

# **AGRICULTURAL AND FISH PRODUCTION**

## **(January - June 2014)**

### **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 2014, as well as revised figures for year 2013. 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 food crops are given in Tables 3 and 5 respectively.

### **2. Sugar cane**

At the end of June 2014 some 4,133 hectares under sugar cane were harvested, yielding 319,391 tonnes of sugar cane and 28,583 tonnes of sugar. The corresponding figures for the same period in 2013 were 1,810 hectares, 128,252 tonnes of sugar cane and 12,178 tonnes of sugar respectively. The higher figures for 2014 are mainly explained by cane crushing starting on 26 May this year as compared to 14 June last year. The average extraction rate as at end of June 2014 was 8.95% compared to 9.50% as at end of June 2013.

According to the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture, production of sugar for the crop year 2014 will be around 415,000 tonnes, representing a rise of 2.5% compared to 404,713 tonnes for 2013.

### **3. Tea**

At the end of June 2014, area under tea plantation was 672 hectares, same as the figure for the same period of 2013. The production of green tea leaves went up by 5.6%: 4,498 tonnes in first semester of 2014 as compared to 4,260 tonnes during the same period of 2013.

Production of manufactured tea increased by 6.1%, from 839 tonnes in the first semester of 2013 to 890 tonnes in the same period of 2014. Further details on tea production are given in Table 4.

### **4. Tobacco**

There was no production of tobacco leaves during the first six months of 2014 compared to an area of 1 hectare harvested and a production of 1 tonne in the corresponding period of 2013. It is to be noted that growing of tobacco will cease in 2015.

### **5. Food crops**

Data on food crops (except paddy rice) production, are supplied by the Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (FAREI, ex-AREU). Figures are thereafter adjusted to take into account backyard production of banana, eddoes, manioc and sweet potato. Data on paddy rice was obtained from concerned establishment.

The area under food crops harvested increased by 4.1% from 3,589 hectares in the first semester of 2013 to 3,737 hectares in same period of 2014. The production of food crops edged up by 0.2% from 41,885 tonnes to 41,948 tonnes during the same period, mainly explained by unfavourable climatic conditions. It is to be noted that area under rice cultivation harvested increased by 32.6% from 304 hectares in the first semester of 2013 to 403 hectares in the first semester of 2014. The production of paddy rice went up by 77.4% from 646 tonnes to 1,146 tonnes during the same period.

## 6. Livestock

Data on production of beef, goat meat, mutton and pork are supplied by the Mauritius Meat Authority. It is to be noted that this data represents only animals slaughtered by the Central Abattoir, including live animals imported from Rodrigues and other countries for slaughter.

During the first half of 2014, the production of beef from live cattle was 972 tonnes, as compared to 971 tonnes registered in the corresponding period of 2013. Beef production from the slaughter of imported cattle, accounting for 96.3% of the total production, increased by 2.1%, from 917 tonnes to 936 tonnes. Local beef production went down by 33.3% from 54 tonnes to 36 tonnes.

The production of goat meat and mutton went up by 11.5% from 26 tonnes during the first semester of 2013 to 29 tonnes for the same period of 2014. The share of local production, inclusive of Rodrigues, stood at 58.6%.

The production of pork decreased by 10.3% from 281 tonnes in the first semester of 2013 to 252 tonnes during the same period of 2014.

## 7. Poultry

The production of poultry decreased by 2.1% from 23,500 tonnes in the first semester of 2013 to 23,000 tonnes during the same period of 2014.

## 8. Fish

Total fish production went up by 152.4%, from 2,331 tonnes in first six months of 2013 to 5,884 tonnes in the same period of 2014. This increase was attributable to a rise of 234.0% in the production of other catch (tuna, bank etc) from 1,547 tonnes to 5,167 tonnes partly offset by a decrease of 8.5% in the production of fresh coastal fish catch, from 784 tonnes to 717 tonnes.

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**Table 1 - Agricultural crops: Area harvested and production, 2013 - 2014**

Crops	2013 <sup>1</sup>						2014 <sup>2</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	53,464	3,815,782	1,810	128,252	51,654	3,687,530	4,133	319,391
Tea (green leaves)	672 <sup>3</sup>	7,981	672 <sup>3</sup>	4,260	672 <sup>3</sup>	3,721	672 <sup>3</sup>	4,498
Tobacco	2	1	1	1	1	...	-	-
Food crops	8,189	118,121	3,589	41,885	4,600	76,236	3,737	41,948

<sup>1</sup> Revised

<sup>2</sup> Provisional

<sup>3</sup> Area under cultivation

... Negligible

**Table 2 - Production of agro-industrial products, 2013 - 2014**

Agro-industrial products	Unit	2013 <sup>1</sup>			2014 <sup>2</sup>
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Sugar	tonnes	404,713	12,178	392,535	28,583
Tea (manufactured)	"	1,563	839	724	890
Beef <sup>3</sup>	"	1,946	971	975	972
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	<i>(90)</i>	<i>(54)</i>	<i>(36)</i>	<i>(36)</i>
<i>Imported</i>	"	<i>(1,856)</i>	<i>(917)</i>	<i>(939)</i>	<i>(936)</i>
Goat meat and mutton <sup>3</sup>	"	46	26	20	29
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	<i>(33)</i>	<i>(20)</i>	<i>(13)</i>	<i>(17)</i>
<i>Imported</i>	"	<i>(13)</i>	<i>(6)</i>	<i>(7)</i>	<i>(12)</i>
Pork <sup>3</sup>	"	615	281	334	252
Poultry meat	"	46,700	23,500	23,200	23,000
Milk	'000 litres	5,000	3,000	2,000	2,300
Fish <sup>4</sup>	tonnes	5,795	2,331	3,464	5,884
<i>Coastal</i>	"	<i>(1,749)</i>	<i>(784)</i>	<i>(965)</i>	<i>(717)</i>
<i>Other</i>	"	<i>(4,046)</i>	<i>(1,547)</i>	<i>(2,499)</i>	<i>(5,167)</i>

<sup>1</sup> Revised

<sup>2</sup> Provisional

<sup>3</sup> Abattoir slaughter only

<sup>4</sup> Fresh weight equivalent

**Table 3 - Sugar Industry : Factory statistics, 2013 - 2014**

Factory statistics	Unit	2013 <sup>1</sup>			2014 <sup>2</sup>
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Cane crushed	tonnes	3,811,962	128,252	3,683,710	319,391
Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered % cane)	%	10.62	9.50	10.60	8.95
Average polarisation	degrees	98.5	98.5	98.5	98.5
Average yield of sugar	tonnes/hectare	7.57	6.73	7.59	6.92
Average tonnes of cane for one tonne of sugar	tonnes	9.42	10.53	9.39	11.17
Production of sugar	"	404,713	12,178	392,535	28,583
<i>(Plantation white sugar <sup>3</sup>)</i>	"	<i>(297,810)</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>
<i>(Special)</i>	"	<i>(106,903)</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>
Molasses	"	126,601	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>

<sup>1</sup> Revised

<sup>2</sup> Provisional

<sup>3</sup> A processed raw sugar used to manufacture refined white sugar

N.A: Not Available

**Table 4 - Tea : Production of green leaves by type of producer, 2013 - 2014**

(Tonnes)

Type of producer	2013			2014 <sup>1</sup>
	Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Estates	1,103	562	541	675
Metayers	2,055	1,086	969	1,123
Free planters	3,519	1,908	1,611	1,977
Planters in cooperative societies	1,305	704	601	723
Total	7,981	4,260	3,722	4,498

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

**Table 5 - Food crops : Area harvested and production, 2013 - 2014**

Foodcrops	2013						2014 <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	697	16,451	54	884	643	15,567	23	385
Rice (paddy)	304	646	304	646	-	-	403	1,146
Maize	93	632	50	301	43	331	29	259
Groundnut	182	431	118	285	64	146	107	281
Onion	354	7,772	2	16	352	7,756	1	4
<i>of which hybrid</i>	(248)	(5,896)	-	-	(248)	(5,896)	-	-
Ginger	59	991	6	47	53	944	4	68
Garlic	16	107	-	-	16	107	-	-
Chillies	275	1,488	130	740	145	748	147	847
Tomato	816	11,201	407	4,266	409	6,935	437	4,586
<i>of which hybrid</i>	(792)	(10,919)	(396)	(4,169)	(396)	(6,750)	(418)	(4,410)
Beans & peas	297	1,513	123	508	174	1,005	131	589
Cabbage	229	4,863	99	1,565	130	3,298	120	2,089
Cauliflower	105	2,016	30	444	76	1,572	40	682
Brinjal	258	3,378	116	1,519	142	1,859	136	1,848
Creepers <sup>2</sup>	2,355	28,290	1,113	13,145	1,242	15,145	1,185	14,553
Mixed vegetables <sup>3</sup>	1,038	12,204	484	4,287	554	7,917	520	5,148
Banana	501	10,181	276	5,630	225	4,551	243	4,641
Pineapple	610	15,957	276	7,602	334	8,355	212	4,820
<b>Total food crops</b>	<b>8,189</b>	<b>118,121</b>	<b>3,589</b>	<b>41,885</b>	<b>4,601</b>	<b>76,236</b>	<b>3,737</b>	<b>41,948</b>

Source: Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (FAREI) and Statistics Mauritius estimates

<sup>1</sup> Provisional

<sup>2</sup> Includes Bittergourd, Calabash, Chouchou, Courgette, Cucumber, Patole, Pipengaille, Pumpkin, Squash and Voehm

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