

AGRICULTURAL AND FISH PRODUCTION

Year 2020

Introduction

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents data on agricultural and fish production for the Island of Mauritius for year 2020, as well as revised figures for year 2019. It is to be noted that the lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic during the first semester of 2020 combined with the Wakashio oil spill during the second semester of 2020 have adversely affected production for the year 2020. 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

The production of sugar cane went down by 23.0% from 3,405,250 tonnes in 2019 to 2,620,874 tonnes in 2020. The area harvested decreased by 3.0% from 45,054 hectares in 2019 to 43,711 hectares in 2020. The average yield has decreased by 20.7% from 75.58 tonnes per hectare in 2019 to 59.96 in 2020.

The production of sugar fell by 18.2% from 331,105 tonnes in 2019 to 270,875 tonnes in 2020. Compared to 9.73% in 2019, the average extraction rate was 10.34% in 2020, representing an increase of 6.3%.

3. Tea

The area under tea plantation in 2020 was 685 hectares, representing an increase of 4.4% over the figure of 656 hectares in 2019. The production of green tea leaves declined by 38.7% from 8,329 tonnes in 2019 to 5,105 tonnes in 2020.

Production of manufactured tea decreased by 31.6% from 1,583 tonnes in 2019 to 1,083 tonnes in 2020. 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 1.7% from 7,334 hectares in 2019 to 7,456 hectares in 2020. Production of food crops increased by 0.7% from 93,736 tonnes to 94,410 tonnes in 2020. It is to be noted that there was no rice cultivation in year 2020 compared to 6 hectares harvested in 2019 with a production of 21 tonnes of paddy rice.

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.

In 2020, the production of beef from live cattle was 1,826 tonnes, which is 11.0% lower than the figure of 2,051 tonnes registered in 2019. Beef production from the slaughter of imported cattle, accounting for 99.0% of the total production, decreased by 8.6% from 1,979 tonnes to 1,808 tonnes. Local beef production went down by 75.0% from 72 tonnes to 18 tonnes.

The production of goat meat and mutton was 42 tonnes in 2020 same as in 2019. The share of local production, inclusive of Rodrigues stood at 35.7 %.

The production of pork increased by 0.3% from 596 tonnes in 2019 to 598 tonnes in 2020.

6. Poultry

The production of poultry increased by 6.9% from 51,000 tonnes in 2019 to 47,500 tonnes in 2020.

7. Fish

Total fish production went down by 34.6% from 35,055 tonnes in 2019 to 22,943 tonnes in 2020. This decrease was attributable to a drop of 34.6% in the production of other catch (tuna, bank etc) from 33,333 tonnes in 2019 to 21,810 tonnes in 2020, as well as a decrease of 34.2% in the production of fresh coastal fish catch from 1,722 tonnes in 2019 to 1,133 tonnes in 2020.

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Table 1 - Agricultural crops: Area harvested and production, 2019 - 2020

Crops	2019 ¹		2020 ²	
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
Sugar cane	45,054	3,405,250	43,711	2,620,874
Tea (green leaves)	656 ³	8,329	685 ³	5,105
Food crops	7,334	93,736	7,456	94,410

¹ Revised² Provisional³ Area under cultivation**Table 2 - Production of agro-industrial products, 2019 - 2020**

Agro-industrial products	Unit	2019 ¹	2020 ²
Sugar	tonnes	331,105	270,875
Tea (manufactured)	"	1,583	1,083
Beef ³	"	2,051	1,826
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	(72)	(18)
<i>Imported</i>	"	(1,979)	(1,808)
Goat meat and mutton ³	"	42	42
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	(18)	(15)
<i>Imported</i>	"	(24)	(27)
Pork ³	"	596	598
Poultry meat	"	51,000	47,500
Milk	000 Litres	2,500	1,800
Fish ⁴	tonnes	35,055	22,943
<i>Coastal</i>	"	(1,722)	(1,133)
<i>Other</i>	"	(33,333)	(21,810)

¹ Revised² Provisional³ Abattoir slaughters only⁴ Fresh weight equivalent

Table 3.1 - Sugar Industry - Field statistics, 2019 - 2020

Ownership	2019 ¹			2020 ²		
	Area harvested (hectares)	Cane produced (tonnes)	Yield per hectare (tonnes)	Area harvested (hectares)	Cane produced (tonnes)	Yield per hectare (tonnes)
Estate	21,768	1,802,368	82.80	20,286	1,382,654	68.16
Metayers	473	26,319	55.64	468	20,275	43.28
Planters	22,813	1,576,563	69.11	22,958	1,217,944	53.05
Total	45,054	3,405,250	75.58	43,711	2,620,874	59.96

¹ Revised² Provisional**Table 3.2 - Sugar Industry - Factory statistics, 2019 - 2020**

Details	Unit	2019 ¹	2020 ²
Canes crushed	tonnes	3,403,310	2,619,015
Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered % cane)	%	9.73	10.34
Average polarisation	degrees	98.5	98.5
Average yield of sugar	tonnes/ hectare	7.35	6.20
Average tonnes of cane for one tonne of sugar	tonnes	10.28	9.67
Production of sugar	"	331,105	270,875
(<i>Plantation White Sugar</i> ³)	"	(195,884)	(134,967)
(<i>Special</i>)	"	(135,221)	(135,908)
Molasses	"	119,545	86,911

¹ Revised² Provisional³ A processed raw sugar used to manufacture refined white sugar

Table 4 - Tea - Production of green leaves by type of producer, 2019 - 2020**(Tonnes)**

Type of Producer	2019	2020 ¹
Estates	1,156	434
Metayers	1,823	1,016
Free planters	3,991	2,560
Planters in Co-operatives Societies	1,359	1,095
TOTAL	8,329	5,105

¹ Provisional

Table 5 - Foodcrops: area harvested, production and yield per hectare, 2019 - 2020

Foodcrops	2019 ¹			2020 ²		
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Yield per hectare (tonnes)	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Yield per hectare (tonnes)
Potato	714	14,822	20.8	834	15,828	19.0
Rice (paddy)	6	21	3.5	0	0	0.0
Maize	69	495	7.2	85	769	9.0
Groundnut	186	392	2.1	157	354	2.3
Onion	244	3,219	13.2	95	1,535	16.2
<i>of which hybrid</i>	(62)	(1,029)	(16.6)	(61)	(1,268)	20.8
Ginger	28	268	9.6	69	1,085	15.7
Garlic	8	48	6.0	6	39	6.5
Chillies	265	1,981	7.5	309	2,541	8.2
Tomato	643	8,684	13.5	622	8,298	13.3
<i>of which hybrid</i>	(643)	(8,684)	(13.5)	(622)	(8,298)	(13.3)
Beans and Peas	250	1,453	5.8	271	1,487	5.5
Cabbage	238	3,477	14.6	286	4,008	14.0
Cauliflower	61	725	11.9	78	837	10.7
Brinjal	276	3,385	12.3	290	3,496	12.1
Creepers ³	2,066	24,702	12.0	2,070	23,861	11.5
Greens ⁴	255	2,257	8.9	261	2,126	8.1
Mixed vegetables ⁵	1,110	12,082	10.9	1,059	10,042	9.5
Banana	508	7,266	14.3	521	8,512	16.3
Pineapple	407	8,459	20.8	443	9,592	21.7
Total food crops	7,334	93,736	12.8	7,456	94,410	12.7

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

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Includes Bittergourd, Calabash, Chouchou, Courgette, Cucumber, Patole, Pipengaille, Pumpkin, Squash and Voehm

⁴ Includes "Brede Baton blanc/vert/ de chine/ Chouchou/ Giraumon/ Malabar/ Tom pouce"

⁵ Includes Beet, Broccoli, Carrot, Echalotte, Eddoes, Ladies Finger, Leek, Lettuce, Manioc, Petsai, Sweet Pepper and Sweet Potat