

AGRICULTURAL AND FISH PRODUCTION

Year 2003

Introduction

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents data on agricultural and fish production for the Island of Mauritius for the year 2003, as well as revised figures for year 2002. 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. Details on the sugar industry and foodcrops are given at Tables 3 and 6 respectively.

2. Sugar cane

In 2003 production of cane increased by 6.7%, from 4,873,673 tonnes to 5,198,968 tonnes. However total area harvested declined by 644 hectares from 72,264 hectares in 2002 to 71,620 hectares in 2003, resulting in a 7.6% increase in the yield per hectare, from 67.44 tonnes to 72.59 tonnes.

The average extraction rate was 10.34% as compared to 10.70% in 2002, representing a drop of 3.4% and yielding 537,155 tonnes of sugar as compared to 520,887 tonnes in 2002.

3. Tea

The area under tea plantation in 2003 was 681 hectares, almost the same as the previous year.

Production of green tea leaves increased by 1.5% from 6,870 tonnes in 2002, to 6,973 tonnes in 2003.

Production of black tea increased by 4.0% from 1,381 tonnes in 2002 to 1,436 tonnes in 2003. More details on tea are given at Table 4.

4. Tobacco

An area of 379 hectares under tobacco cultivation was harvested in 2003, which is 8.0% higher than the 351 hectares in 2002. However, production of tobacco leaves declined by 11.1% from 477 tonnes in 2002 to 424 tonnes in 2003 as a result of the leaf necrosis disease.

5. Foodcrops

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

Compared to 2002, production of foodcrops in 2003 decreased by 1.2% from 103,876 tonnes to 102,670 tonnes. Area harvested also registered a fall of 1.2% from 7,261 hectares in 2002 to 7,172 hectares.

6. Livestock

The production of beef from live cattle increased by 2.0% in 2003 to reach 2,505 tonnes against 2,454 tonnes in 2002. Beef production from the slaughter of imported cattle

went up by 2.5%, from 2,246 tonnes to 2,303 tonnes whilst local beef production (including live cattle from Rodrigues) fell by 2.9%, from 208 tonnes to 202 tonnes. Local production accounts for 8.1% of total beef production.

The production of goat meat and mutton dropped by 24.1% from 141 tonnes in 2002 to 107 tonnes in 2003. The share of local production, inclusive of imports from Rodrigues, was 34.6%.

Production of pork increased by 3.7% from 756 tonnes in 2002 to 784 tonnes in 2003.

7. Fish

In 2003, total fish production fell by 9.7% from 9,136 tonnes in 2002 to 8,246 tonnes. Fresh coastal fish catch registered a fall of 6.0% ,while other catch (tuna, bank, etc) dropped by 11.0%.

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Table 1 - Agricultural crops: Area harvested and production, 2002 - 2003

Crops	2002 ¹		2003 ³	
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
Sugarcane	72,264	4,873,673	71,620	5,198,968
Tea (green leaves)	680 ²	6,870	681 ²	6,973
Tobacco	351	477	379	424
Foodcrops	7,261	103,876	7,172	102,670

¹ Revised² Area under cultivation³ Provisional**Table 2 - Production of agro-industrial products, 2002 - 2003**

Agro-industrial products	Unit	2002 ³	2003 ⁴
Sugar	tonnes	520,887	537,155
Tea (manufactured)	"	1,381	1,436
Beef ¹	"	2,454	2,505
Local (incl. imports from Rodrigues)	"	(208)	(202)
Imported	"	(2,246)	(2,303)
Goat meat and mutton ¹	"	141	107
Pork ¹	"	756	784
Poultry	"	29,305	30,000
Milk	000 Litres	4,000	4,000
Fish ²	tonnes	9,136	8,246
Coastal	"	(2,252)	(2,116)
Other (tuna,bank,etc)	"	(6,884)	(6,130)

¹ Comprises abattoir slaughters only² Fresh weight equivalent³ Revised⁴ Provisional

Table 3.1 - Sugar Industry - Field statistics, 2002- 2003

Ownership	2002			2003 ¹		
	Area harvested (hectares)	Cane produced (tonnes)	Yield (tonnes per hectare)	Area harvested (hectares)	Cane produced (tonnes)	Yield (tonnes per hectare)
1. Estate	29,619	2,292,568	77.40	28,284	2,308,669	81.62
2. Metayers	1,073	50,353	46.93	1,041	52,107	50.05
3. Planters	41,572	2,530,752	60.88	42,295	2,838,191	67.10
TOTAL	72,264	4,873,673	67.44	71,620	5,198,968	72.59

¹ Provisional**Table 3.2 - Sugar Industry - Factory statistics, 2002 - 2003**

Details	Unit	2002	2003 ¹
1. Tonnage of canes crushed	tonnes	4,870,051	5,196,843
2. Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered as a % of cane)	%	10.70	10.34
3. Average polarisation	degrees	98.5	98.5
4. Average yield of sugar	tonnes per hectare	7.21	7.50
5. Average tonnes of cane per tonne of sugar	tonnes	9.35	9.67
6. Production of sugar	"	520,887	537,155
- <i>White</i>	"	7,091	547
- <i>Raw</i>	"	443,180	467,750
- <i>Special</i>	"	70,616	68,858
7. Production of molasses	"	140,814	160,041

¹ Provisional

Table 4 - Tea - Production of green leaves by type of producer, 2002 - 2003
(Tonnes)

Type of Producer	2002 ¹	2003 ²
1. Estates	830	1,216
2. Metayers	2,182	2,266
3. Free planters	2,669	2,208
4. Planters in Co-operatives Societies	1,189	1,283
TOTAL	6,870	6,973

¹ Revised

² Provisional

Table 5 - Tobacco - Area harvested and production of leaf, 2002- 2003

Variety	2002 ¹		2003 ²	
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
1. Virginia (flue-cured)	320	443	321	357
2. Amarello (air-cured)	31	34	58	67
TOTAL	351	477	379	424

¹ Revised

² Provisional

Table 6 - Foodcrops: area harvested, production and yield per hectare, 2002- 2003

Foodcrops	2002 ¹			2003 ²		
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Yield per hectare (tonnes)	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Yield per hectare (tonnes)
Potato	606	13,339	22.0	420	12,253	29.2
Maize	38	295	7.8	55	187	3.4
Groundnut	116	284	2.4	205	893	4.4
Onion	238	7,117	29.9	142	3,938	27.7
Ginger	31	473	15.3	21	368	17.5
Garlic	4	25	6.3	5	63	12.6
Chillies	210	826	3.9	204	1,055	5.2
Tomato	947	11,738	12.4	1,046	13,231	12.6
Beans and Peas	395	2,242	5.7	406	2,021	5.0
Cabbage	330	8,252	25.0	265	6,240	23.5
Cauliflower	85	1,796	21.1	88	1,662	18.9
Brinjal	174	2,359	13.6	153	2,090	13.7
Creepers	2,124	27,649	13.0	2,443	29,388	12.0
Other vegetables	1,280	18,364	14.3	1,056	12,621	12.0
Banana	600	7,200	12.0	545	12,100	22.2
Pineapple	83	1,917	23.1	118	4,560	38.6
TOTAL	7,261	103,876	14.3	7,172	102,670	14.3

Source: Agricultural Research and Extension Unit(AREU) and CSO estimates

¹ Revised

² Provisional