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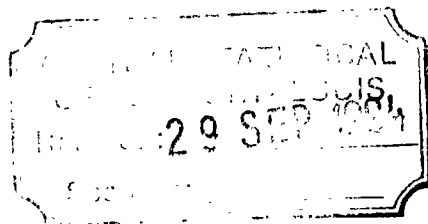
# Economic Indicators

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Agricultural Production (January - June 1994)



MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT  
PORT LOUIS  
MAURITIUS

# AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

(January - June 1994)

## 1. Introduction

This report presents data on agricultural production during the first six months of the year 1994.

## 2. Sugar cane

During the first semester of 1994, some 1,381 hectares producing 87,226 tonnes of sugar cane, were harvested against 1,711 hectares with a production of 110,669 tonnes in the same period of the preceding year.

The low production is mainly attributable to the effect of cyclone Hollanda which hit Mauritius in February of the current year. However, the climatic conditions prevailing over the island after Cyclone Hollanda were favourable. The extraction rate, as at end of June 1994, stood at 8.78% relative to 7.65% in the corresponding semester of the previous year.

The production of sugar for this year is projected to be in the region of 550,000 tonnes vis-à-vis 565,026 tonnes in 1993.

## 3. Tea

The area harvested shrank (by 1.9% or 61 hectares) to 3,090 hectares in 1994 compared to 3,151 hectares in 1993. Production of green leaves in the first six months of 1994 reduced to 16,651 tonnes against 19,673 in the first semester of 1993. This represents a reduction of 15.4%, or 3,022 tonnes, attributable mainly to the effect of Cyclone Hollanda in February.

## 4. Tobacco

Production of tobacco for the first six months of 1994 edged up to 336 tonnes that is, 8 tonnes or 2.4% above that of the same period in 1993. This increase is mainly due to a larger area of 310 hectares being harvested as compared to 300 hectares in 1993.

## 5. Livestock

Production of cattle meat from abattoir slaughters during the first six months of 1994 was 1,221 tonnes, an increase of 112 tonnes (+10%) over the figure of 1,109 tonnes for the corresponding period of last year. Local beef production (including Rodrigues) was up by 10% to attain 174 tonnes in the first semester of 1994 compared to 158 tonnes during the same period in 1993. Beef production from imports of live animals also increased by 10% from 951 tonnes in the first half of 1993 to 1,047 tonnes for the same period in 1994.

Production of goat and sheep meat, which is mainly local, increased substantially by 15.9% (+10 tonnes) from 63 tonnes in the period January-June 1993 to 73 tonnes in January-June 1994.

Pig meat production was 6.5% higher; 488 tonnes were produced during the first semester of 1994 against 458 tonnes for the same period in 1993.

## 6. Foodcrops

Area harvested under foodcrops during the first six months of 1994 grew by 7.5% to attain 2,623 hectares compared to 2,441 hectares during the corresponding period a year earlier. Production of foodcrops which was adversely affected by cyclone Hollanda reached 29,319 tonnes which nevertheless surpassed the 28,438 tonnes of the same period of last year. This increase is the net result of an expansion in area harvested for certain foodcrops combined with a contraction in others.

Owing to an increase in area harvested in the first semester of 1994, significant growth were noted in the production of the following foodcrops: potato (+113%), cauliflower (+110.8%), groundnut (+100%), onion (+52.3%), ginger (+37.3%), creepers (+28.5%), pineapple (+17.3%) and chillies (+9.7%).

By contrast, marked declines, largely attributable to Cyclone Hollanda, were observed in the production of some other foodcrops, viz: Maize (-14.8%), cabbage (-20.2%), tomato (-28.7%), brinjal (-28.8%) and banana (-37.3%).

The apparent increase in potato production is due to some 4,350 tonnes from the 1993 crop being harvested in January 1994.

Immediately after Cyclone Hollanda, many planters cultivated creepers which have a short cycle. As a result, the production of creepers jumped by 28.5% to attain 9,836 tonnes in the first semester of 1994 against 7,657 tonnes in the same period of 1993.

A significant increase of 100% was registered in the production of groundnut which stood at 455 tonnes in the first six months of 1994 over 227 tonnes in the corresponding period of 1993. The main reason for such a sharp increase is due to the fact that the acreage devoted to groundnut expanded as growers switched from other field crops, particularly, maize.

As regards chillies, the production went up by only 9.7% despite an increase of 52% in area harvested. This seems to be the result of a virus attack.

The production of pineapple was up by 17.3% to reach 1,987 tonnes in the first semester of 1994 against 1,694 tonnes in the corresponding period of 1993. The bulk of the increase is the consequence of sustained improvement in cultural practices.

7. Fisheries

Production of fish during the period January-June 1994 inched down by 1.6% from 9,303 tonnes in 1993 to 9,151 tonnes in 1994. Production of fresh fish (coastal) remained stagnant at 1,275 tonnes and that of frozen fish from banks and tuna dropped by 1.9% from 8,028 tonnes to 7,876 tonnes.

Central Statistical Office,  
Ministry of Economic Planning and Development,  
PORT LOUIS.

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Table 1. Agricultural crops: area harvested and production

	1993						1994	
	Calendar year		January-June		July-December		January-June	
	Area harvested (Hectares)	Production (Tonnes)	Area harvested (Hectares)	Production (Tonnes)	Area harvested (Hectares)	Production (Tonnes)	Area harvested (Hectares)	Production (Tonnes)
1. Sugar cane	74,130	5,402,401	1,711	110,669	72,419	5,291,732	1,381	87,226
2. Tea (green <sup>1/</sup> leaves)	3,151	30,900	3,151	19,673	3,151	11,227	3,090	16,651
3. Tobacco	756	1,015	300	328	456	687	310	336
4. Foodcrops	5,967	79,168	2,441	28,438	3,526	50,740	2,623	29,319

<sup>1/</sup> Area under cultivation

Table 2 - Production of agro-industrial products

Agro-industrial products	Unit	1 9 9 3			1 9 9 4 January-June
		Calendar Year	January-June	July-December	
1. Sugar	tonnes	565,026	8,467	556,559	7,657
2. Tea (manufactured)	"	5,931	3,731	220	3,069
3. Beef <u>1/</u>	"	2,523	1,109	1,414	1,221
Local (including Rodrigues)	"	(427)	(158)	(269)	(174)
Imported	"	(2,096)	(951)	(1,145)	(1,047)
4. Goat meat and mutton <u>1/</u>	"	132	63	69	73
5. Pork <u>1/</u>	"	1,048	458	590	488
6. Poultry	"	17,000	N.A	N.A	N.A
7. Milk	'000' Litres	9,000	N.A	N.A	N.A
8. Fish <u>2/</u>	tonnes	19,602	9,303	10,299	9,151
Coastal	"	(2,533)	(1,275)	(1,258)	(1,275)
Other	"	(17,069)	(8,028)	(9,041)	(7,876)

1/ abattoir slaughters only

2/ fresh weight equivalent

Table 3 - Sugar Industry Factory Statistics

	Unit	1 9 9 3			1 9 9 4
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	
1. Tonnage of canes crushed	tonnes	5,402,197	110,669	5,291,528	87,226
2. Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered % cane)	%	10.46	7.65	10.52	8.78
3. Average polarisation	degrees	98.7	98.7	98.7	98.7
4. Average yield of sugar	tonnes/hectare	7.62	4.95	7.69	5.54
5. Average m/tons of cane per m/ton of sugar	tonnes	9.56	13.07	9.51	11.39
6. Production of sugar	"	565,026	8,467	556,559	7,657
7. Molasses	"	164,801	4,000	160,801	3,150

Table 4 - Tea production of green leaves by type of producer (tonnes)

	1993			1994	
	Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June	July-December
1. Estates	1,672	977	695	829	
2. Metayers	1,898	1,349	549	837	
3. Free planters	2,380	1,536	1,044	1,718	
4. Planters in cooperative societies	24,747	15,867	8,880	13,175	
5. Other, including T.D.A.	203	144	59	92	
TOTAL	30,900	19,673	11,227	16,651	



Table 5 - Foodcrops, Area harvested and production

Foodcrops	1 9 9 3						1 9 9 4	
	Calendar year		January - June		July - December		January - June	
	Area harvested (Hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Area harvested (Hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Area harvested (Hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Area harvested (Hectares)	Production (tonnes)
Potato	686	13,780	112	1,714	574	12,066	231	3,654
Rice	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maize	428	1,815	230	750	198	1,065	134	639
Groundnut	274	869	75	227	199	642	114	455
Orion	222	3,637	20	172	202	3,465	27	262
Ginger	19	284	4	51	15	233	5	70
Garlic	22	177	0*	1	22	176	0*	2
Chillies	193	898	50	257	143	641	76	282
Tomato	1,085	13,002	520	5,540	565	7,462	402	3,952
Beans & peas	296	1,211	126	495	170	716	112	466
Cabbage	236	5,513	65	1,462	171	4,051	78	1,167
Cauliflower	68	1,381	14	240	54	1,141	28	506
Brinjal	157	1,811	68	833	89	978	52	593
Creepers	1,224	15,169	637	7,657	587	7,512	848	9,836
Mixed vegetables	436	5,694	211	2,358	225	3,336	213	2,321
Banana	451	9,880	240	4,987	211	4,895	230	3,127
Pineapple	170	4,047	69	1,694	101	2,353	73	1,987
Total foodcrops	5,967	79,168	2,441	28,438	3,526	50,730	2,623	29,319

\* Figures rounded off to the nearest final digit