

AGRICULTURAL AND FISH PRODUCTION

(January-June 2021)

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 2021, as well as revised figures for 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

At the end of June 2021, some 511 hectares under sugar cane were harvested, yielding 38,081 tonnes of sugar cane and 4,401 tonnes of sugar. The corresponding figures for the same period in 2020 were 467 hectares, 37,104 tonnes of sugar cane and 5,082 tonnes of sugar respectively. The average extraction rate as at end of June 2021 was 7.80%, lower than the 8.68% as at end of June 2020.

According to Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture, production of sugar for the crop year 2021 will be around 270,000 tonnes, representing a decrease of 0.3%, compared to 270,875 tonnes in 2020.

3. Tea

At the end of June 2021, area under tea plantation was 685 hectares, same as the figure for the corresponding period of 2020. However, the production of green tea leaves went up by 9.6%: 2,855 tonnes in first semester of 2021 as compared to 2,606 tonnes during the same period of 2020.

Consequently, the production of manufactured tea increased by 33.3% from 493 tonnes in the first semester of 2020 to 657 tonnes in the same period of 2021. Further details on tea production are given in Table 4.

4. Food crops

Data on food crops 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.

The area under food crops harvested increased by 6.7% from 2,981 hectares in the first semester of 2020 to 3,182 hectares in the same period of 2021. The production of food crops increased by 19.5% from 31,120 tonnes to 37,193 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 2021, the production of beef from live cattle was 1,040 tonnes, as compared to 946 tonnes registered in the corresponding period of 2020. Beef production from the slaughter of imported cattle, accounting for 99.3% of the total production, increased by 10.6% from 934 tonnes to 1,033 tonnes. Local beef production went down from 12 tonnes to 7 tonnes.

The production of goat meat and mutton increased by 4.8% from 21 tonnes during the first semester of 2020 to 22 tonnes for the same period of 2021. The share of local production, inclusive of Rodrigues, stood at 18.2%.

The production of pork went up by 9.3% from 225 tonnes in the first semester of 2020 to 246 tonnes during the same period of 2021.

6. Poultry

The production of poultry was 22,500 tonnes in the first semester of 2021 same as the figure for the corresponding period of 2020.

7. Fish

Total fish production went up by 20.6% from 12,650 tonnes in the first six months of 2020 to 15,250 tonnes in the same period of 2021. This increase was attributable to a rise of 21.8% in the production of other catch (tuna, bank etc) from 12,107 tonnes in 2020 to 14,743 tonnes in 2021, partly offset by a decrease of 6.6% in the production of fresh coastal fish catch from 543 tonnes in the first semester of 2020 to 507 tonnes during the same period of 2021.

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Table 1 - Agricultural crops: Area harvested and production, 2020 - 2021

Crops	2020 ¹						2021 ²	
	Calendar year		January-June		July-December		January-June	
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)						
Sugar cane	43,711	2,620,874	467	37,104	43,244	2,583,770	511	38,081
Tea (green leaves)	685 ³	5,105	685 ³	2,606	685 ³	2,499	685 ³	2,855
Food crops	7,352	95,029	2,981	31,120	4,371	63,909	3,182	37,193

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Area under cultivation

Table 2 - Production of agro-industrial products, 2020 - 2021

Agro-industrial products	Unit	2020 ¹			2021 ²
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Sugar	tonnes	270,875	5,082	265,793	4,401
Tea (manufactured)	"	1,083	493	590	657
Beef ³	"	1,826	946	880	1,040
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	(18)	(12)	(6)	(7)
<i>Imported</i>	"	(1,808)	(934)	(874)	(1,033)
Goat meat and mutton ³	"	42	21	21	22
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	(15)	(6)	(9)	(4)
<i>Imported</i>	"	(27)	(15)	(12)	(18)
Pork ³	"	598	225	373	246
Poultry meat	"	47,500	22,500	25,000	22,500
Milk	'000 litres	1,800	1,000	800	1,000
Fish ⁴	tonnes	26,415	12,650	13,765	15,250
<i>Coastal</i>	"	(1,133)	(543)	(590)	(507)
<i>Other</i>	"	(25,282)	(12,107)	(13,175)	(14,743)

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Abattoir slaughter only

⁴ Fresh weight equivalent

Table 3 - Sugar Industry : Factory statistics, 2020 - 2021

Factory statistics	Unit	2020 ¹			2021 ²
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Cane crushed	tonnes	2,619,015	58,543	2,560,472	56,428
Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered % cane)	%	10.34	8.68	10.38	7.80
Average polarisation	degrees	98.5	98.5	98.5	98.5
Average yield of sugar	tonnes/hectare	6.20	10.88	6.15	8.61
Average tonnes of cane for one tonne of sugar	tonnes	9.67	11.52	9.63	12.82
Production of sugar	"	270,875	5,082	265,793	4,401
<i>(Plantation white sugar³)</i>	"	<i>(134,967)</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>
<i>(Special)</i>	"	<i>(135,908)</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>
Molasses	"	86,911	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>	<i>NA</i>

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ A processed raw sugar used to manufacture refined white sugar

NA: Not available

Table 4 - Tea : Production of green leaves by type of producer, 2020 - 2021

(Tonnes)

Type of producer	2020			2021 ¹
	Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Estates	434	277	157	307
Metayers	1,016	610	406	557
Free planters	2,560	1,191	1,369	1,347
Planters in cooperative societies	1,095	528	567	644
Total	5,105	2,606	2,499	2,855

¹ Provisional

Table 5 - Food crops : Area harvested and production, 2020 - 2021

Foodcrops	2020						2021 ¹	
	Calendar year		January - June		July - December		January - June	
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)						
Potato	650	14,192	7	35	643	14,157	8	160
Maize	87	778	31	251	56	527	65	544
Groundnut	166	364	85	298	81	66	93	274
Onion	175	3,641	0	0	175	3,641	...	4
<i>of which hybrid</i>	<i>(61)</i>	<i>(1,268)</i>	<i>(0)</i>	<i>(0)</i>	<i>(61)</i>	<i>(1,268)</i>	<i>(0)</i>	<i>(0)</i>
Ginger	69	1,085	21	323	48	762	5	68
Garlic	7	39	0	0	7	39	0	0
Chillies	309	2,541	129	1,070	180	1,471	182	1,358
Tomato	626	8,352	258	2,612	368	5,740	287	4,136
<i>of which hybrid</i>	<i>(623)</i>	<i>(8,310)</i>	<i>(258)</i>	<i>(2,612)</i>	<i>(365)</i>	<i>(5,698)</i>	<i>(287)</i>	<i>(4,136)</i>
Beans & peas	271	1,487	106	449	165	1,038	103	567
Cabbage	286	4,008	135	1,403	151	2,605	100	1,284
Cauliflower	78	837	16	107	62	730	14	144
Brinjal	290	3,496	130	1,510	160	1,986	153	1,724
Creepers ²	2,115	24,493	1,017	10,174	1,098	14,319	1,047	12,792
Greens ³	261	2,126	114	854	147	1,272	128	1,093
Mixed vegetables ⁴	1,012	9,963	489	4,109	523	5,854	574	5,383
Banana	486	7,952	255	4,044	231	3,908	267	4,348
Pineapple	464	9,674	188	3,881	276	5,793	156	3,314
Total food crops	7,352	95,029	2,981	31,120	4,371	63,909	3,182	37,193

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