

AGRICULTURAL AND FISH PRODUCTION

(January-June 2019)

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 2019, as well as revised figures for year 2018. 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 2019, some 1,228 hectares under sugar cane were harvested, yielding 96,747 tonnes of sugar cane and 11,709 tonnes of sugar. The corresponding figures for the same period in 2018 were 1,658 hectares, 116,353 tonnes of sugar cane and 14,350 tonnes of sugar respectively. The average extraction rate as at end of June 2019 was 8.48%, compared to 8.89% as at end of June 2018.

According to Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture, production of sugar for the crop year 2019 will be around 325,000 tonnes, representing an increase of 0.5%, compared to 323,406 tonnes in 2018.

3. Tea

At the end of June 2019, area under tea plantation was 656 hectares same as the figure for the corresponding period of 2018. The production of green tea leaves went up by 20.2%: 4,970 tonnes in first semester of 2019 as compared to 4,136 tonnes during the same period of 2018.

The production of manufactured tea increased by 24.9% from 720 tonnes in the first semester of 2018 to 899 tonnes in the same period of 2019. 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.

The area under food crops harvested increased by 16.1% from 2,789 hectares in the first semester of 2018 to 3,238 hectares in the same period of 2019. The production of food crops increased by 35.3% from 27,965 tonnes to 37,846 tonnes during the same period. It is to be noted that area under rice cultivation harvested declined by 53.8% from 13 hectares in the first semester of 2018 to 6 hectares in the same period of 2019. However, the production of paddy rice went up by 10.5% from 19 tonnes to 21 tonnes during the same period.

5. Livestock

Data on production of beef, goat meat, mutton and pork are supplied by 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 2019, the production of beef from live cattle was 1,161 tonnes, as compared to 1,169 tonnes registered in the corresponding period of 2018. Beef production from the slaughter of imported cattle, accounting for 96.5% of the total production, decreased by 2.2% from 1,145 tonnes to 1,120 tonnes. Local beef production went up from 25 tonnes to 41 tonnes.

The production of goat meat and mutton dropped by 6.9% from 29 tonnes during the first semester of 2018 to 27 tonnes for the same period of 2019. The share of local production, inclusive of Rodrigues, stood at 44.4%.

The production of pork rose by 9.3% from 248 tonnes in the first semester of 2018 to 271 tonnes during the same period of 2019.

6. Poultry

The production of poultry increased by 2.5% from 24,000 tonnes in the first semester of 2018 to 24,600 tonnes during the same period of 2019.

7. Fish

Total fish production went up by 1.7% from 13,829 tonnes in the first six months of 2018 to 14,063 tonnes in the same period of 2019. This increase was attributable to a rise of 1.6% in the production of other catch (tuna, bank etc) from 12,977 tonnes in 2018 to 13,180 tonnes in 2019, coupled with an increase of 3.6% in the production of fresh coastal fish catch from 852 tonnes in the first semester of 2018 to 883 tonnes during the same period of 2019.

Statistics Mauritius
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Table 1 - Agricultural crops: Area harvested and production, 2018 - 2019

Crops	2018 ¹						2019 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	47,678	3,154,515	1,658	116,353	46,020	3,038,162	1,228	96,747
Tea (green leaves)	656 ³	8,056	656 ³	4,136	656 ³	3,920	656 ³	4,970
Food crops	7,646	96,847	2,789	27,965	4,857	68,882	3,238	37,846

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Area under cultivation

Table 2 - Production of agro-industrial products, 2018 - 2019

Agro-industrial products	Unit	2018 ¹			2019 ²
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Sugar	tonnes	323,406	14,350	309,056	11,709
Tea (manufactured)	"	1,470	720	750	899
Beef ³	"	2,053	1,169	884	1,161
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	(78)	(25)	(53)	(41)
<i>Imported</i>	"	(1,975)	(1,145)	(830)	(1,120)
Goat meat and mutton ³	"	61	29	32	27
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	(35)	(19)	(16)	(12)
<i>Imported</i>	"	(26)	(10)	(16)	(15)
Pork ³	"	543	248	295	271
Poultry meat	"	49,000	24,000	25,000	24,600
Milk	'000 litres	2,500	1,400	1,100	1,400
Fish ⁴	tonnes	29,116	13,829	15,287	14,063
<i>Coastal</i>	"	(1,745)	(852)	(893)	(883)
<i>Other</i>	"	(27,371)	(12,977)	(14,394)	(13,180)

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Abattoir slaughter only

⁴ Fresh weight equivalent

Table 3 - Sugar Industry : Factory statistics, 2018 - 2019

Factory statistics	Unit	2018 ¹			2019 ²
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Cane crushed	tonnes	3,152,696	161,489	2,991,207	138,094
Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered % cane)	%	10.26	8.89	10.33	8.48
Average polarisation	degrees	98.5	98.5	98.5	98.5
Average yield of sugar	tonnes/hectare	6.78	8.66	6.72	9.54
Average tonnes of cane for one tonne of sugar	tonnes	9.75	11.25	9.68	11.79
Production of sugar	"	323,406	14,350	309,056	11,709
<i>(Plantation white sugar³)</i>	"	<i>(196,954)</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>
<i>(Special)</i>	"	<i>(126,452)</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>
Molasses	"	106,871	<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, 2018 - 2019

(Tonnes)

Type of producer	2018			2019 ¹
	Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Estates	968	443	525	740
Metayers	1,646	891	755	1,085
Free planters	3,841	2,001	1,840	2,409
Planters in cooperative societies	1,601	801	800	736
Total	8,056	4,136	3,920	4,970

¹ Provisional

Table 5 - Food crops : Area harvested and production, 2018 - 2019

Foodcrops	2018						2019 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	719	17,033	4	45	715	16,988	10	138
Rice (paddy)	13	19	13	19	0	0	6	21
Maize	64	387	25	139	39	248	37	256
Groundnut	87	214	34	68	53	146	89	188
Onion	275	3,440	3	65	272	3,375	...	4
<i>of which hybrid</i>	(200)	(2,511)	(3)	(55)	(197)	(2,456)	(0)	(0)
Ginger	40	368	6	47	34	321	5	39
Garlic	10	71	0	0	10	71	0	0
Chillies	264	1,389	109	411	155	978	138	1,055
Tomato	683	9,190	276	2,506	407	6,684	328	4,025
<i>of which hybrid</i>	(682)	(9,186)	(275)	(2,496)	(407)	(6,690)	(328)	(4,025)
Beans & peas	260	1,443	96	367	164	1,076	106	501
Cabbage	235	3,642	92	1,185	143	2,457	124	1,807
Cauliflower	90	1,382	16	223	74	1,159	12	126
Brinjal	255	2,495	113	932	142	1,563	142	1,747
Creepers ²	2,342	25,253	996	9,502	1,346	15,751	1,114	13,335
Greens ³	244	2,085	85	626	159	1,459	122	1,028
Mixed vegetables ⁴	1,071	11,060	455	4,088	616	6,972	535	5,464
Banana	492	7,333	251	3,479	241	3,854	244	3,592
Pineapple	502	10,043	215	4,263	287	5,780	225	4,520
Total food crops	7,646	96,847	2,789	27,965	4,857	68,882	3,238	37,846

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

¹ Provisional

0 : Nil ... : Negligible

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

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