

From Radio Sobradinho, Rio Grande do Sul

In Arroio do Tigre, governor and leaders highlight the importance of tobacco growers



Governor participated in the Pilgrimage for Our Lady of Medianeira at Linha Cereja

Governor Tarso Genro's helicopter landed at ten-thirty in the morning of Sunday 27 at the Carlos Ensslin Municipal Stadium. From there, the entourage headed to Vila Progresso to visit the property owned by tobacco grower Paulo Jank, who uses the structure of a tobacco greenhouse to dry and store grain. They then visited the soybean fields owned by grower Gastão Kipper, where they were shown the sprinkling irrigation system. Following that, the governor and other leaders who had joined him made up a long caravan of vehicles to Linha Cereja [*a cooperative*]. At this location, the State Decree on Grain Drying and Storage in rural properties was signed - better known as "RS Mais Grãos" [*RS More Grains*], and six vehicles were delivered to the Rio Pardo Valley Civil Police, two for Sobradinho and one for Arroio do Tigre. In the case of Sobradinho, the arrival of additional pickup trucks is expected early next year. As previously announced, Tarso Genro signed into law a bill establishing the Tobacco Growers Day, which was commemorated last Monday, 28, and a bill conferring on the municipality of Arroio do Tigre the denomination of "Celeiro do Centro Serra" [*the Granary of the Centro Serra region*]. In addition to state representatives and mayors, various other leaders were present. Among them, Iro Schünke - President of SindiTabaco [*Tobacco Employer's Union*], and Benício Werner - President of Afubra [*Brazilian Tobacco Growers Association*]. All paid tribute to the importance of the tobacco industry to the economy of Rio Grande do Sul, and advocated for the diversification of properties. The Governor said that Anvisa [*Brazilian Health Surveillance Agency*]'s concerns regarding the ill effects of cigarettes on health are reasonable, but the government cannot consider tobacco production exclusively through Anvisa's lenses. He thinks tobacco growers should be honored, considering the importance of this crop to the state's economy, and international economic interests should be minded, as they can be found in movements to impose restrictions on the sector. Interviewed by Rádio Sobradinho AM, Tarso Genro spoke about much-awaited asphalt paving works in the region, after being questioned by the President of Amcserra, Alencar Feron, who is Segredo's Mayor. According to the governor, the requested works are in the government's plans, and he mentioned again that the delay in starting asphalt paving

works in the road section Segredo/Lagoão is due to a change of mind by the Construction Company Ivaí, which was initially interested in doing the job, but after amounts were negotiated, decided to withdraw from the contract. Tarso Genro and his entourage had lunch at Linha Cereja, where the Pilgrimage and Festival of Our Lady of Medianeira took place.