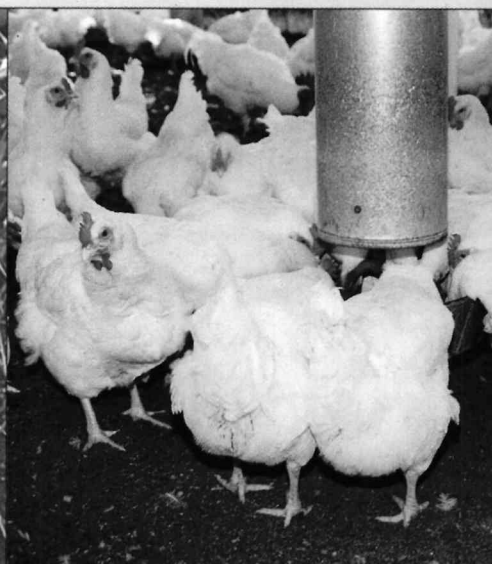
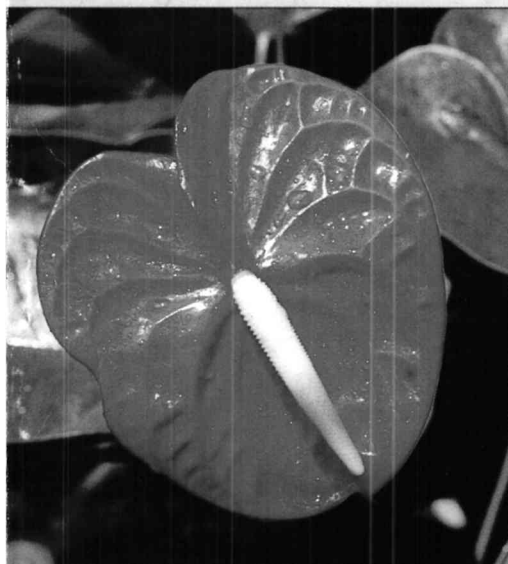




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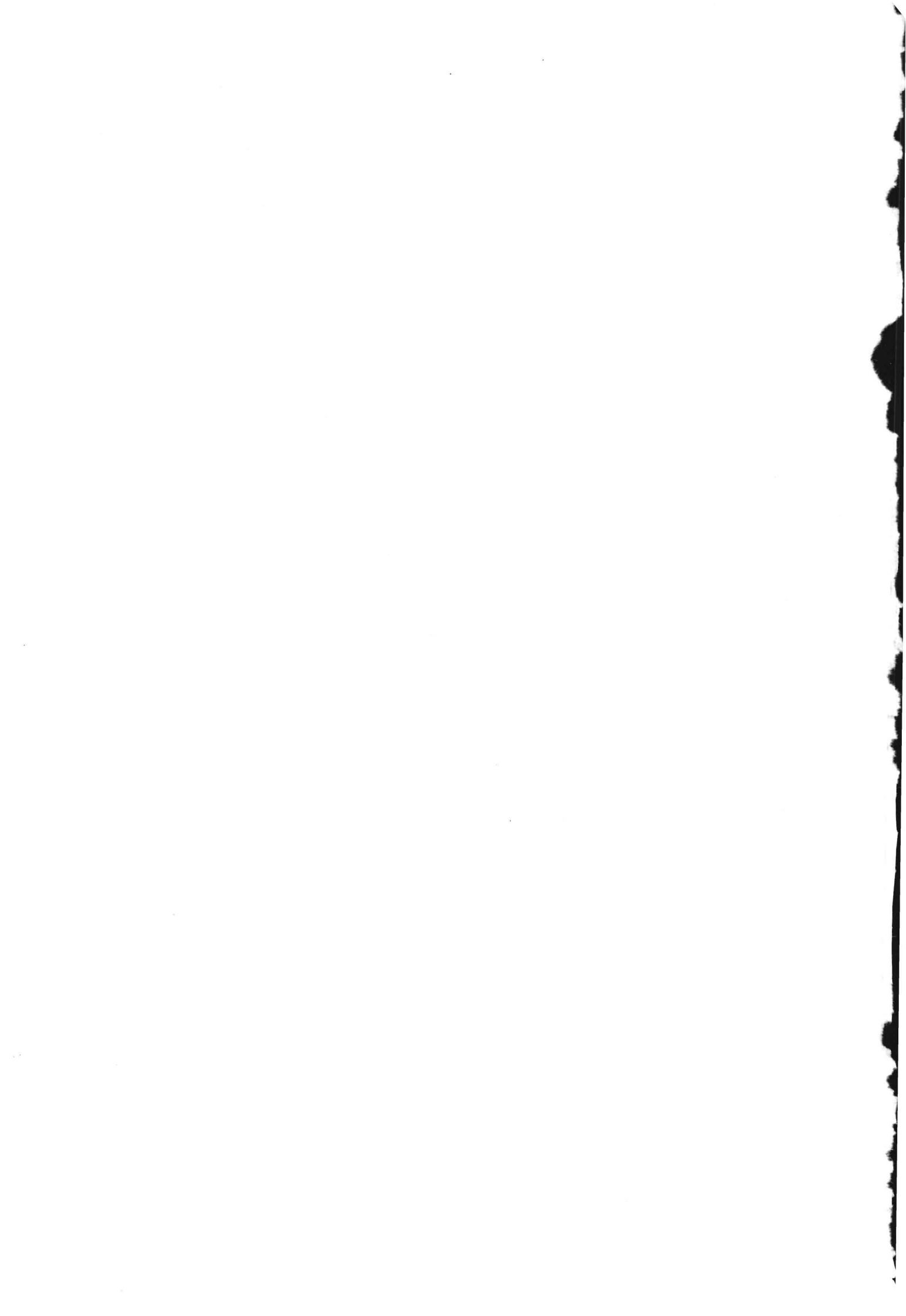
# Digest of Agricultural Statistics 2004



**Ministry of Finance & Economic Development**

**CENTRAL STATISTICS OFFICE**

**DIGEST  
OF  
AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS  
2004**



# DIGEST OF AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS – 2004

## FOREWORD

This is the twenty-first issue of a regular publication of the Central Statistics Office on agricultural statistics for the Island of Mauritius. It contains metadata on agricultural statistics and an overview of the main indicators of the sector.

The digest is published annually and is designed to bring together in a single report as many series as possible on agricultural statistics. It thus contains information on the sugar, tea, tobacco, foodcrops, livestock and fisheries sectors. Data showing the pattern of food consumption of the population are given in the yearly "Food Balance Sheets". Agricultural price statistics are shown in the section "Producer Price Index - Agriculture (PPI-A)".

The data published cover in general the five-year period from 2000 to 2004 and are the latest available as at mid July 2005. Some of the figures are provisional and subject to revision in later issues. Figures in this issue supersede those appearing in previous ones. Furthermore, historical series of main agricultural statistics can be accessed from the CSO website: <http://statsmauritius.gov.mu>.

It is hoped that the data assembled in this digest will meet the diverse needs of many users, in particular agricultural policy makers, planners and scientists.

The cooperation of the many contributors, private organisations and public agencies, to this publication is gratefully acknowledged.

**(H. Bundhoo)**

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**July 2005**

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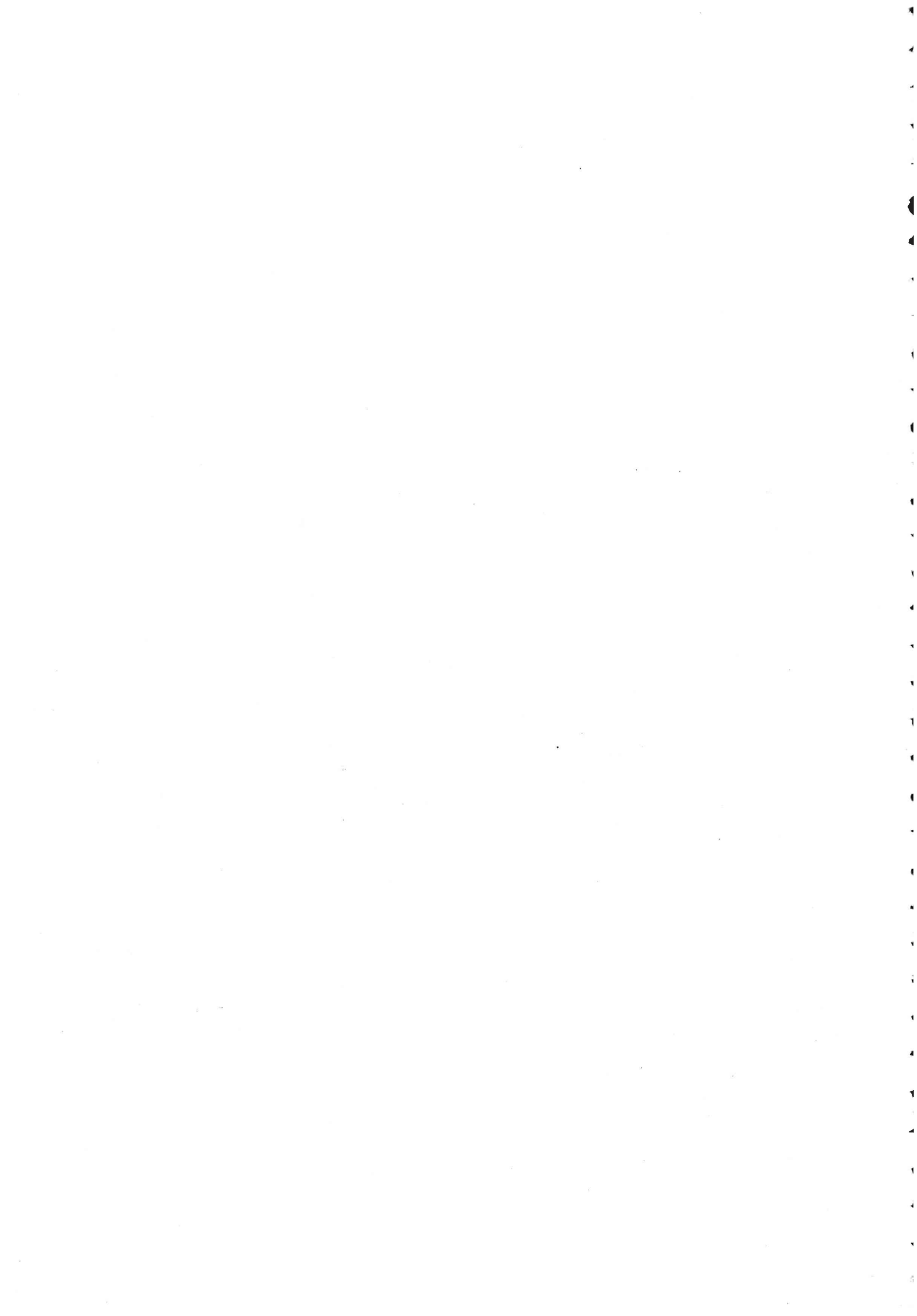
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## PART I - INTRODUCTION

### 1. General

All tables in this issue refer to the Island of Mauritius unless otherwise specified. The 1993 Systems of National Accounts (1993 SNA) has been used for the compilation of production accounts.

### 2. Definitions

#### 2.1 Basic price

Basic price is the amount receivable by the producer, exclusive of taxes payable on products and inclusive of subsidies receivable on products.

#### 2.2 Producer's price

Producer's price is the amount receivable by the producer inclusive of taxes on products (except deductible value added tax) and exclusive of subsidies on products.

#### 2.3 Purchaser's price

Purchaser's price is the amount payable by the purchaser. This includes trade and transport margins and non-deductible VAT.

### 3. Technical Notes

#### 3.1 Rounding of figures

It is to be noted that in some tables totals may not add up due to independent rounding of figures.

#### 3.2 Regions (note to Table 2.5)

<u>Regions</u>	<u>Corresponding districts</u>
North	Port Louis, Pamplemousses and Riviere du Rempart
South	Grand Port and Savanne
East	Flacq
West	Black River
Centre	Plaines Wilhems and Moka

### 3.3 Symbols and abbreviations

***Symbols:***

... : Negligible  
 — : Nil

***Abbreviations:***

Rs : Mauritian Rupees  
 '000 : Thousand  
 No. : Number  
 N.A : Not available  
 n.e.s : Not elsewhere specified  
 c.i.f : Cost, insurance and freight  
 f.o.b : Free on board

### 3.4 Conversion factors

1 hectare = 2.36922 arpents

1 arpent = 100 perches

1 perche = 11 toises

1 inch = 25.4 millimetres

1 tonne = 1,000 kilograms = 0.9842 long ton

1 hectolitre = 100 litres

To convert degrees Celsius (Centigrade) into degrees Fahrenheit multiply by 9/5  
 and add 32<sup>0</sup>

## Part II – SOURCES AND METHODS

### 1. Production account

#### 1.1 Agriculture, hunting, forestry and fishing

The activities in this sector are presented in the following sub-groups:

Industrial crops (sugar cane, tea and tobacco)

Foodcrops, fruits and flowers

Livestock, poultry and related products

Forestry and hunting

Fishing

Agricultural services

Government services

#### Data sources:

Ministry of Agro – Industry and Fisheries

Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture

Mauritius Sugar Syndicate

Agricultural Research and Extension Unit (AREU)

Mauritius Meat Authority (MMA)

Special enquiries from foodcrop planters, livestock and poultry breeders and providers of agricultural services

Accountant-General's Department and extra budgetary agencies (e.g Irrigation Authority, Farmers Service Centre, etc)

## **Methodology**

Separate production accounts are prepared for each of the above sub-groups. The methodology adopted varies with the source of information. Apart from sugar and tea, agricultural activities are performed mainly by small planters, breeders and fishermen who do not keep proper records of their transactions. Because of the lack of proper accounts, a variety of methods, based essentially on the commodity approach, is used to estimate gross output, intermediate consumption and value added.

### ***(i) Industrial crops***

*Sugar cane* : Details on the sugar industry are given separately in Section 1.2.

*Tea and Tobacco* : Quantities and prices of tea and tobacco leaves are available from the Tea and Tobacco Board respectively. Intermediate inputs per hectare are computed based on information obtained from a few tea estates and tobacco planters. Total intermediate consumption is then obtained by applying the appropriate rates of inputs to the total area under cultivation.

### ***(ii) Foodcrops, fruits and flowers***

*Foodcrops* : Data on foodcrops production and area harvested are obtained from AREU on a monthly basis. Estimates of backyard production are made on the basis of consumption data collected through the Household Budget Surveys. It is to be noted that production from **greenhouses**, which is still on a small scale, is not covered. Retail prices of about forty foodcrops and fruits are collected weekly by the Consumer Price Index unit. This enables the valuation of each product at basic price by deducting transport cost and retail margin from its retail price value.

Adhoc production cost surveys are regularly carried out to provide the necessary information on inputs. Intermediate consumption expenditure is then worked out by applying appropriate rates of inputs to the total acreage under cultivation. Some of the inputs, for example fertilizers, pesticides, seeds are cross-checked with imports and local production figures.

*Fruits and flowers* : Monthly area harvested and production of banana and pineapple are obtained from AREU. As regards other fruits, the number of trees in bearing age is based on the "1985 Fruit Trees Survey" carried out by the Extension Service Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Natural Resources. Production is estimated using average yield per tree, taking into account the climatic factor. This production is valued at basic prices.

The main source of data for estimating gross output of flowers is export data. A separate estimate is worked out for locally sold flowers, based on the number of weddings, deaths, religious ceremonies, etc.

***(iii) Livestock, poultry and related products***

The Mauritius Meat Authority (MMA) forwards a monthly return on the number of heads and carcass weight of local/imported cattle, sheep, goats and pigs slaughtered at the abattoir. To these, are added the weight of off-abattoir slaughters estimated from permits issued by the Ministry of Agro – Industry and Fisheries. The total quantity multiplied by a weighted average "retail price less transport cost and retail margin" gives the gross output at basic prices. Estimates of intermediate expenditure on cattle feed, salt and water etc. are made and deducted from the gross output to obtain value added.

Data on poultry and egg production are obtained through the questionnaires sent to all large producers. These data are supplemented with estimates made for small breeders and backyard production, based on the number of broilers and on the quantity of feeds they purchased.

Data on milk production are obtained from the Animal Production Division of the Ministry of Agro – Industry and Fisheries.

***(iv) Forestry and hunting***

Estimates of forestry production, namely wood processed by sawmills and, to a lesser extent, firewood are made on the basis of information obtained from the Forestry Department.

Deer hunting is undertaken during a specific period of the year. The associations of hunters provide data on the production of venison. This is valued at basic prices as for other livestock.

Intermediate costs for both forestry and hunting are negligible so that the gross output is composed essentially of value added.

***(v) Fishing***

The Albion Fisheries Research Centre (AFRC) of the Ministry of Agro – Industry and Fisheries provides data on the quantity of fish caught. Separate figures are given in respect of lagoon and bank fishing. These are then valued at basic prices by deducting transport cost and retail margin from its retail price value. Intermediate inputs for lagoon fishing are low as the fishermen who are engaged in fishing in coastal waters, use artisanal methods and the catch is usually sold fresh. Bank fishing involves higher costs as the fish are caught in high seas in larger vessels. Establishments engaged in bank fishing are surveyed by a mail questionnaire and a production account is worked out from information thus received.

**(vi) Agricultural services****(a) Government**

The government accounts are prepared by the Accountant-General's Department. The Government agricultural services cover all agricultural services falling under the Ministry of Agro – Industry and Fisheries, excluding the central administration of the Ministry.

Gross output, valued as the sum of production costs, is estimated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Gross output} &= \text{Intermediate consumption} \\ &+ \text{compensation of employees} \\ &+ \text{consumption of fixed capital} \end{aligned}$$

**(b) Non-government**

Establishments engaged in non-government agricultural services provide services like land preparation, derocking, etc. Their respective production accounts are worked out from statistics obtained from direct surveys.

**1.2 Sugar industry**

Value added generated by the sugar industry is attributed, for national accounting purposes, to the following industrial activity groups:

**Agriculture:** the final product is sugar cane. Both millers and planters are engaged in its production.

**Manufacturing:** the final product is sugar and its by-products - molasses, scum and electricity which excludes Independent Power Producers (IPPs). Only millers are engaged in this activity.

**Transport:** includes only the millers' own account transport of sugar cane, sugar and other inputs.

**Distribution:** includes activities of brokers, shippers and the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate.

**(a) Methodology**

The period from the growing stage up to the marketing of all sugar produced covers eighteen months. Production is valued on an accrual basis, so that output relating to crop year, say, 2002/2003 is treated as production for calendar year 2002. The sugar cane crop of a given year normally extends from July to June of the following year.

Sugar is marketed solely through the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate. This agency provides data on value and price of sugar, both local sales and exports' proceeds. All the expenses incurred in respect of marketing are also given.

Production accounts of all sugar estates with factories are worked out from the aggregated data on expenditure presented in the statements: "Analysis of expenditure of Sugar Estate with Factories" and "Analysis of production costs", compiled by the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture.

The items of expenditure therein are scrutinised and then allocated to the intermediate expenses of the respective industrial activity groups mentioned in Section 1.2.

***(b) Production accounts***

Separate accounts are prepared in respect of millers and planters.

The gross proceeds from the sales of sugar and its by-products are obtained from the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate. The gross output of agriculture comprises 76% of the gross proceeds as the remaining 24% accrues to millers to cover the milling cost.

Intermediate expenses in respect of sugarcane cultivation owned by millers are extracted from the statements provided by the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture. As regards owner planters, the country is divided into four main regions and detailed production cost per arpent is prepared regionwise based on information collected from personal interviews of planters. Intermediate consumption also takes into consideration expenditure incurred on new plantations – a 'ratooning' cycle of 10 years is assumed.

*Manufacturing:* The gross output is worked out from the gross proceeds of sugar. The main item under goods consumed is sugarcane; other inputs include milling cost and marketing expenses which are obtained from the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture and the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate.

*Transport:* The sugar estates and millers provide their own means of transport. Most of their canes, sugar and other inputs are transported by their own lorries. The 'Transport' activity is valued at cost. The expenditure incurred in respect of purchases of materials and services, compensation of employees and consumption of fixed capital are obtained from the statement, "Analysis of expenditure of Sugar Estates with Factories" published by the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture. The total of these aggregates gives the gross output. Transport cost is then imputed, on a pro-rata basis, to the intermediate consumption expenditure of the agriculture and manufacturing sectors.

*Distribution:* The gross output is computed from the related expenditure items as given in the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate report. The cost component consists mainly of elements of value added.



## PART III – STATISTICAL TABLES AND ANALYSIS

### 1. Overview of main agricultural statistics – 2004

#### 1.1 Value added of agriculture

Value added at current basic price for the agricultural sector reached Rs 9,444 million in 2004 from Rs 8,588 million in 2003, representing an increase of 10.0%. In real terms, it grew up by 5.8% and this is the combined effect of increases of 6.5% and 5.0% in sugar cane and “other agriculture” respectively. (Table 1.1)

#### 1.2 Share of agriculture in GDP

The contribution of agriculture to GDP decreased by 1.6% from 6.3% in 2003 to 6.2% in 2004. (Table 1.1)

The share of the sugar industry in GDP was 4.3%.

#### 1.3 Employment in agriculture

Employment in agriculture declined by 1.2% from 46,420 in 2003 to 45,840 in 2004, mainly due to the combined effect of a drop of 4.1% in “sugar cane” and a rise of 3.0% in “fishing”. The share of agriculture in total employment fell from 9.4% in 2003 to 9.2% in 2004. (Tables 1.1 and 1.11)

It is to be noted that the “Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS)” in the sugar industry started in 2001 and by end of year 2004, 8,207 workers of the industry had opted for VRS.

#### 1.4 Sugar cane

Figures refer to the crop year, that is starting in July of the reference year up to June of the following year. Sugar cane fields are classified according to agro-climatic conditions in the following five regions: North, South, East, West and Centre.

The area under sugar cane in 2004 was 70,785 hectares, which was 4.5% lower than the 74,117 hectares in 2003. (Table 2.3)

An area of 69,698 hectares under sugar cane was harvested in 2004 as compared to 70,998 hectares in 2003, showing a reduction of 1.8%. (Table 2.4)

The cane yield per hectare for the whole island went up by 3.6% from 73.2 tonnes in 2003 to 75.8 tonnes in 2004. This was due to the combined effect of increases in cane yield in the North (13.2%), South (3.2%) and West (0.9%) and decreases in the Centre (6.2%) and East (0.4%). (Tables 2.4 and 2.5)

The production of cane increased by 1.6%, from 5,199,384 tonnes in 2003 to 5,280,370 tonnes. The average extraction rate in 2004 was 10.85% as compared to 10.34% in 2003, representing a rise of 4.9%. (Tables 2.5 and 2.9)

The production of sugar amounted to 572,316 tonnes, that is 6.5% higher than the figure of 537,155 tonnes in 2003. Out of this volume, 563.8 thousand tonnes were exported for a total value of Rs 10183.6 million, representing an increase of 11.7% over the proceeds of 2003. (Tables 2.9 and 2.12)

The amount of molasses produced in 2004 was 155,763 tonnes of molasses were produced as compared to 160,041 tonnes in 2003, representing a drop of 2.7%. On the other hand, scum production rose by 5.2% from 271,239 tonnes to 285,298 tonnes. (Table 2.9)

The average ex-syndicate price of sugar for 2004 was Rs 16,175 as compared to Rs 15,216, representing a rise of 6.3% as a result of the appreciation of the Euro currency. (Table 2.14)

### **1.5 Tea**

The area under tea plantation dropped by 1.0% from 681 hectares in 2003 to 674 hectares in 2004. (Table 3.1)

Production of green tea leaves increased by 3.7% from 6,973 tonnes in 2003 to 7,229 tonnes in 2004 while that of black tea went up by 3.2% from 1,436 tonnes to 1,482 tonnes. (Tables 3.3 and 3.4)

The quantity of tea exported declined by 3.2% from 52.4 tonnes in 2003 to 50.7 tonnes in 2004, while the earnings from the export of tea registered a rise of 5.8% from Rs 10.4 million to Rs 11.0 million. (Tables 3.5 and 3.6)

### **1.6 Tobacco**

An area of 294 hectares under tobacco cultivation was harvested in crop year 2004/05, which is 22.4% lower than the 379 hectares in 2003/04.

Production of tobacco leaves declined by 15.8% from 424 tonnes in 2003/04 to 357 tonnes in 2004/05, consequent to excessive rainfall and leaf necrosis disease. Virginia (flue-cured) leaves which represented 93% of total production declined by 7.3% while that of Amarello (air-cured) type, representing 7%, dropped by 61.2%. (Table 3.7)

The quantity of tobacco used in cigarette manufacture registered a fall of 9.7% from 679.6 tonnes in 2003 to 613.5 tonnes in 2004, with both domestic and imported leaf dropping by 3.2% and 41.3% respectively. (Table 3.8)

### 1.7 Foodcrops

The area under foodcrops harvested in 2004 stood at 7,553 hectares as compared to 7,228 hectares in 2003, representing a rise of 4.5%. (Table 4.1)

The production of foodcrops increased by 7.9% from 103,455 tonnes to 111,633 tonnes. During this period, the following changes were registered in the production of the main foodcrops: beet (+23.5%), brinjal (+34.4%), calabash (+19.9%), carrot (+15.7%), cauliflower (+71.6%), echalotte (+129.4%), ginger (+114.4), onion (+11.9%), potato (-9.0%), pumpkin (+8.7%) and tomato (+8.7%). (Table 4.1)

### 1.8 Livestock

The number of livestock by type as at March 2004 was as follows: cattle (6,966), goat (19,235), sheep (852) and pigs (15,859). (Table 5.1)

The production of beef from live cattle decreased by 2.0% in 2004 to reach 2,456 tonnes against 2,505 tonnes in 2003. Beef production from the slaughter of imported cattle went up by 0.7%, from 2,303 tonnes to 2,319 tonnes while local beef production (including live cattle from Rodrigues), which represented only 5.6% of total beef production, fell significantly by 32.2%, from 202 tonnes to 137 tonnes. (Table 5.3)

In 2004 the production of goat meat and mutton was the same as in 2003, that is 107 tonnes. The share of local production, inclusive of imports from Rodrigues, was 24.1%. (Table 5.3)

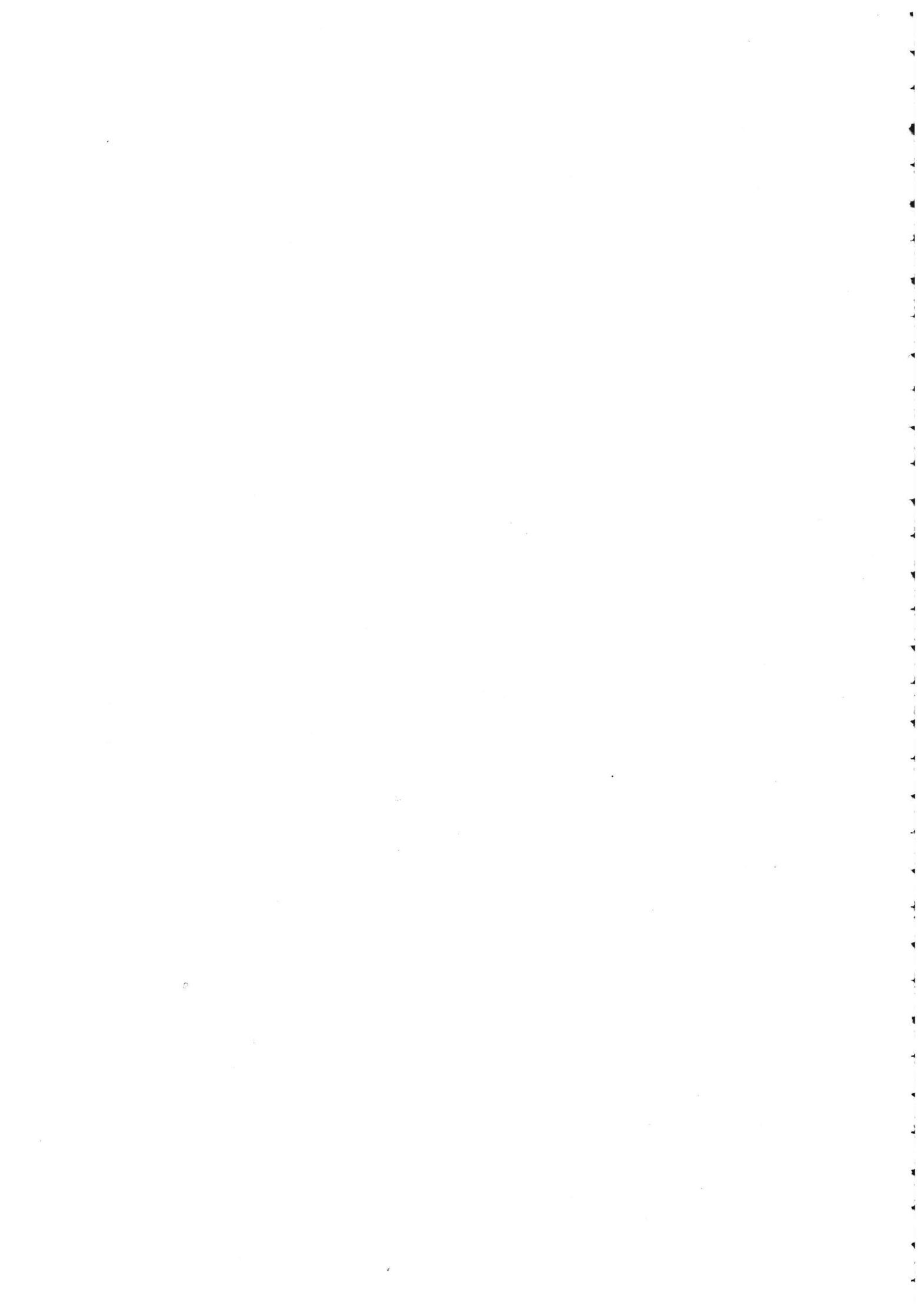
Production of pork declined by 5.4% from 785 tonnes in 2003 to 743 tonnes in 2004. (Table 5.3)

### 1.9 Fish

In 2004 total fish production amounted to 9,430 tonnes, that is a slight drop of 0.2% over the previous year. Fresh coastal fish catch registered a fall of 5.8% while other catch (tuna, bank, etc) increased by 1.4%. (Table 5.4)

### 1.10 Producer Price Index-Agriculture (PPI-A)

The PPI-A measures the average change in the selling prices which producers receive for agricultural products. In 2004 the index stood at 131.9, representing an increase of 5.4% over 2003. During the year, the producer prices of sugar cane went up by 6.7%. The other main changes in prices were: fruits (+2.6%), fresh vegetables (-8.1%), 'flowers, ornamental plants' (+13.0%), poultry (+9.0%) and eggs (+17.1%). (Table 7.2)





**SUMMARY TABLES**  
**AGRICULTURAL SECTOR**

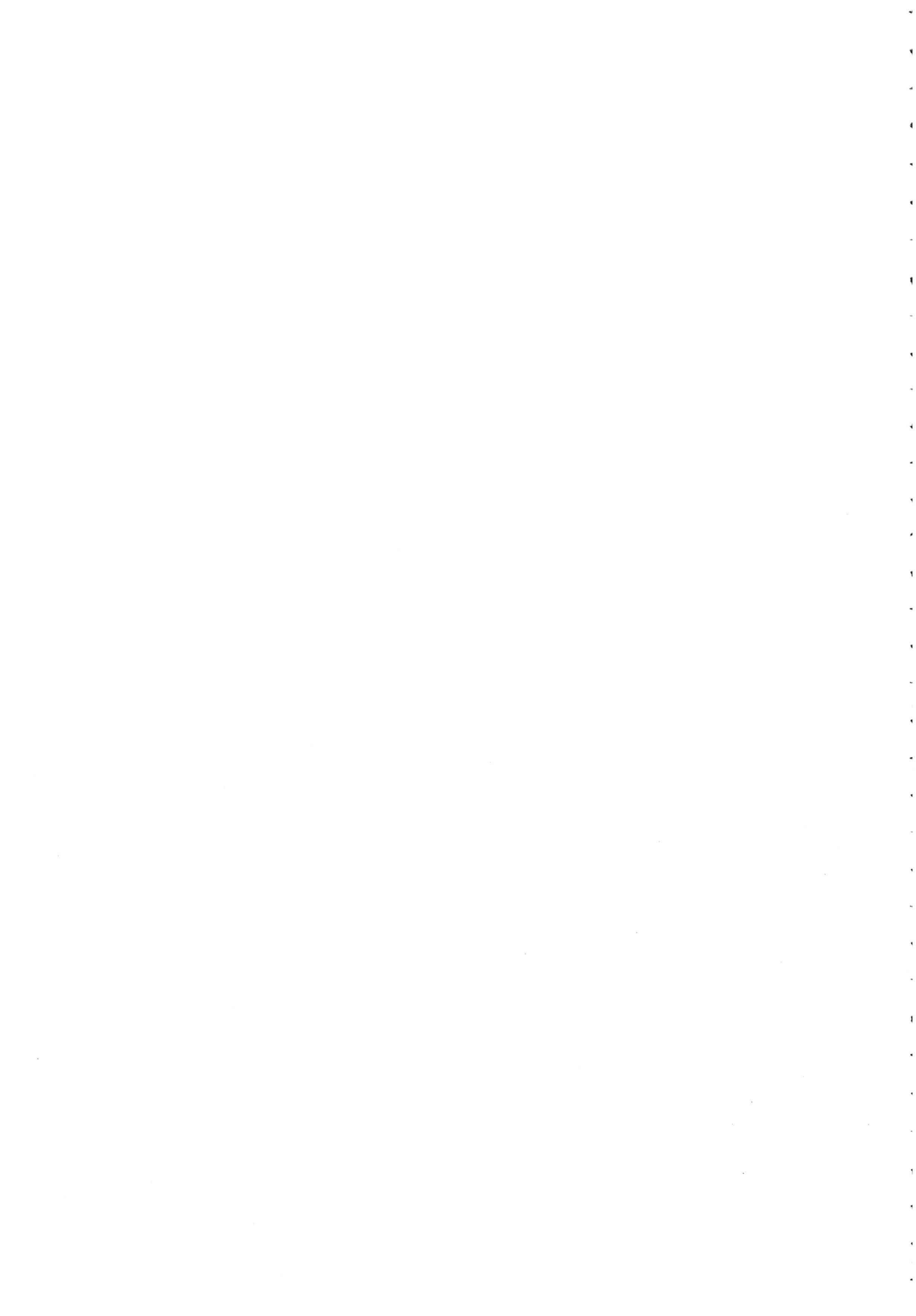


Table 1.1 - Share of agriculture in the economy - Republic of Mauritius, 2002 - 2004

	Unit	2002 <sup>1</sup>	2003 <sup>1</sup>	2004 <sup>2</sup>
Gross Domestic Product (GDP), at market prices	Rs million	142,802	156,903	174,468
Gross Domestic Product (GDP), at basic prices	Rs million	125,743	137,097	151,296
Value added - agriculture, at basic prices	Rs million	7,909	8,588	9,444
<i>of which sugar cane</i>	Rs million	3,913	4,370	4,890
<i>government services</i>	Rs million	913	954	1,031
Share of agriculture in GDP at basic prices	%	6.3	6.3	6.2
Share of sugar cane in agriculture	%	49.5	50.9	51.8
Employment in agriculture	'000	47.0	46.4	45.8
Share of agriculture in total employment	%	9.6	9.4	9.2
Gross domestic fixed capital formation (GDFCF)	Rs million	31,074	35,554	37,729
GDFCF in agriculture	Rs million	832	954	1,130
Share of investment in agriculture in total GDFCF	%	2.7	2.7	3.0
Annual growth rate of GDP at basic prices	%	+2.1	+3.9	+4.1
Annual growth rate of agriculture	%	-16.3	+1.6	+5.8
Annual growth rate of sugar cane	%	-25.0	+3.1	+6.5

<sup>1</sup> revised estimates

<sup>2</sup> provisional estimates

Table 1.2 - Distribution of GDP at basic prices by industrial group, Republic of Mauritius, 2002-2004

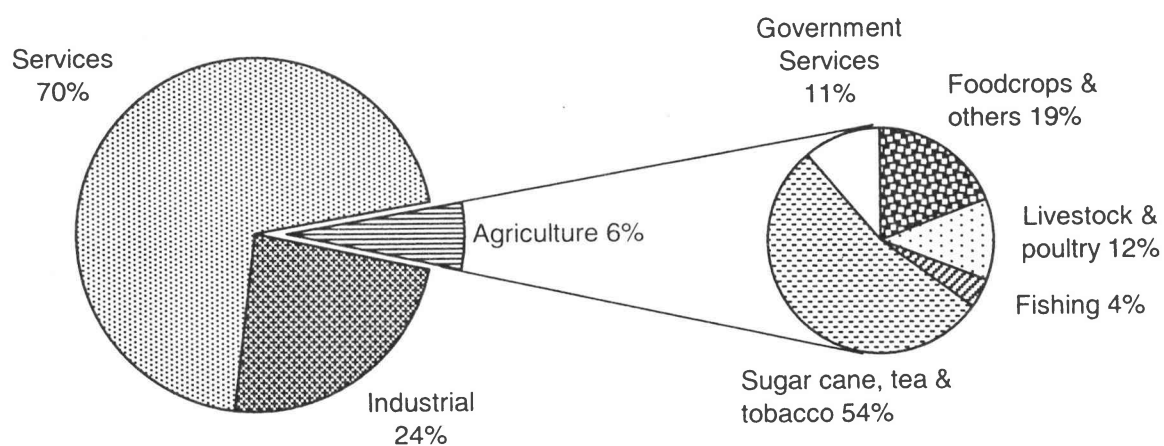
(Rs million)

Industrial group	2002		2003		2004	
	Value	%	Value	%	Value	%
Agriculture	7,909	6.3	8,588	6.3	9,444	6.2
Industrial <sup>1</sup>	31,320	24.9	33,133	24.2	35,534	23.5
Services <sup>2</sup>	86,514	68.8	95,376	69.5	106,318	70.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>125,743</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>137,097</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>151,296</b>	<b>100.0</b>

<sup>1</sup> covers Mining & Quarrying, Manufacturing and Electricity & Water

<sup>2</sup> includes Construction

Figure 1: Share of Agriculture in the economy, 2004



**Table 1.3 - Production account of agriculture - Republic of Mauritius, 2002 - 2004**

(Rs million)

	2002	2003	2004
Gross output at basic prices	11,442.6	12,459.0	13,660.8
Intermediate consumption	3,533.6	3,870.6	4,217.1
Value added at basic prices	7,909.0	8,588.4	9,443.7
Taxes on production	31.4	35.6	45.4
Compensation of employees	3,932.0	4,120.0	4,320.0
Gross operating surplus	3,945.6	4,432.8	5,078.3

**Table 1.4 - Value added of agriculture at basic prices by main product group - Republic of Mauritius, 2002 - 2004**

(Rs million)

Product group	2002	2003	2004
Industrial crops	4,005.1	4,455.6	4,979.1
Sugar cane	(3,913.9)	(4,370.0)	(4,891.0)
Tea (green leaf)	(60.4)	(61.2)	(63.6)
Tobacco leaf	(30.8)	(24.4)	(24.5)
Foodcrops	1,305.2	1,272.9	1,364.9
Fruits, flowers & forestry	265.0	280.6	294.4
Livestock and poultry products	901.1	1,041.3	1,104.8
Fishing	330.0	370.0	400.0
Government services	913.0	953.5	1,032.1
Other agricultural services and activities n.e.s	189.6	214.5	268.4
<b>Total Agriculture</b>	<b>7,909.0</b>	<b>8,588.4</b>	<b>9,443.7</b>