

AGRICULTURAL AND FISH PRODUCTION

(January - June 2011)

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 2011, as well as revised figures for year 2010. 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 2011, around 3,950 hectares under sugar cane were harvested, yielding 262,151 tonnes of sugar cane and 24,132 tonnes of sugar. The corresponding figures for the same period in 2010 were 4,800 hectares, 361,875 tonnes of sugar cane and 33,815 tonnes of sugar respectively. The average extraction rate as at June 2011 was 9.21% compared to 9.34% in the first semester of 2010. More details are provided in Table 3.

According to the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture, production of sugar for the crop year 2011 will be around 390,000 tonnes.

3. Tea

At the end of June 2011, area under tea plantation was 698 hectares, same as that at the end of June 2010. (Table 1)

Production of green tea leaves during the first semester of 2011 was 5,307 tonnes, higher by 23.9% when compared to the figure of 4,282 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 up by 26.1%, from 835 tonnes in the first semester of 2010 to 1,053 tonnes in the same period of 2011. (Table 2)

4. Tobacco

An area of 70 hectares under tobacco cultivation was harvested during the first six months of 2011, against 66 hectares for the corresponding period of 2010, representing an increase of 6.1%. The production of tobacco leaves went up by 26.5% from 98 tonnes in the first semester of 2010 to 124 tonnes in the corresponding period of 2011.

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 area under food crops harvested decreased by 3.0% from 3,188 hectares in the first semester of 2010 to 3,091 hectares in the first semester of 2011. However, the production of food crops increased by 0.2% from 41,861 tonnes to 41,924 tonnes during the same period.

6. Livestock

During the first half of 2011, the production of beef from live cattle was 961 tonnes, which is 3.5% lower than the figure of 996 tonnes registered in the corresponding period of 2010. Beef production from the slaughter of imported cattle, accounting for 91.2% of the total production, decreased by 7.2%, from 944 tonnes to 876 tonnes. Local beef production went up by 63.5% from 52 tonnes to 85 tonnes. This increase is mainly the result of different schemes put under the “Food Security Fund” of the Ministry of Agro Industry and Food Security.

The production of goat meat and mutton went down by 10.8% from 37 tonnes during the first semester of 2010 to 33 tonnes for the same period of 2011. The share of local production, inclusive of Rodrigues, stood at 81.8%. This is mostly explained by a decrease in the production of meat, obtained from slaughter of imported animals from 10 tonnes in the first semester of 2010 to 6 tonnes in the corresponding period of 2011.

The production of pork rose by 7.5% from 281 tonnes in the first semester of 2010 to 302 tonnes in the corresponding period of 2011.

7. Poultry

The production of poultry expanded by 2.2%, from 22,500 tonnes in the first semester of 2010 to 23,000 tonnes in the corresponding period of 2011.

8. Fish

Total fish production rose by 6.4%, from 2,913 tonnes in first six months of 2010 to 3,099 tonnes in the same period of 2011. This increase was attributable to a rise of 6.8% in the production of other catch (tuna, bank etc) from 1,807 tonnes to 1,929 tonnes as well as an increase of 5.8% in the production of fresh coastal fish catch, from 1,106 tonnes to 1,170 tonnes.

Statistics Mauritius
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Table 1 - Agricultural crops: Area harvested and production, 2010 - 2011

Crops	2010 ¹						2011 ²	
	Calendar year		January-June		July-December		January-June	
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)						
Sugar cane	58,709	4,365,833	4,800	361,875	53,909	4,003,958	3,950	262,151
Tea (green leaves)	698 ³	7,370	698 ³	4,282	698 ³	3,088	698 ³	5,307
Tobacco ⁴	213	310	66	98	147	212	70	124
Food crops	7,570	114,844	3,188	41,861	4,382	72,983	3,091	41,924

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Area under cultivation

⁴ Crop year (April-March)

Table 2 - Production of agro-industrial products, 2010 - 2011

Agro-industrial products	Unit	2010 ¹			2011 ²
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Sugar	tonnes	452,473	33,815	418,658	24,132
Tea (manufactured)	"	1,467	835	632	1,053
Beef ³	"	2,194	996	1,198	961
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	(88)	(52)	(36)	(85)
<i>Imported</i>	"	(2,106)	(944)	(1,162)	(876)
Goat meat and mutton ³	"	68	37	31	33
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	(46)	(27)	(19)	(27)
<i>Imported</i>	"	(22)	(10)	(12)	(6)
Pork ³	"	623	281	342	302
Poultry meat	"	46,000	22,500	23,500	23,000
Milk	'000 litres	3,600	1,800	1,800	1,850
Fish ⁴	tonnes	5,547	2,913	2,634	3,099
<i>Coastal</i>	"	(2,104)	(1,106)	(998)	(1,170)
<i>Other</i>	"	(3,443)	(1,807)	(1,636)	(1,929)

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Abattoir slaughter only

⁴ Fresh weight equivalent

Table 3 - Sugar Industry : Factory statistics, 2010 - 2011

Factory statistics	Unit	2010 ¹			2011 ²
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Cane crushed	tonnes	4,362,118	361,875	4,000,243	262,151
Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered % cane)	%	10.37	9.34	10.47	9.21
Average polarisation	degrees	98.5	98.5	98.5	98.5
Average yield of sugar	tonnes/hectare	7.71	7.04	7.77	6.11
Average tonnes of cane for one tonne of sugar	tonnes	9.64	10.70	9.55	10.86
Production of sugar	"	452,473	33,815	418,658	24,132
<i>(White)</i>	"	<i>(0)</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>
<i>(Raw)</i>	"	<i>(345,529)</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>
<i>(Special)</i>	"	<i>(106,944)</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>
Molasses	"	143,515	<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, 2010 - 2011

(Tonnes)

Type of producer	2010			2011 ¹
	Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Estates	1,372	824	548	1,045
Metayers	2,081	1,219	862	1,489
Free planters	2,770	1,577	1,193	2,006
Planters in cooperative societies	1,147	662	485	767
Total	7,370	4,282	3,088	5,307

¹ Provisional

Table 5 - Food crops : Area harvested and production, 2010 - 2011

Foodcrops	2010						2011 ¹	
	Calendar year		January - June		July - December		January - June	
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)						
Potato	1,066	21,709	58	882	1,008	20,827	40	485
Maize	48	328	8	53	40	275	8	38
Groundnut	208	556	163	451	45	105	155	386
Onion	241	5,797	8	86	233	5,711	8	42
<i>of which hybrid</i>	<i>(143)</i>	<i>(4,215)</i>	-	-	<i>(143)</i>	<i>(4,215)</i>	-	-
Ginger	62	1,357	1	17	61	1,340	6	28
Garlic	3	24	-	-	3	24	-	-
Chillies	238	1,324	121	685	117	639	119	686
Tomato	830	12,338	424	5,623	406	6,715	360	4,948
<i>of which hybrid</i>	<i>(706)</i>	<i>(10,702)</i>	<i>(343)</i>	<i>(4,586)</i>	<i>(363)</i>	<i>(6,116)</i>	<i>(333)</i>	<i>(4,659)</i>
Beans & peas	269	1,389	134	649	135	740	122	692
Cabbage	239	4,782	108	1,871	131	2,911	115	2,251
Cauliflower	61	1,323	19	398	42	925	24	486
Brinjal	199	2,683	101	1,417	98	1,266	97	1,333
Creepers ²	2,264	29,834	1,154	14,819	1,110	15,015	1,155	14,775
Mixed vegetables ³	1,051	12,935	505	5,716	546	7,219	417	4,789
Banana	542	11,936	270	5,963	272	5,973	270	5,626
Pineapple	249	6,529	114	3,231	135	3,298	195	5,359
Total food crops	7,570	114,844	3,188	41,861	4,382	72,983	3,091	41,924

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