

AGRICULTURAL AND FISH PRODUCTION

(January-June 2017)

Introduction

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents data on agricultural and fish production for the Island of Mauritius for the first six months of 2017, as well as revised figures for year 2016. 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 2017 some 2,643 hectares under sugar cane were harvested, yielding 197,192 tonnes of sugar cane and 16,454 tonnes of sugar. The corresponding figures for the same period in 2016 were 3,745 hectares, 313,894 tonnes of sugar cane and 27,100 tonnes of sugar respectively. The average extraction rate as at end of June 2017 was 8.34% compared to 8.63% as at end of June 2016.

According to the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture, production of sugar for the crop year 2017 will be around 350,000 tonnes, representing a decrease of 9.4% compared to 386,277 tonnes in 2016.

3. Tea

At the end of June 2017, area under tea plantation was 622 hectares same as the figure for the corresponding period of 2016. The production of green tea leaves went up by 2.6%: 4,279 tonnes in first semester of 2017 as compared to 4,171 tonnes during the same period of 2016.

The production of manufactured tea increased by 4.4% from 781 tonnes in the first semester of 2016 to 815 tonnes in the same period of 2017. Further details on tea production are given in Table 4.

4. Food crops

Data on food crops (except paddy rice) production, are supplied by the Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (FAREI). 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.

A total area of 3,332 hectares under food crops was harvested in the first semester of 2017 and the production was estimated at 41,989 tonnes. It is to be noted that area under rice cultivation harvested declined by 65.8% from 161 hectares in the first semester of 2016 to 55 hectares in the same period of 2017. The production of paddy rice went down by 55.7% from 352 tonnes to 156 tonnes during the same period.

5. Livestock

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

During the first half of 2017, the production of beef from live cattle was 1,173 tonnes, as compared to 1,038 tonnes registered in the corresponding period of 2016. Beef production from the slaughter of imported cattle, accounting for 99.5% of the total production, increased by 16.9% from 998 tonnes to 1,167 tonnes. Local beef production went down by 85.0% from 40 tonnes to 6 tonnes.

The production of goat meat and mutton was 26 tonnes in 2017 same as in 2016. The share of local production, inclusive of Rodrigues stood at 88.5 %.

The production of pork decreased by 2.0% from 294 tonnes in the first semester of 2016 to 288 tonnes during the same period of 2017.

6. Poultry

The production of poultry increased by 2.2% from 23,000 tonnes in the first semester of 2016 to 23,500 tonnes during the same period of 2017.

7. Fish

Total fish production went up by 27.0% from 8,373 tonnes in the first six months of 2016 to 10,631 tonnes in the same period of 2017. This increase was attributable to an increase of 31.3% in the production of other catch (tuna, bank etc) from 7,422 tonnes to 9,747 tonnes in 2017, partly offset by a decrease of 7.0% in the production of fresh coastal fish catch from 951 tonnes in the first semester of 2016 to 884 tonnes during the same period of 2017.

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Table 1 - Agricultural crops: Area harvested and production, 2016 - 2017

Crops	2016 ¹						2017 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	51,476	3,798,448	3,745	313,894	47,731	3,484,554	2,643	197,192
Tea (green leaves)	622 ³	7,301	622 ³	4,171	622 ³	3,130	622 ³	4,279
Food crops	7,766	106,271	3,766	44,175	4,000	62,096	3,332	41,989

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Area under cultivation

Table 2 - Production of agro-industrial products, 2016 - 2017

Agro-industrial products	Unit	2016 ¹			2017 ²
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Sugar	tonnes	386,277	27,100	359,177	16,454
Tea (manufactured)	"	1,353	781	572	815
Beef ³	"	1,956	1,038	918	1,173
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	(54)	(40)	(14)	(6)
<i>Imported</i>	"	(1,902)	(998)	(904)	(1,167)
Goat meat and mutton ³	"	42	26	16	26
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	(37)	(23)	(14)	(23)
<i>Imported</i>	"	(5)	(3)	(2)	(3)
Pork ³	"	632	294	338	288
Poultry meat	"	45,800	23,000	22,800	23,500
Milk	'000 litres	4,000	2,300	1,700	2,100
Fish ⁴	tonnes	16,698	8,373	8,325	10,631
<i>Coastal</i>	"	(1,804)	(951)	(853)	(884)
<i>Other</i>	"	(14,895)	(7,422)	(7,473)	(9,747)

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Abattoir slaughter only

⁴ Fresh weight equivalent

Table 3 - Sugar Industry : Factory statistics, 2016 - 2017

Factory statistics	Unit	2016 ¹			2017 ²
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Cane crushed	tonnes	3,795,619	313,894	3,481,725	197,192
Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered % cane)	%	10.18	8.63	10.32	8.34
Average polarisation	degrees	98.5	98.5	98.5	98.5
Average yield of sugar	tonnes/hectare	7.50	7.23	7.52	6.23
Average tonnes of cane for one tonne of sugar	tonnes	9.83	11.58	9.69	11.98
Production of sugar	"	386,277	27,100	359,177	16,454
<i>(Plantation white sugar³)</i>	"	<i>(263,854)</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>
<i>(Special)</i>	"	<i>(122,423)</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>
Molasses	"	118,144	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ 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, 2016 - 2017

(Tonnes)

Type of producer	2016			2017 ¹
	Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Estates	1,053	574	479	481
Metayers	1,800	1,005	795	1,004
Free planters	3,191	1,902	1,289	1,981
Planters in cooperative societies	1,257	690	567	813
Total	7,301	4,171	3,130	4,279

¹ Provisional

Table 5 - Food crops : Area harvested and production, 2016 - 2017

Foodcrops	2016						2017 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	765	16,326	42	815	723	18,511	27	432
Rice (paddy)	161	352	161	352	-	-	55	156
Maize	61	415	31	192	30	223	26	199
Groundnut	56	149	22	54	34	95	50	140
Onion	278	6,388	12	192	266	6,196	5	101
<i>of which hybrid</i>	<i>(180)</i>	<i>(4,797)</i>	-	-	<i>(180)</i>	<i>(4,797)</i>	<i>(5)</i>	<i>(97)</i>
Ginger	52	726	15	164	37	562	6	49
Garlic	18	120	...	2	18	118	-	-
Chillies	306	1,903	171	1,041	135	862	136	975
Tomato	730	10,136	391	4,438	339	5,698	344	4,469
<i>of which hybrid</i>	<i>(719)</i>	<i>(10,048)</i>	<i>(380)</i>	<i>(4,349)</i>	<i>(339)</i>	<i>(5,699)</i>	<i>(344)</i>	<i>(4,469)</i>
Beans & peas	261	1,431	128	619	133	812	125	734
Cabbage	253	4,659	126	2,087	127	2,572	130	2,640
Cauliflower	105	1,963	38	603	67	1,360	38	650
Brinjal	288	2,738	169	1,593	119	1,145	127	1,423
Creepers ²	2,266	25,623	1,224	13,924	1,042	11,699	1,116	13,175
Greens ³	259	2,706	139	1,315	120	1,391	120	1,160
Mixed vegetables ⁴	1,032	13,199	588	6,760	444	6,438	563	6,517
Banana	459	7,731	281	4,681	178	3,050	252	4,459
Pineapple	417	9,707	229	5,342	188	4,365	213	4,712
Total food crops	7,766	106,271	3,766	44,175	4,000	62,096	3,332	41,989

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

¹ Provisional

- : Nil

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

... : Negligible

³ includes "Brede Baton blanc/vert/ de chine/ Chouchou/ Giraumon/ Malabar/ Tom pouce"

⁴ Includes Beet, Broccoli, Carrot, Echalotte, Eddoes, Ladies Finger, Leek, Lettuce, Manioc, Petsai, Sweet Pepper and Sweet Potato