

AGRICULTURAL AND FISH PRODUCTION

(January-June 2016)

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 2016, as well as revised figures for year 2015. 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 2016 some 3,745 hectares under sugar cane were harvested, yielding 313,894 tonnes of sugar cane and 27,100 tonnes of sugar. The corresponding figures for the same period in 2015 were 4,173 hectares, 352,026 tonnes of sugar cane and 28,780 tonnes of sugar respectively. The average extraction rate as at end of June 2016 was 8.63% compared to 8.18% as at end of June 2015.

According to the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture, production of sugar cane for the crop year 2016 will be around 400,000 tonnes, representing a rise of 9.3% compared to 366,070 tonnes in 2015.

3. Tea

At the end of June 2016, area under tea plantation was 650 hectares representing an increase of 13.2% over the figure of 574 hectares during the same period of 2015. The production of green tea leaves went up by 27.8% : 4,463 tonnes in first semester of 2016 as compared to 3,492 tonnes during the same period of 2015.

Production of manufactured tea increased by 16.7% from 669 tonnes in the first semester of 2015 to 781 tonnes in the same period of 2016. 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, ex-AREU). 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 3,766 hectares under food crops was harvested in the first semester of 2016 and the production was estimated at 44,175 tonnes. This includes greens, information on which is available as from 2016. The area and production of food crops excluding greens were 3,627 hectares and 42,860 tonnes respectively. It is to be noted that area under rice cultivation harvested declined by 34.6% from 246 hectares in the first semester of 2015 to 161 hectares in the same period of 2016. The production of paddy rice went down by 40.4% from 591 tonnes to 352 tonnes during the same period mainly explained by unfavourable climatic conditions.

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 2016, the production of beef from live cattle was 1,038 tonnes, as compared to 1,014 tonnes registered in the corresponding period of 2015. Beef production from the slaughter of imported cattle, accounting for 96.1% of the total production, increased by 4.8% from 952 tonnes to 998 tonnes. Local beef production went down by 35.5% from 62 tonnes to 40 tonnes.

The production of goat meat and mutton went up by 18.2% from 22 tonnes during the first semester of 2015 to 26 tonnes for the same period of 2016. The share of local production, inclusive of Rodrigues stood at 88.5 %.

The production of pork increased by 10.1% from 267 tonnes in the first semester of 2015 to 294 tonnes during the same period of 2016.

6. Poultry

The production of poultry decreased by 0.9% from 23,200 tonnes in the first semester of 2015 to 23,000 tonnes during the same period of 2016.

7. Fish

Total fish production went up by 10.8% from 7,697 tonnes in the first six months of 2015 to 8,527 tonnes in the same period of 2016. This increase was attributable to increases of 12.1% in the production of other catch (tuna, bank etc) from 6,833 tonnes to 7,659 tonnes in 2016 and 0.5% in the production of fresh coastal fish catch from 864 tonnes to 868 tonnes.

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Table 1 - Agricultural crops: Area harvested and production, 2015 - 2016

Crops	2015 ¹						2016 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	52,387	4,009,232	4,173	352,026	48,214	3,657,206	3,745	313,894
Tea (green leaves)	574 ³	6,732	574 ³	3,492	574 ³	3,240	650 ³	4,463
Food crops	8,077	102,663	3,307	30,944	4,770	71,719	3,766	44,175

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Area under cultivation

Table 2 - Production of agro-industrial products, 2015 - 2016

Agro-industrial products	Unit	2015 ¹			2016 ²
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Sugar	tonnes	366,070	28,780	337,290	27,100
Tea (manufactured)	"	1,295	669	626	781
Beef ³	"	2,013	1,014	999	1,038
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	(85)	(62)	(23)	(40)
<i>Imported</i>	"	(1,928)	(952)	(976)	(998)
Goat meat and mutton ³	"	42	22	20	26
<i>Local (including Rodrigues)</i>	"	(39)	(22)	(17)	(23)
<i>Imported</i>	"	(3)	(0)	(3)	(3)
Pork ³	"	560	267	293	294
Poultry meat	"	46,400	23,200	23,200	23,000
Milk	'000 litres	4,500	2,300	2,200	2,300
Fish ⁴	tonnes	12,650	7,697	4,953	8,527
<i>Coastal</i>	"	(1,559)	(864)	(695)	(868)
<i>Other</i>	"	(11,091)	(6,833)	(4,258)	(7,659)

¹ Revised

² Provisional

³ Abattoir slaughter only

⁴ Fresh weight equivalent

Table 3 - Sugar Industry : Factory statistics, 2015 - 2016

Factory statistics	Unit	2015 ¹			2016 ²
		Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Cane crushed	tonnes	4,004,301	352,026	3,652,275	313,894
Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered % cane)	%	9.14	8.18	9.99	8.63
Average polarisation	degrees	98.5	98.5	98.5	98.5
Average yield of sugar	tonnes/hectare	6.99	6.90	7.98	7.23
Average tonnes of cane for one tonne of sugar	tonnes	10.94	12.23	10.01	11.58
Production of sugar	"	366,070	28,780	337,290	27,100
<i>(Plantation white sugar³)</i>	"	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>
<i>(Special)</i>	"	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>	<i>N.A</i>
Molasses	"	132,244	<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, 2015 - 2016

(Tonnes)

Type of producer	2015			2016 ¹
	Calendar year	January-June	July-December	January-June
Estates	1,001	532	469	679
Metayers	1,691	959	732	1,169
Free planters	2,922	1,450	1,472	1,905
Planters in cooperative societies	1,118	551	567	710
Total	6,732	3,492	3,240	4,463

¹ Provisional

Table 5 - Food crops : Area harvested and production, 2015 - 2016

Foodcrops	2015						2016 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	707	16,427	15	298	692	16,129	42	815
Rice (paddy)	340	657	246	591	94	66	161	352
Maize	71	451	28	178	43	273	31	192
Groundnut	99	189	37	77	62	112	22	54
Onion	283	6,898	3	42	280	6,856	12	192
<i>of which hybrid</i>	(254)	(6,398)	(0)	(0)	(254)	(6,398)	(0)	(0)
Ginger	52	553	10	62	42	491	15	164
Garlic	13	85	0	0	13	85	0	2
Chillies	272	1,491	120	581	152	910	171	1,041
Tomato	740	8,525	318	2,465	422	6,060	391	4,438
<i>of which hybrid</i>	(682)	(8,054)	(259)	(1,974)	(423)	(6,080)	(380)	(4,349)
Beans & peas	270	1,247	105	353	165	894	128	619
Cabbage	240	3,870	95	1,109	145	2,761	126	2,087
Cauliflower	106	1,921	32	409	74	1,512	38	603
Brinjal	270	2,504	117	1,100	153	1,404	169	1,593
Creepers ²	2,550	26,812	1,260	10,988	1,290	15,824	1,224	13,924
Greens ³	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	N.A	139	1,315
Mixed vegetables ⁴	1,073	11,375	457	3,576	616	7,799	588	6,760
Banana	470	7,965	250	4,202	220	3,763	281	4,681
Pineapple	523	11,693	214	4,913	309	6,780	229	5,342
Total food crops	8,077	102,663	3,307	30,944	4,770	71,719	3,766	44,175

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

¹ Provisional

N.A: Not Available

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