



INFLATION

Fall of the general increase in fuel prices in July

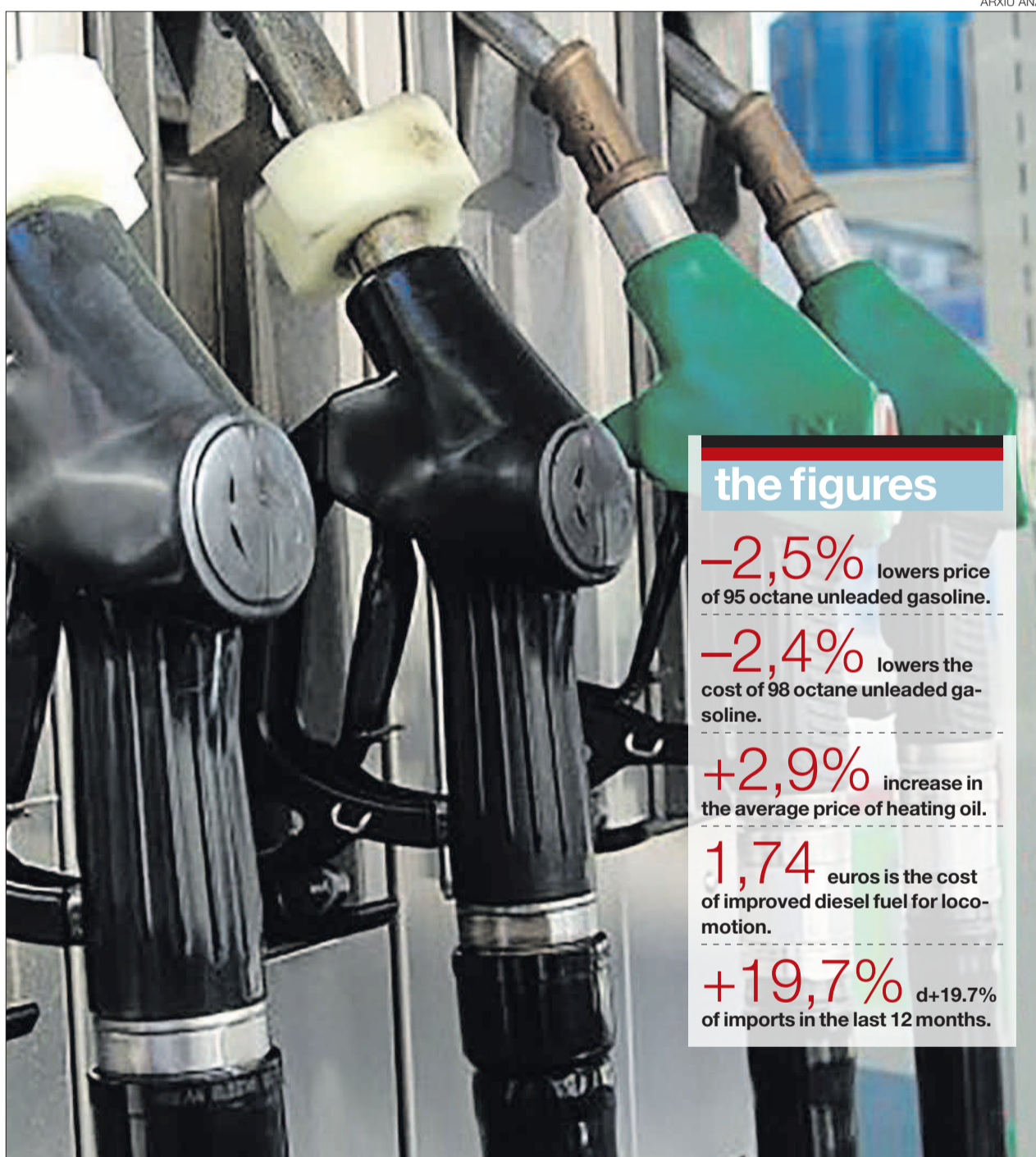
Asidca assesses that, although it is unpredictable, «the tendency is to be a certain return to normalcy»

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During July, there was a slowdown in the general increase in fuel prices compared to the previous month. Thus, the cost of 95 octane Unleaded Gasoline and 98 octane Unleaded Gasoline have decreased by -2.5% and -2.4% respectively and have therefore been paid to 1.76 euros and 1.82 euros. In addition, the prices of diesel for locomotion and improved diesel for locomotion remain at 1.71 euros and 1.74 euros, as published by the Department of Statistics. However, the average price of heating oil has increased by +2.9% and has been paid to 1.39 euros. In this sense, the president of the Andorran Fuel Importers and Distributors Association (Asidca), David Porqueres, assured that «now the trend is downward and, from here, what will happen is difficult to predict».

In comparative terms, since July 2021 the average prices of all fuels have increased. On the one hand, Heating Diesel has increased by +80.3%, Diesel for locomotion by +60.9%, Improved Diesel for locomotion has risen by +59.2%, that of 95 octane unleaded gasoline +43.9% and 98 octane unleaded gasoline +41.9%. However, «in the week of June 18th to 25th, Andorra recorded historic highs in the cost of selling fuel to the public and, since then, it has only lowered the international quotation price of the barrel», explained Porqueres, and added that «compared to this week in June, there have been five or six price drops, and now we are at -12% for Gasolines and -11% for locomotion». In addition, he pointed out that «in the same way that we did not know why the price went up, we also do not know why it went down, but in general terms, it depends on the supply and demand of each market».

Regarding the comparison of average prices from January to July with the same period of the previous year,



►► Archive image of a petrol dispenser.

a general increase in fuel prices is also noted. Diesel for locomotion has been paid, on average, at 1.19 euros, which means an increase of +66%. For its part, diesel for locomotion

has been paid at 1.52 euros, which represents +53.1%; and improved diesel for locomotion to 1.55 euros, +51.6%; 95 octane unleaded gasoline at 1.59 euros, 39.7%; and 98 octa-

ne unleaded gasoline at 1.65 euros, +37.7%.

Otherwise, and with respect to the last 12 months with the same previous period, there is also a gene-

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ral increase. The price of diesel for locomotion and that of improved diesel for locomotion have increased by 43.6% and 42.3% respectively. The 95 octane gasoline and the 98 octane gasoline have increased by 34.7% and 32.9% respectively. Finally, the price of heating oil has increased by 53.9%. All in all, the president of Asidca assessed that «the fact that prices are falling is good news and, therefore, we must be optimistic in this regard, since as a result, the situation will gradually stabilize and people will have more money». Additionally, he pointed out that, despite the impossibility of predicting what will happen due to the current instability, «the tendency is to be a certain return to normality», although prices are still expensive if we compare them with those of the past year, «but being able to say that in a month and a half it has dropped by 12% is very positive for inflation and people's pockets».

IMPORTS // On the accumulated data during the last 12 months, the import of fuels has been 170.25 million liters, a fact that represents a positive variation of +19.7% compared to the 142.19 million liters accumulated in same previous period. However, the import with adjusted data, that is to say, once the variations caused by the effects of the calendar and the period of the year we are in, has been removed, shows a downward trend in the last five months, and stands at a value of -3.0%. ≡

the figures

-2,5% lowers price of 95 octane unleaded gasoline.

-2,4% lowers the cost of 98 octane unleaded gasoline.

+2,9% increase in the average price of heating oil.

1,74 euros is the cost of improved diesel fuel for locomotion.

+19,7% d+19.7% of imports in the last 12 months.



DAVID PORQUERES
PRESIDENT OF ASIDCA

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Engine ▶ Interview with Xavi Cardelús



«I want to fight for the victory, I know we are about to touch it and it would be exciting»

XAVI CARDELÚS Moto2 and MotoE rider

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Xavi Cardelús is in the best moment of his sports career. Despite the injuries that have accompanied him this season, the Andorran has managed to overcome and take two podiums (two third positions) in Valencia and Portimao. That of the Principality has been surpassed in comparison to the last campaign, and now wants to fight for its first victory.

-Did last season help you grow as a driver?

-Completely. I learned a lot and got to a pretty high level in terms of piloting. This year I continue to grow, but in the past it is clear that seeing me on several occasions fighting for the podium helped me a lot.

-You had quite outstanding results in Moto2. How do you rate them?

-Very positively because I was also quite consistent, always in the top five, and this meant that I could finally fight among the best. It is something that, like it or not, helps psychologically and morally.

-You were very close to the third position of the championship. Does that give you a little more motivation?

-It is true that I lacked something to reach third position, and I think it was related to mistakes I had throughout the year, such as the fall in Aragon. Right after that the second race of the championship was also cancelled, at the last meeting my engine broke, etc. I am calm because I know that we will go up, for sure.

-As for the confidence you feel on the bike, has it changed from last year to this year?

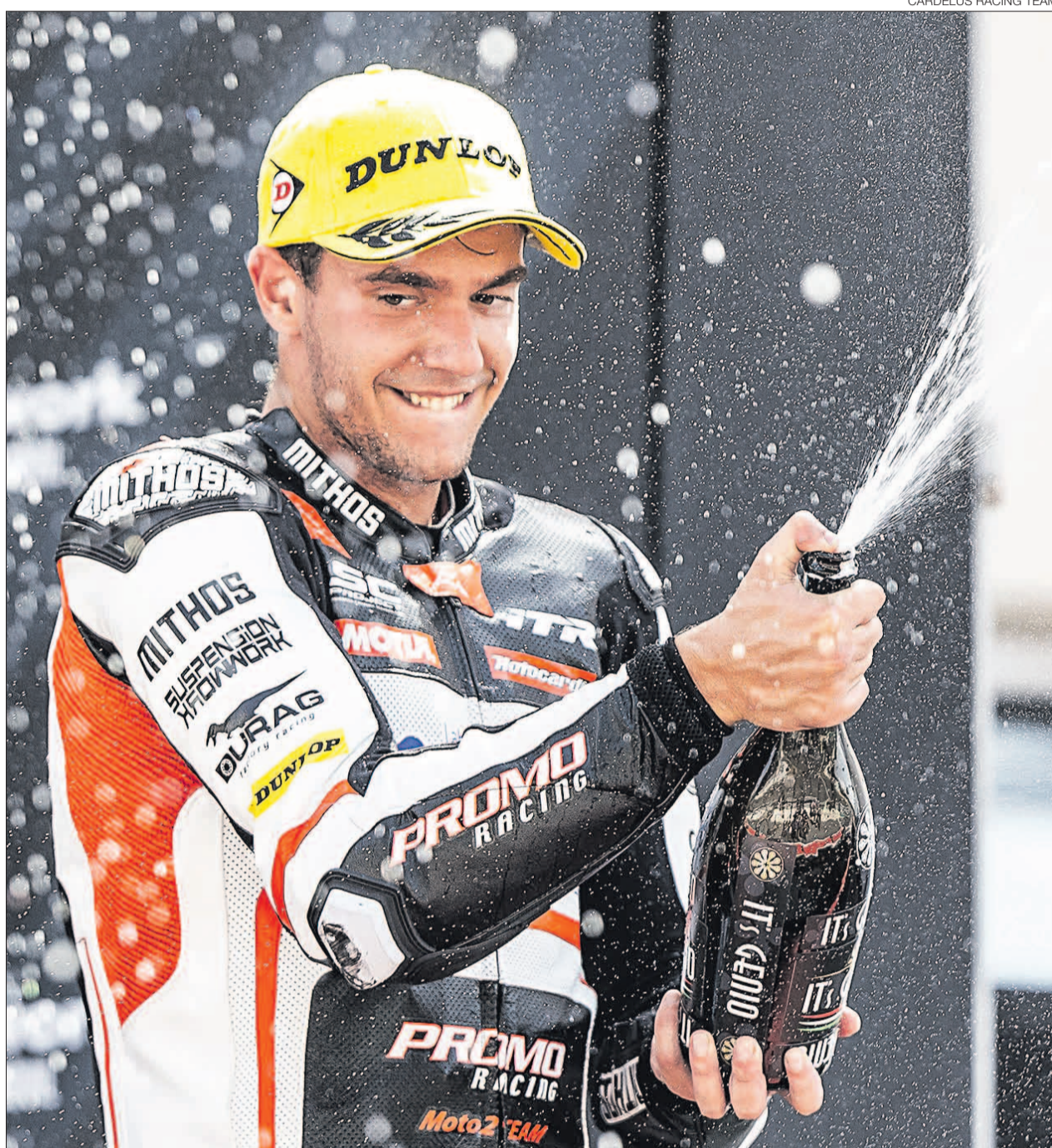
-Yes. This year is being much better in all aspects. I had a good pre-season, which allowed me to arrive well prepared. The problem is that injuries have also been present this campaign, but the big difference is that when I came back from these problems I showed a great level, and that says the confidence I have with the team and the bike.

-How would you define what this season? Which word would you choose?

-It's very difficult (laughs). Many words come to my mind. Feeling, emotion, everything a little crazy. I have come from injuries and immediately regained my level, and that is very complicated in a rider. I've always been clear about what I was capable of, so if I had to stick with one word, it would be attitude.

-Which of the two podiums achieved has made you more excited?

-The two have been very special. If I had to choose, I would say that the one in Valencia is the one that has made me the most excited, since it



CARDELÚS RACING TEAM



«The Moto2 World Championship is my dream, but I won't go either way and I want to be 100% ready»

was the second race, I came from Estoril where I could have been third, and also because it was in my head that I was running with a broken hand. So, the fact of getting on the podium in Valencia was like taking a weight off me and a huge joy.

-Did you expect to be on the podium so early this season?

-Completely. I'm sure that if it hadn't been for the injuries, in Estoril I would have been fighting for



CARDELÚS RACING TEAM

▶▶ Above: Cardelús celebrates the podium achieved in Valencia. Below, the Andorran pilot during a race this season.

victory.

-How do you manage to ride with fractures and continue fighting?

-These are very difficult times, and I think that what has helped me the

most has been the mentality I have had. Knowing that during the pre-season I had done everything possible to arrive in good condition, and that even though a stone was planted in the way, I was very aware of

what I could do.

-In Mugello you could not compete due to a foot injury. How did this fact affect you?

-It's very complicated to manage, and even more so when you enter this loop of knowing that maybe it's your best year, that you have everything to do, with ambitious goals like winning the championship... The injury just starts and, however, you get through it pretty well and when you're almost recovered you go into another one. It was a very tough



«I am clear about what I am capable of, and if I had to choose one word to define the current season, it would be attitude»

time, but I still think I'm in my best year. I know what I have worked for this year to achieve what I want, and the peace of mind these thoughts give you is noticeable.

- You compete in Moto2 and MotoE. Is the idea to continue in the two championships?

-I don't know today. I'm thinking of finishing the MotoE championship, obviously, and it's true that I'd like to continue next year with electric bikes and represent Ducati, but on the other hand, if my goal is to go up to the Moto2 World Championship, the MotoE it takes me too much time. Maybe I should do one thing and prepare it very well, than maybe do two.

-Is the Moto2 World Cup the goal?

-The Moto2 World Cup is my dream. I was there in 2019 and since then I have been making some substitutions, but the aim is to consolidate myself in this championship. I won't do it in anyway, but I want to go in good conditions, with a bike that makes sure I can be capable of doing it well. In Jerez, for example, the race pace I set was to be 12th in the World Cup.

-What wish do you have left to ask for at the end of the season?

-Many things come to my mind (laughs). What would make me most excited would be to fight for the victory and get it, which I know we are about to achieve and we just need all the aspects to accompany us. It would be exciting to be on top of the podium while the Andorran anthem is playing. ≡