

# **AGRICULTURAL AND FISH PRODUCTION**

## **(January - June 2002)**

### **Introduction**

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicator presents data on agricultural and fish production for the Island of Mauritius during the first six months of 2002, as well as revised figures for year 2001. 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.

It is to be noted that crop production during the first semester was adversely affected following the passage of cyclone Dina in January 2002.

### **2. Sugar cane**

No sugar cane was harvested during the period January to June 2002, as compared to a production of 314,214 tonnes in the corresponding period of 2001.

The Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture has revised its forecast for the 2002 crop to 540,000 tonnes of sugar, that is 16% lower than last year (645,598 tonnes).

### **3. Tea**

At the end of June 2002, area under tea plantation stood at 660 hectares, representing a decrease of 1.5% over the corresponding period of 2001.

Production of green tea leaves during the first semester of 2002 decreased by 11.6%: 3,863 tonnes as compared to 4,370 tonnes for the same period of 2001. A breakdown of production by type of producer is given in table 4.

During that period, 767 tonnes of black tea were produced compared to 879 tonnes for the corresponding period of 2001 (-12.7%)

### **4. Tobacco**

An area of 100 hectares under tobacco cultivation was harvested during the first semester of 2002 as compared to 139 hectares for the corresponding period of 2001, representing a decrease of 28.1%. The production of tobacco leaves has also gone down by 27.8% from 230 tonnes during the first semester of 2001 to 166 tonnes for the same period of 2002.

### **5. Foodcrops**

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

Area harvested registered a drop of 2.4% from 3,310 hectares in January-June 2001 to 3,231 hectares in the corresponding period of 2002, while production decreased by 22.5% from 49,119 tonnes to 38,063.

Table 5 gives details on area harvested and production for the main foodcrops.

## 6. Livestock

During the period January-June 2002, the production of beef from live cattle amounted to 952 tonnes, which is 2.4% higher than the figure of 930 tonnes registered in the corresponding period of 2001. Beef production from the slaughter of imported cattle increased by 15.8%, from 726 tonnes to 841 tonnes, while local beef production (including live cattle from Rodrigues) declined by 45.6%, from 204 tonnes in January-June 2001 to 111 tonnes in corresponding period of 2002. Local production accounted for only 11.6% of total beef production.

The production of goat meat and mutton witnessed an increase of 3.4%: 61 tonnes in January-June 2002 against 59 tonnes in January-June 2001. The share of local production inclusive of imports from Rodrigues stood at 27.0 %.

The production of pork went down by 18.3%, from 437 tonnes in the first semester of 2001 to 357 tonnes in the corresponding period of 2002.

## 7. Fish

During the period under review, total fish production increased by 26.7%, from 3,369 tonnes in 2001 to 4,268 tonnes in 2002. Fresh coastal fish production, which accounted for 27% of total, registered a rise of 4.8% from 1,095 tons in January - June 2001, to 1,148 tonnes in the corresponding period of 2002.

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**Table 1 - Agricultural crops: Area harvested and production, 2001 - 2002**

Crops	2001						2002 <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	73,197	5,792,325	2,494	314,214	70,703	5,478,111	-	-
Tea (green leaves)	670 <sup>2</sup>	7,440	670 <sup>2</sup>	4,370	670 <sup>2</sup>	3,070	660 <sup>2</sup>	3,863
Tobacco	375	609	139	230	236	379	100	166
Foodcrops	7,918	129,119	3,310	49,119	4,608	80,000	3,231	38,063

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

<sup>2</sup> Area under cultivation

**Table 2 - Production of agro-industrial products, 2001 - 2002**

Agro-industrial products	Unit	2001			2002
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Sugar	tonnes	645,597	30,269	615,328	-
Tea (manufactured)	"	1,517	879	638	767
Beef <sup>1</sup>	"	2,248	930	1,318	952
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	(375)	(204)	(171)	(111)
<i>Imported</i>	"	(1,873)	(726)	(1,147)	(841)
Goat meat and mutton <sup>1</sup>	"	114	59	55	61
Pork <sup>1</sup>	"	882	437	445	357
Poultry	"	27,200	13,573	13,627	13,231
Milk	'000 Litres	4,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Fish <sup>2</sup>	tonnes	8,794	3,369	5,425	4,268
<i>Coastal</i>	"	(2,025)	(1,095)	(930)	(1,148)
<i>Other</i>	"	(6,769)	(2,274)	(4,495)	(3,120)

<sup>1</sup> abattoir slaughters only

<sup>2</sup> fresh weight equivalent

**Table 3 - Sugar Industry : Factory statistics, 2001 - 2002**

	Unit	2001			2002
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Tonnage of canes crushed	tonnes	5,788,156	314,214	5,473,942	-
Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered % cane)	%	11.15	9.63	10.80	-
Average polarisation	degrees	98.50	98.50	98.50	-
Average yield of sugar	tonnes/hectare	8.82	8.50	8.70	-
Average tonnes of cane for 1 tonne of sugar	tonnes	8.97	10.38	8.90	-
Production of sugar	"	645,598	30,269	615,329	-
<i>(White)</i>	"	<i>(22,676)</i>	<i>( - )</i>	<i>(22,676)</i>	-
<i>(Raw)</i>	"	<i>(622,922)</i>	<i>(30,269)</i>	<i>(592,653)</i>	-
Molasses	"	175,603	N.A	N.A	-

**N.A : not available**

**Table 4 - Tea : Production of green leaves by type of producer (tonnes), 2001 - 2002**

Type of producer	2001			2002
	Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Estates	1,108	655	453	423
Metayers	2,416	1,665	751	1,243
Free planters	2,792	1,394	1,398	1,515
Planters in cooperative societies	1,124	656	468	682
TOTAL	7,440	4,370	3,070	3,863

**Table 5 - Foodcrops\* : Area harvested and production, 2001 - 2002**

Foodcrops	2001						2002 <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	779	16,350	52	871	727	15,479	59	1,403
Maize	54	389	10	45	44	344	8	67
Groundnut	123	323	35	95	88	228	52	110
Onion	333	10,950	11	107	322	10,843	9	79
<i>of which hybrid</i>	282	10,123	1	8	281	10,115	-	-
Ginger	52	868	17	242	35	626	2	29
Garlic	6	40	-	-	6	40	-	-
Chillies	213	1,031	97	492	116	539	92	297
Tomato	934	12,395	447	5,856	487	6,539	439	4,108
<i>of which hybrid</i>	156	2,436	67	1,091	89	1,345	129	1,252
Beans & peas	377	2,006	161	789	216	1,217	193	1,026
Cabbage	459	11,663	217	4,952	242	6,711	157	3,357
Cauliflower	90	1,846	29	562	61	1,284	28	559
Brinjal	182	2,721	74	1,049	108	1,672	71	813
Creepers	2,087	28,984	1,081	14,854	1,006	14,130	1,137	13,941
Mixed vegetables	1,524	22,537	700	9,466	824	13,071	645	8,392
Banana	540	11,000	256	5,165	284	5,835	299	3,000
Pineapple	165	6,016	123	4,574	42	1,442	40	882
<b>Total foodcrops</b>	<b>7,918</b>	<b>129,119</b>	<b>3,310</b>	<b>49,119</b>	<b>4,608</b>	<b>80,000</b>	<b>3,231</b>	<b>38,063</b>

\* Data supplied by AREU and adjusted for backyard production

<sup>1</sup> Provisional