

# **AGRICULTURAL AND FISH PRODUCTION**

**(January - June 2001)**

## **Introduction**

This report presents data on agricultural and fish production for the Island of Mauritius during the first six months of 2001, as well as revised figures for year 2000. Table 1 shows area harvested and production in respect of the main agricultural crops while table 2 shows production of the main agro-industrial products.

## **2. Sugar cane**

At the end of June 2001, about 2,490 hectares under sugar cane were harvested, yielding 314,210 tonnes of sugar cane and 30,270 tonnes of sugar. The corresponding figures for the same period in 2000 were 1,430 hectares, 178,420 tonnes of sugar cane and 17,794 tonnes of sugar respectively. The average extraction rate as at June 2001 stood at 9.63% compared to 9.97% in 2000. More details relative to sugar are given in Table 3.

The forecast of the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture for the 2001 crop is of the order of 640,000 tonnes of sugar.

## **3. Tea**

As at the end of June 2001, the area under tea plantation stood at 670 hectares, and the production of green tea leaves during the first semester of 2001 attained 4,370 tonnes, representing an increase of 20.1% over the corresponding period of 2000. A breakdown of production by type of producer is given in table 4.

## **4. Tobacco**

An area of 160 hectares under tobacco cultivation was harvested during the first semester of 2001, which is 16.7% lower than the 192 hectares for the corresponding period of 2000. The production of tobacco leaves has accordingly gone down by 21.8 %, from 294 tonnes to 230 tonnes.

## **5. Foodcrops**

Foodcrops statistics are supplied by the Agricultural Research and Extension Unit (AREU). These figures are adjusted to take into account backyard production, namely banana, eddoes, manioc and sweet potato.

Favourable climatic conditions during the first semester of 2001 have contributed an increase in the production of foodcrops which went up by 20.6% from 40,233 tonnes to 48,511 tonnes, while area harvested registered a rise of 5.3% from 3,075 hectares to 3,239 hectares.

Total foodcrops production for the current year is estimated at around 125,000 tonnes compared to 114,484 tonnes in 2000.

## **6. Livestock**

During the period January-June 2001, the production of beef from live cattle amounted to 886 tonnes, which is 23.0% lower than the figure of 1,150 tonnes registered in the corresponding period of 2000. Beef production from the slaughter of imported cattle decreased by 35.8 % from 1,062 tonnes to 682 tonnes. On the other hand, local beef production (including live cattle from Rodrigues) rose by 131.8% from 88 tonnes in 2000 to 204 tonnes in 2001. Local production accounted for only 23.0% of total beef production.

The production of goat meat and mutton witnessed an increase of 7.3%, 59 tonnes in January-June 2001 against 55 tonnes in January-June 2000. The share of local production inclusive of imports from Rodrigues stood at 77.0 %.

The production of pork went up by 8.4%, from 403 tonnes in the first semester of 2000 to 437 tonnes in the corresponding period of 2001.

## **7. Fish**

During the period under review, total fish production dropped by 17.3% from 4,076 tonnes in 2000 to 3,369 tonnes in 2001, following the closing down of the enterprise engaged in local tuna fishing. Fresh coastal fish production registered a drop of 13.2 % from 1,261 tonnes in January - June 2000 to 1,095 tonnes for the first half of 2001.

Central Statistics Office

Ministry of Economic Development, Financial Services and Corporate Affairs

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**Table 1 - Agricultural crops: Area harvested and production, 2000 - 2001**

	2000						2001 <sup>1</sup>	
	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)
	Sugar cane	73,056	5,109,521	1,430 <sup>2</sup>	178,420	71,626	4,931,101	2,494
Tea (green leaves)	670 <sup>3</sup>	6,440	670 <sup>3</sup>	3,639	670 <sup>3</sup>	2,801	670 <sup>3</sup>	4,370
Tobacco <sup>4</sup>	391	563	192	294	199	269	160	230
Foodcrops	7,357	114,484	3,075	40,233	4,282	74,251	3,239	48,511

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

<sup>2</sup> Revised

<sup>3</sup> Area under cultivation

<sup>4</sup> crop year

**Table 2 - Production of agro-industrial products, 2000 - 2001**

Agro-industrial products	Unit	2000			2001
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Sugar	tonnes	569,289	17,794	551,495	30,269
Tea (manufactured)	"	1,313	729	584	879
Beef <sup>1</sup>	"	2,538	1,150	1,388	886
Local (including Rodrigues)	"	(240)	(88)	(152)	(204)
Imported	"	(2,298)	(1,062)	(1,236)	(682)
Goat meat and mutton <sup>1</sup>	"	104	55	49	59
Pork <sup>1</sup>	"	891	403	488	437
Poultry <sup>2</sup>	"	22,000	n.a	n.a	n.a
Milk <sup>2</sup>	'000 Litres	4,000	n.a	n.a	n.a
Fish <sup>3</sup>	tonnes	7,892	4,076	3,816	3,369
Coastal	"	(2,310)	(1,261)	(1,049)	(1,095)
Other	"	(5,582)	(2,815)	(2,767)	(2,274)

<sup>1</sup> abattoir slaughters only

<sup>2</sup> figures are available on an annual basis only

<sup>3</sup> fresh weight equivalent

n.a = Not available

**Table 3 - Sugar Industry : Factory Statistics, 2000 - 2001**

	Unit	2000			2001
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Tonnage of canes crushed	tonnes	5,109,521	178,420	4,931,101	314,214
Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered % cane)	%	11.14	9.97	11.04	9.63
Average polarisation	degrees	98.50	98.50	98.50	98.50
Average yield of sugar	tonnes/hectare	7.79	12.44	7.70	8.50
Average tonnes of cane for 1 tonne of sugar	tonnes	8.79	10.03	8.94	10.38
Production of sugar	"	569,289	17,794	551,495	30,269
(White)	"	(3,061)	(-)	(3,061)	(-)
(Raw)	"	(566,228)	(17,794)	(548,434)	(30,269)
Molasses	"	144,027	5,300	138,727	n.a

n.a = not available

**Table 4 - Tea : Production of green leaves by type of producer (tonnes), 2000 - 2001**

Type of producer	2000			2001
	Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Estates	1,015	493	522	655
Metayers	2,143	1,284	859	1,665
Free planters	2,171	1,183	988	1,394
Planters in cooperative societies	1,111	679	432	656
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6,440</b>	<b>3,639</b>	<b>2,801</b>	<b>4,370</b>

**Table 5 - Foodcrops\* : Area harvested and production, 2000 - 2001**

Foodcrops	2000						2001 <sup>1</sup>	
	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	622	13,843	96	1,972	526	11,871	49	1,010
Maize	70	623	6	78	64	545	9	21
Groundnut	123	408	34	90	89	318	34	94
Onion	310	11,134	-	-	310	11,134	10	107
Ginger	32	498	11	160	21	338	17	242
Garlic	7	46	-	-	7	46	-	-
Chillies	202	905	83	365	119	540	97	492
Tomato	788	9,719	376	4,355	412	5,364	395	5,097
Beans & peas	353	1,715	154	676	199	1,039	161	788
Cabbage	422	10,823	190	4,139	232	6,684	217	4,953
Cauliflower	102	2,045	30	563	72	1,482	29	562
Brinjal	160	2,160	59	782	101	1,378	74	1,050
Creepers	2,176	27,435	1,144	13,279	1,032	14,156	1,080	14,846
Mixed vegetables	1,422	21,214	618	8,178	804	13,036	698	9,453
Banana	489	8,500	231	3,669	258	4,831	245	5,206
Pineapple	79	3,416	43	1,927	36	1,489	124	4,590
Total foodcrops	7,357	114,484	3,075	40,233	4,282	74,251	3,239	48,511

\* Foodcrops statistics supplied by AREU after adjustment for backyard production

<sup>1</sup> Provisional