AGRICULTURAL AND FISH PRODUCTION

**Year 2023**

**Introduction**

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents data on agricultural and fish production for the Island of Mauritius for year 2023, as well as revised figures for year 2022. 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.

1. **Sugar cane**

The production of sugar cane increased by 8.7% from 2,256,806 tonnes in 2022 to 2,452,653 tonnes in 2023. The area harvested decreased from 39,199 hectares in 2022 to 35,863 hectares in 2023. The average yield has increased by 18.8% from 57.57 tonnes per hectare in 2022 to 68.39 in 2023.

The production of sugar went up by 2.6% from 232,707 tonnes in 2022 to 238,854 tonnes in 2023. Compared to 10.32% in 2022, the average extraction rate was 9.74% in 2023, representing a decrease of 5.6%.

1. **Tea**

The area under tea plantation in 2023 was 627 hectares, representing a decrease of 4.9% over the figure of 659 hectares in 2022. However, the production of green tea leaves went up by 6.5% from 6,351 tonnes in 2022 to 6,762 tonnes in 2023.

Production of manufactured tea increased by 16.3% from 1,156 tonnes in 2022 to 1,345 tonnes in 2023. 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 harvested under food crops for open fields increased by 17.2% from 7,786.6 hectares in 2022 to 9,122.3 hectares in 2023. The production of food crops increased by 33.4% from 107,878.5 tonnes in 2022 to 143,883.7 in 2023.

The area harvested under food crops for under covered cultures increased by 27.6% from 78.0 hectares in 2022 to 99.5 hectares in 2023. The production of food crops increased by 22.1% from 9,236.8 tonnes to 11,281.9 tonnes during the same period.

The total area harvested under food crops increased by 17.3% from 7,864.6 hectares in 2022 to 9,221.8 hectares in 2023. The total production of food crops went up by 32.5% from 117,115.4 tonnes to 155,165.5 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.

In 2023, the production of beef from live cattle was 2,049 tonnes, which is 1.1% lower than the figure of 2,071 tonnes registered in 2022. Beef production from the slaughter of imported cattle, accounting for 97.4% of the total production, increased by 2.5% from 1,948 tonnes to 1,996 tonnes. Local beef production went down from 123 tonnes to 53 tonnes.

The production of goat meat and mutton decreased by 16.4% from 55 tonnes in 2022 to 46 tonnes in 2023.

The production of pork decreased by 1.9% from 583 tonnes in 2022 to 572 tonnes in 2023.

**6. Poultry**

The production of poultry increased by 6.3% from 55,700 tonnes in 2022 to 59,200 tonnes in 2023.

**7. Fish**

Total fish production increased by 6.3% from 33,226 tonnes in 2022 to 35,313 tonnes in 2023. This increase was attributable to a rise of 6.3% in the production of other catch (tuna, bank etc) from 31,784 tonnes in 2022 to 33,789 tonnes in 2023, as well as an increase of 5.7% in the production of fresh coastal fish catch from 1,442 tonnes in 2022 to 1,524 tonnes in 2023.

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