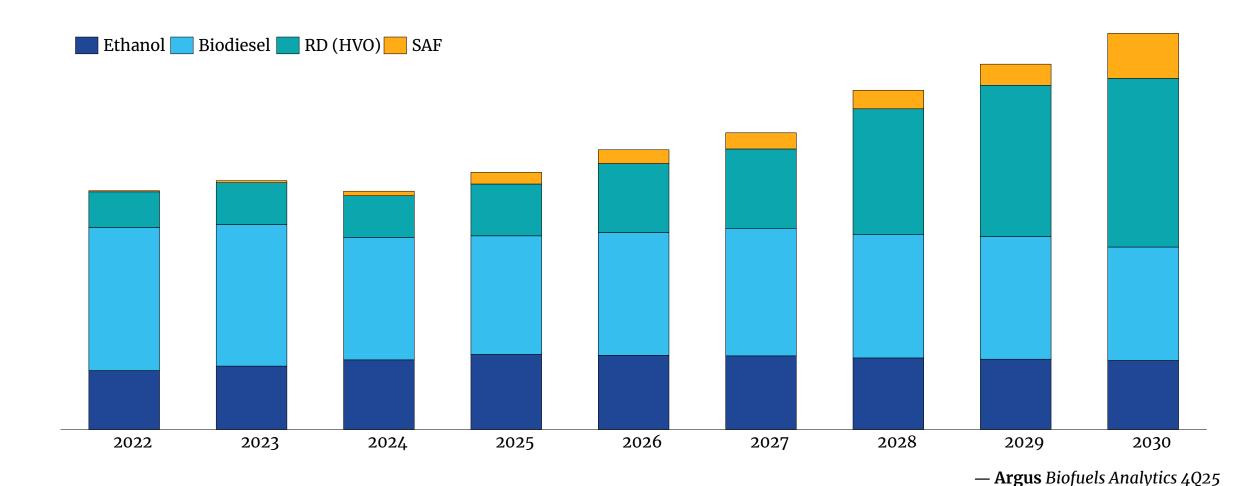






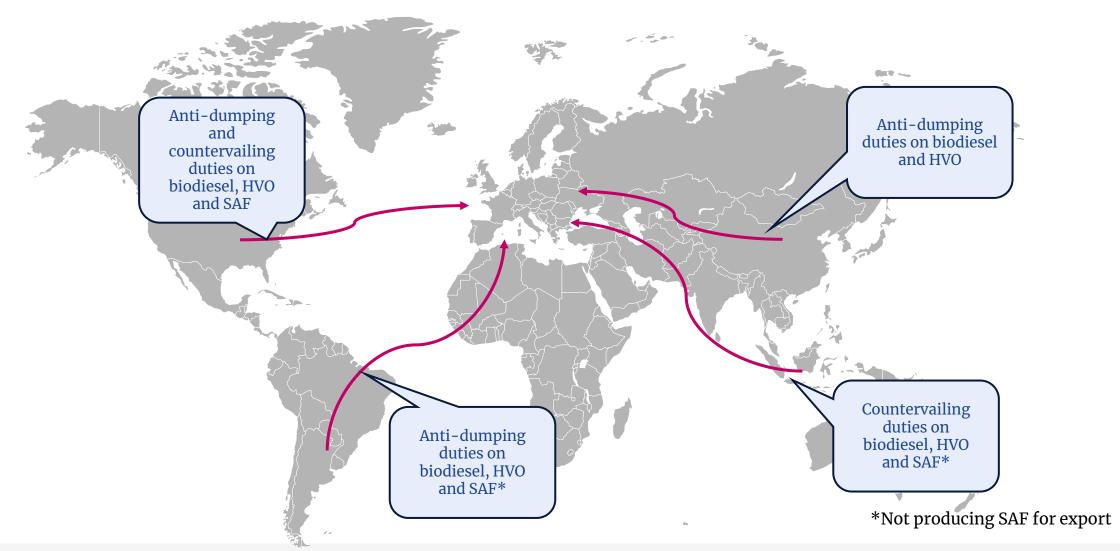


RED III transpositions will boost European HVO demand



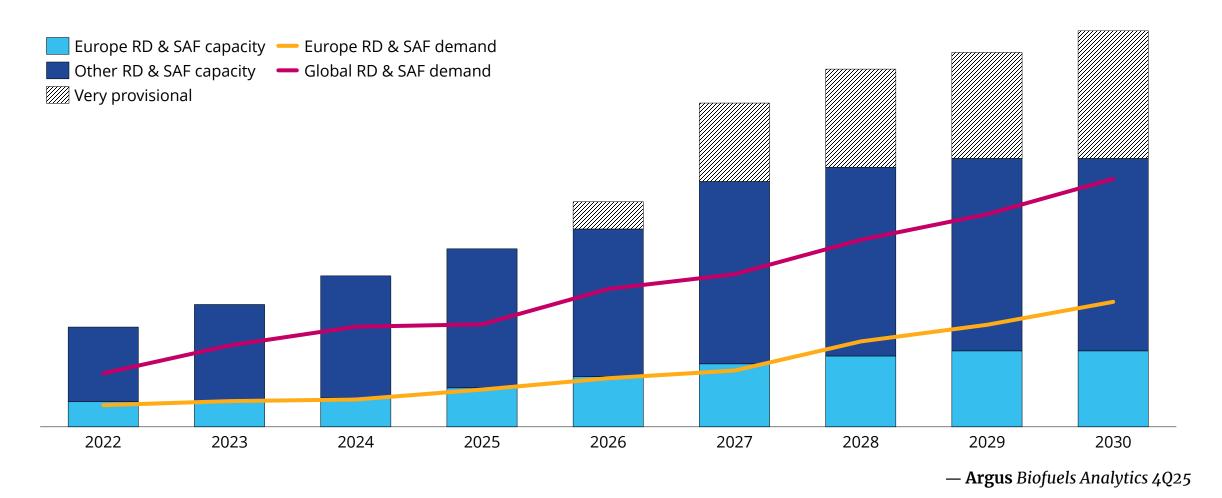


Trade barriers piling up for EU biodiesel, HVO, SAF



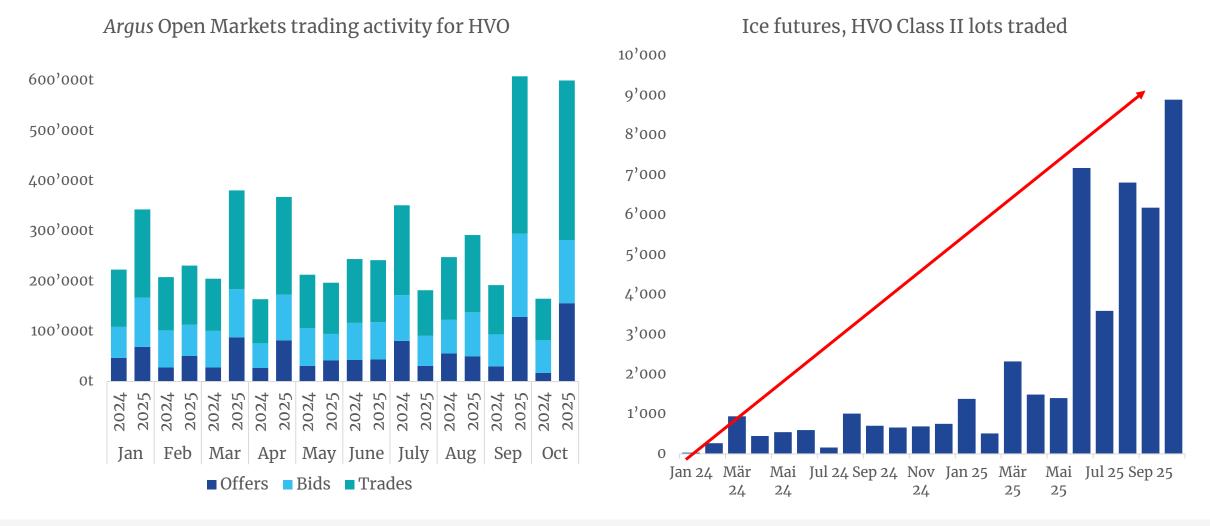


Europe's RD and SAF capacity is growing but lags demand



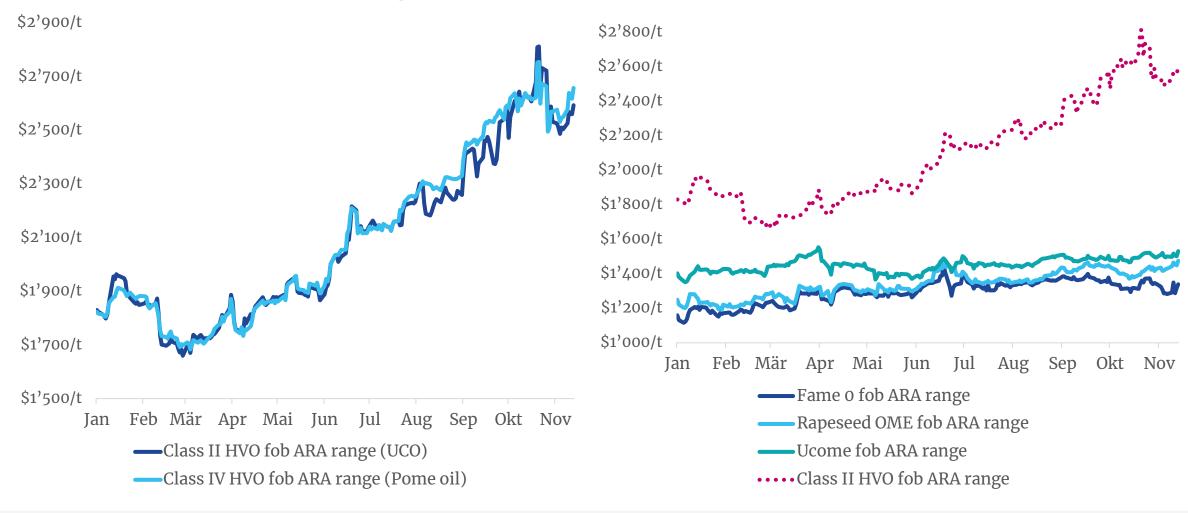


Spot market trading in anticipation of RED changes



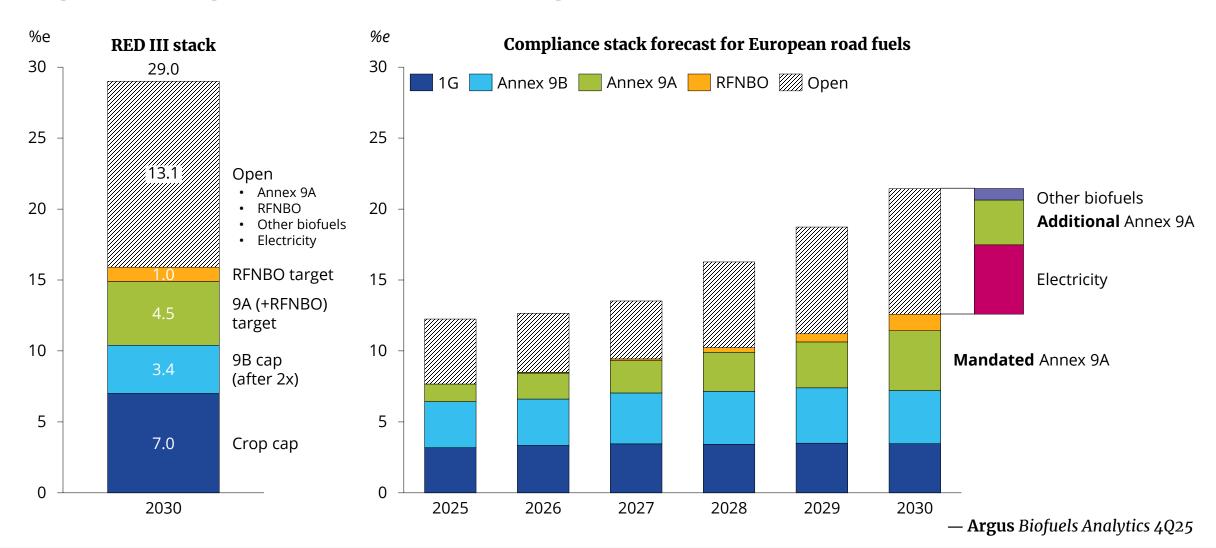


HVO prices higher in 2H 2025, but biodiesel prices capped by blending restrictions





Higher targets will increasingly rely on advanced feedstocks



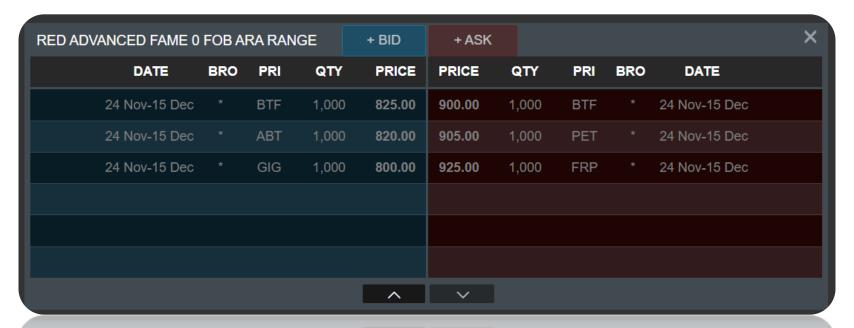


Demand for German compliant advanced benchmarks: Advanced Fame launched on AOM - already with activity

Demand for Annex IX part A biofuels increasing, and IX-B fuel usage limited by caps

Call for *Argus* to price Advanced Fame and Advanced HVO markets — but a challenge of variation between different member states' feedstock lists and sustainability requirements

German-compliant Advanced Fame 0 now on *Argus* Open Markets







Questions

