

AGRICULTURAL AND FISH PRODUCTION

(January - June 2010)

1. Introduction

This issue of Economic and Social Indicators presents data on agricultural and fish production for the Island of Mauritius for the first six months of 2010, as well as revised figures for year 2009. 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 2010, around 4,800 hectares under sugar cane were harvested, yielding 361,875 tonnes of sugar cane and 33,815 tonnes of sugar. The corresponding figures for the same period in 2009 were 3,500 hectares, 278,481 tonnes of sugar cane and 24,876 tonnes of sugar respectively. The average extraction rate as at June 2010 was 9.34% compared to 8.93% in the first semester of 2009. More details are provided in Table 3.

According to the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture, production of sugar for the crop year 2010 will be around 450,000 tonnes.

3. Tea

At the end of June 2010, area under tea plantation stagnated at 713 hectares same as in June 2009. (Table 1)

Production of green tea leaves during the first semester of 2010 was around 4,282 tonnes, down by 5.0% when compared to the figure of 4,509 tonnes for the corresponding period of the preceding year. A breakdown of production by type of producer is given in Table 4.

Production of manufactured tea went down by 0.6%, from 840 tonnes in the first semester of 2009 to 835 tonnes in the same period of 2010. (Table 2)

4. Tobacco

An area of 66 hectares under tobacco cultivation was harvested during the first six months of 2010, against 85 hectares for the corresponding period of 2009, representing a decrease of 22.4%. The production of tobacco leaves went down by 24.6% from 130 tonnes in the first semester of 2009 to 98 tonnes in the corresponding period of 2010.

5. Food crops

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

The production of food crops rose by 5.8% from 37,335 tonnes to 39,506 tonnes. This is mostly explained by a 4.8% increase in area harvested (2,815 hectares in January-June 2009 and 2,951 hectares in January- June 2010).

6. Livestock

During the first half of 2010, the production of beef from live cattle was 996 tonnes, which is 10.4% higher than the figure of 902 tonnes registered in the corresponding period of 2009. Beef production from the slaughter of imported cattle, accounting for 94.8% of the total production, increased by 7.2%, from 881 tonnes to 944 tonnes. Local beef production went up by 147.6% from 21 tonnes to 52 tonnes. This increase is mainly the result of incentives of the “Pasture Development Scheme” under the “Food Security Fund” of the Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security.

The production of goat meat and mutton went down by 11.9% from 42 tonnes during the first semester of 2009 to 37 tonnes for the same period of 2010. The share of local production, inclusive of Rodrigues, stood at 72.0%. This is explained by: (i) a decrease in the production of meat obtained from slaughter of imported animals from 26 tonnes in the first semester of 2009 to 10 tonnes in the corresponding period of 2010 and (ii) an increase of local meat production from 16 tonnes in the first semester of 2009 to 27 tonnes in the same period of 2010.

The production of pork expanded by 77.8% from 158 tonnes in the first semester of 2009 to 281 tonnes in the corresponding period of 2010.

7. Poultry

The production of poultry expanded by 3.3%, from 21,300 tonnes in the first semester of 2009 to 22,000 tonnes in the corresponding period of 2010.

8. Fish

Total fish production fell by 7.4%, from 3,143 tonnes in first six months of 2009 to 2,910 tonnes in the same period of 2010. This decrease was attributable to a decline of 17.7% in the production of other catch (tuna, bank etc) from 2,108 tonnes to 1,734 tonnes. As regards the production of fresh coastal fish catch, it increased by 13.6% from 1,035 tonnes to 1,176 tonnes.

Central Statistics Office
Ministry of Finance and Economic Development
Port Louis
September 2010

CONTACT PERSON :

Mrs. F. Koussa
Statistician (Agriculture Unit)
Central Statistics Office
5th Floor, LIC Building
Port Louis
Tel. 213-3073
Fax 211-4150
Email: cso_agriculture@mail.gov.mu

Table 1 - Agricultural crops: Area harvested and production, 2009 - 2010

Crops	2009 ¹						2010 ²	
	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	60,380	4,667,234	3,500	278,481	56,880	4,388,753	4,800	361,875
Tea (green leaves)	713 ³	7,663	713 ³	4,509	713 ³	3,154	713 ³	4,282
Tobacco ⁴	234	314	85	130	149	184	66	98
Food crops	7,083	113,943	2,815	37,335	4,268	76,608	2,951	39,506

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Area under cultivation

⁴ Crop year (April-March)

Table 2 - Production of agro-industrial products, 2009 - 2010

Agro-industrial products	Unit	2009 ¹			2010 ²
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Sugar	tonnes	467,234	24,876	442,358	33,815
Tea (manufactured)	"	1,481	840	641	835
Beef ³	"	2,090	902	1,188	996
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	(37)	(21)	(16)	(52)
<i>Imported</i>	"	(2,053)	(881)	(1,172)	(944)
Goat meat and mutton ³	"	77	42	35	37
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	(29)	(16)	(13)	(27)
<i>Imported</i>	"	(48)	(26)	(22)	(10)
Pork ³	"	428	158	270	281
Poultry meat	"	44,000	21,300	22,700	22,000
Milk	'000 litres	3,400	1,700	1,700	1,800
Fish ⁴	tonnes	6,978	3,143	3,835	2,910
<i>Coastal</i>	"	(2,167)	(1,035)	(1,132)	(1,176)
<i>Other</i>	"	(4,811)	(2,108)	(2,703)	(1,734)

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Abattoir slaughter only

⁴ Fresh weight equivalent

Table 3 - Sugar Industry : Factory statistics, 2009 - 2010

Factory statistics	Unit	2009 ¹			2010 ²
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Cane crushed	tonnes	4,662,542	278,481	4,384,061	361,875
Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered % cane)	%	10.02	8.93	10.09	9.34
Average polarisation	degrees	98.5	98.5	98.5	98.5
Average yield of sugar	tonnes/hectare	7.74	7.11	7.78	7.04
Average tonnes of cane for one tonne of sugar	tonnes	9.98	11.19	9.91	10.70
Production of sugar	"	467,234	24,876	442,358	33,815
<i>(White)</i>	"	<i>(8,565)</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>
<i>(Raw)</i>	"	<i>(369,718)</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>
<i>(Special)</i>	"	<i>(88,951)</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>
Molasses	"	147,568	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>

¹ Revised

² Provisional

N.A: Not Available

Table 4 - Tea : Production of green leaves by type of producer, 2009 - 2010

(Tonnes)

Type of producer	2009			2010 ¹
	Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Estates	1,375	756	619	824
Metayers	2,256	1,355	901	1,219
Free planters	2,788	1,655	1,133	1,577
Planters in cooperative societies	1,244	743	501	662
Total	7,663	4,509	3,154	4,282

¹ Provisional

Table 5 - Food crops : Area harvested and production, 2009 - 2010

Foodcrops	2009						2010 ¹	
	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	858	19,828	45	643	813	19,185	58	882
Maize	14	112	5	38	9	74	8	53
Groundnut	241	587	140	350	101	237	62	195
Onion	209	4,855	14	184	195	4,671	8	86
<i>of which hybrid</i>	<i>(109)</i>	<i>(3,031)</i>	-	-	<i>(109)</i>	<i>(3,031)</i>	-	-
Ginger	35	617	4	53	31	564	1	16
Garlic	4	28	1	7	3	21	-	-
Chillies	246	1,227	118	539	128	688	122	683
Tomato	781	12,586	338	4,363	443	8,223	390	5,166
<i>of which hybrid</i>	<i>(609)</i>	<i>(10,349)</i>	<i>(240)</i>	<i>(3,245)</i>	<i>(369)</i>	<i>(7,104)</i>	<i>(294)</i>	<i>(3,931)</i>
Beans & peas	284	1,365	116	465	168	900	134	648
Cabbage	225	4,644	92	1,416	133	3,228	108	1,875
Cauliflower	72	1,680	12	298	60	1,382	19	398
Brinjal	198	2,830	88	1,273	110	1,557	101	1,418
Creepers ²	2,143	29,179	1,046	13,350	1,097	15,829	1,120	14,242
Mixed vegetables ³	1,008	14,605	429	5,039	579	9,566	459	5,216
Banana	494	10,920	244	5,368	250	5,552	251	5,522
Pineapple	271	8,880	123	3,949	148	4,931	110	3,106
Total food crops	7,083	113,943	2,815	37,335	4,268	76,608	2,951	39,506

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

¹ Provisional

² Includes Bittergourd, Calabash, Chouchou, Courgette, Cucumber, Patole, Pipengaille, Pumpkin, Squash and Voehm

³ Includes Beet, Broccoli, Carrot, Echalotte, Eddoes, Ladies Finger, Leek, Lettuce, Manioc, Petsai, Sweet Pepper and Sweet Potato