

# MAURITIUS CANE INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

## MAURITIUS SUGARCANE INDUSTRY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Ref A 1/2022

16 September 2022

### SUGAR CANE CROP 2022

**Status: End August 2022**

#### 1. CLIMATE

##### 1.1 Rainfall (Tables 1a, 1b, Figure 1)

The island's average rainfall for August 2022 was 67 mm only, representing 57% of the normal (119 mm). Rainfall recorded during August 2022 was below the long-term mean (LTM) in all the sectors with 31 mm in the North, 110 mm in the East, 67 mm in the South, 1 mm in the West and 93 mm in the Centre.

The cumulative rainfall over the period October 2021 to August 2022 amounted to 2415 mm representing 117% of the LTM for the island. During the same period, 1365 mm were recorded in the North, 2779 mm in the East, 3018 mm in the South, 922 mm in the West and 3146 mm in the Centre; these values represented 113%, 110%, 124%, 103% and 120% of the respective long-term mean.

**Table 1a. Rainfall (mm) for the month of August for crops 2021, 2022 and the long term mean (LTM)**

	North	East	South	West	Centre	Island
<b>2021</b>	85 (152)	279 (186)	239 (160)	37 (185)	307 (186)	204 (172)
<b>2022</b>	<b>31</b> (55)	<b>110</b> (73)	<b>67</b> (45)	<b>1</b> (5)	<b>93</b> (56)	<b>67</b> (57)
<b>LTM</b>	56	150	149	20	165	119

figures in brackets are % of LTM (1991-2020)

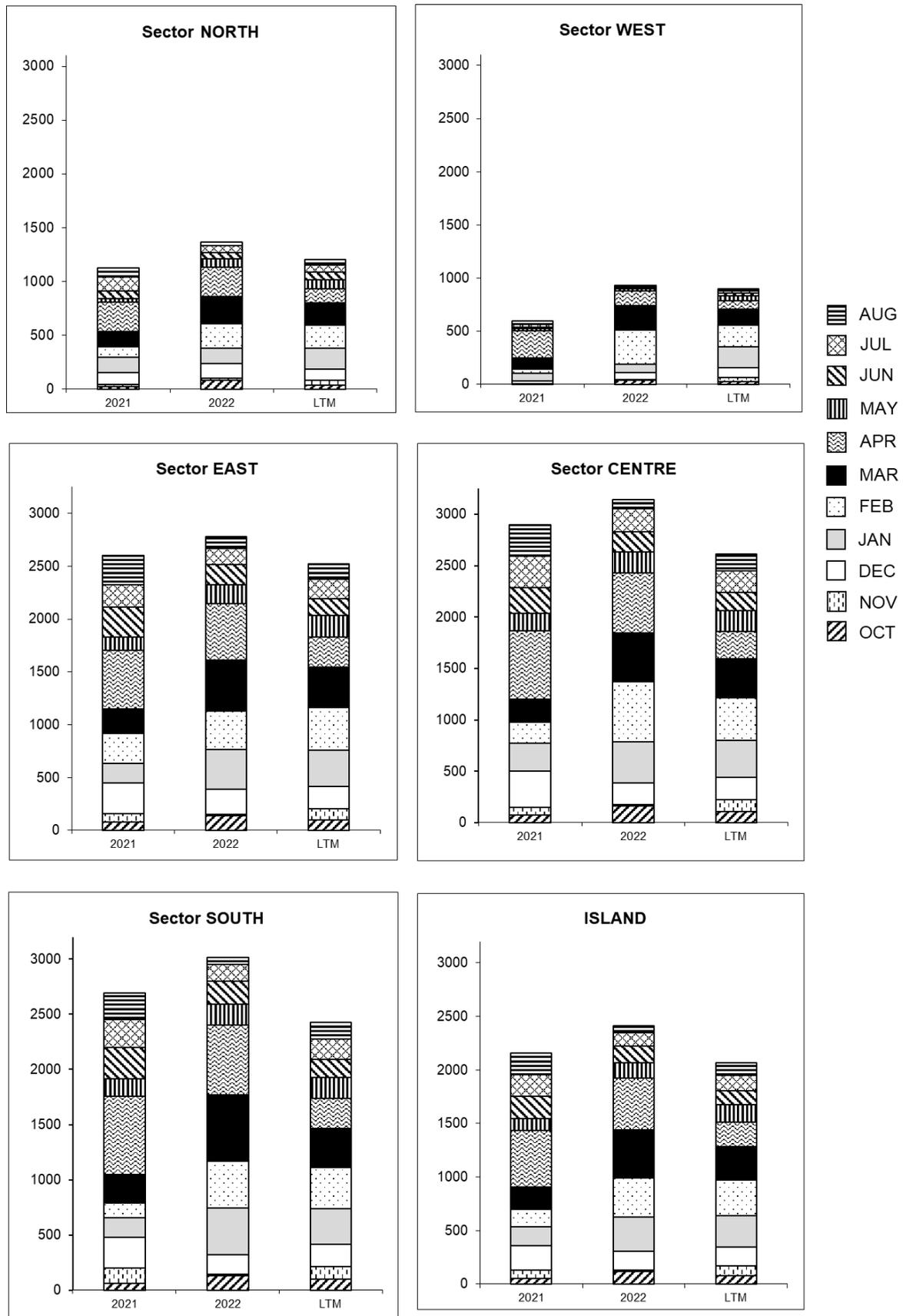
**Table 1b. Cumulative rainfall (mm) from October 2021 to August 2022 for crop 2022 compared to that of crop 2021 and the long term mean (LTM)**

	North	East	South	West	Centre	Island
<b>2021</b>	1125 (93)	2604 (103)	2693 (111)	596 (66)	2900 (111)	2158 (104)
<b>2022</b>	<b>1365</b> (113)	<b>2779</b> (110)	<b>3018</b> (124)	<b>922</b> (103)	<b>3146</b> (120)	<b>2415</b> (117)
<b>LTM</b>	1208	2524	2426	897	2614	2066

figures in brackets are % of LTM

[Source: Provisional data from Meteorological Services]

**Figure 1. Monthly rainfall (mm) for the period October 2021 to August 2022 for the 2022 crop compared to the same period of the 2021 crop and to the long-term mean (LTM)**



## 1.2 Air Temperature (Table 2)

The recorded air temperature data during the month of August 2022 on four MSIRI agro-meteorological stations are given below.

**Table 2. Air temperature recorded on four MSIRI stations in August 2022**

Stations	Maximum (°C)		Minimum (°C)		Amplitude (°C)	
	Aug 2022	+ / -	Aug 2022	+ / -	Aug 2022	+ / -
<b>Ferret</b>	24.8	-0.8	16.8	+0.1	8.0	-0.9
<b>Réduit</b>	22.9	+0.1	15.4	0.0	7.5	+0.1
<b>Union Park</b>	22.5	+0.6	16.1	+0.4	6.4	+0.2
<b>Belle Rive</b>	21.1	-1.2	14.6	+0.1	6.5	-1.3

+ / - Deviation from the Normal (1991-2020)

Mean maximum temperature during August 2022 was close to normal at Réduit, above normal at Union Park, and lagging behind the normal at the other two stations. The mean minimum temperature was above normal at Union Park but comparable to the normal at the other stations. The resulting mean amplitude lagged behind the normal at Ferret by 0.9°C and Belle Rive by 1.3°C, but was close to the normal at the other two stations. Generally, below normal temperature amplitudes are less conducive to sucrose accumulation.

## 1.3 Sunshine (Table 3)

Data from the four MSIRI agro-meteorological stations showed that sunshine hours during the month of August 2022 were above normal at all stations except at Belle Rive where it was equal to the normal. Recorded bright sunshine compared to the normal amounted to 104% at Ferret, 102% at Réduit, 128% at Union Park and 100% at Belle Rive.

**Table 3. Sunshine duration (h) recorded on four MSIRI agro-meteorological stations in August 2022**

Station	August 2022	Normal	% of Normal
<b>Ferret</b>	249	240	104
<b>Réduit</b>	223	219	102
<b>Union Park</b>	178	139	128
<b>Belle Rive</b>	194	194	100

## 2.0 SUCROSE ACCUMULATION (Table 4)

Cane samples from corporate planters' land in all sectors and covering the main cultivated varieties were analysed for sucrose content during the last week of August 2022. The Pol % cane (*richesse*) for each sector was calculated as the weighted mean based on area of each variety under cultivation. The results were compared with those of the last two years.

**Table 4. Comparison of Pol % cane (*richesse*) at the end of July and August 2020, 2021 and 2022**

Sectors	July			August		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
North	13.4	11.0	11.2	14.4	12.2	12.4
East	11.4	11.5	11.2	13.4	12.5	12.1
South	12.0	12.4	11.7	12.8	12.8	13.0
West	12.4	12.0	11.3	13.4	13.9	12.3
Centre	11.2	11.7	11.1	11.9	12.3	11.7
Island	<b>12.1</b>	<b>11.7</b>	<b>11.4</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>12.4</b>

The *richesse* at the end of August 2022 was 12.4% in the North, 12.1% in the East, 13.0% in the South, 12.3% in the West and 11.7% in the Centre. Compared to the corresponding period in 2021, sucrose content at end-August 2022 was higher by 0.2° in both the North and South sectors but lagged behind in the other sectors by 0.4° in the East, 1.6° in the West and 0.6° in the Centre. Sucrose content at the end of August, for the present crop, was inferior to that of the corresponding period in 2020 in all sectors except in sector South.

Sucrose content has improved in all sectors from end July to end August 2022 with an increment of 1.2° in the North, 0.9° in the East, 1.3° in the South, 1.0° in the West and 0.6° in the Centre. On average for the island, the increase in *richesse* was 1.0° in 2022 compared to 0.9° and 1.2° for the corresponding period in 2021 and 2020, respectively.

Island-wise, the *richesse* of 12.4% recorded at end of August 2022 was slightly below that of August 2021(12.6%) but lagged behind that of 2020 (13.3%) by 0.9°.

## 3. CROP PRODUCTIVITY 2022

As at 3 September 2022, some 11,137 ha representing about 41% of corporate planters had been harvested compared to 9,345 ha (33%) at the same period last year. Sector-wise and for corporate planters only, harvested area reached 40% in the North, 45% in the East, 41% in the South and West, and 35 % in the Centre. An analysis of crop productivity based on the harvest statistics for corporate planters follows.

### 3.1 Cane productivity (Table 5a)

Cane productivity for the island as at end August 2022 stood at 69.2 TCH and was slightly lower than that of August 2021 (69.7 TCH) by 0.5 TCH, as well as inferior to that of August 2020 by 2.1 TCH. Sector-wise, cane productivity recorded was 73.6 TCH in the North, 71.7 TCH in the East, 65.3 TCH in the South, 73.5 TCH in the West and 48.0 TCH in the Centre. Compared to the same period last year, cane productivity recorded to-date was higher by 1.4 TCH in the North and 8.4 TCH in the West but lagged behind by 1.3 TCH in the East, 5.5 TCH in the South and 7.8 TCH in the Centre. When compared to August 2020, the present cane productivity was inferior in all sectors except in the West.

**Table 5a. Cane productivity (TCH) as at end July and August for the 2020, 2021 and 2022 crops**

Sector	End July			End August		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
North	78.3	72.2	76.0	74.3	72.2	73.6
East	73.7	74.7	77.8	72.2	73.0	71.7
South	78.9	72.9	65.8	73.9	70.8	65.3
West	67.2	53.8	66.9	66.8	65.1	73.5
Centre	62.3	58.1	53.8	57.0	55.8	48.0
<b>Island</b>	<b>74.3</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>71.6</b>	<b>71.3</b>	<b>69.7</b>	<b>69.2</b>

### 3.2 Extraction (Table 5b, Figure 2)

The recorded island extraction rate of 9.73% was higher than that at the corresponding period in 2021 (9.17%) but lower than that in 2020 (10.11%). Sector-wise, the extraction rate recorded was 9.82% in the North, 9.38% in the East, 9.98% in the South, 10.16% in the West and 8.84% in the Centre. The extraction rate to-date compared to the corresponding period last year was higher by 0.58° in the North, 0.43° in the East, 0.70° in the South, 0.38° in the West and 0.21° in the Centre. When compared to August 2020, extraction rate to-date was lower in all sectors.

**Table 5b. Extraction rate (%) as at end July and end August for the 2020, 2021 and 2022 crops**

Sectors	End July			End August		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
North	9.85	8.88	9.34	10.93	9.24	9.82
East	9.24	8.62	9.12	9.70	8.95	9.38
South	9.80	9.25	9.41	10.05	9.28	9.98
West	10.44	9.44	9.77	10.70	9.78	10.16
Centre	8.95	8.31	8.85	9.24	8.63	8.84
<b>Island</b>	<b>9.59</b>	<b>8.81</b>	<b>9.30</b>	<b>10.11</b>	<b>9.17</b>	<b>9.73</b>

### 3.3 Sugar productivity (Table 5c)

The recorded sugar productivity over the island amounted to 6.73 TSH and exceeded that of the corresponding period in 2021 (6.39 TSH) by 0.34 tonne (5.3%).

**Table 5c. Sugar productivity (TSH) as at end July and August for the 2020, 2021 and 2022 crops**

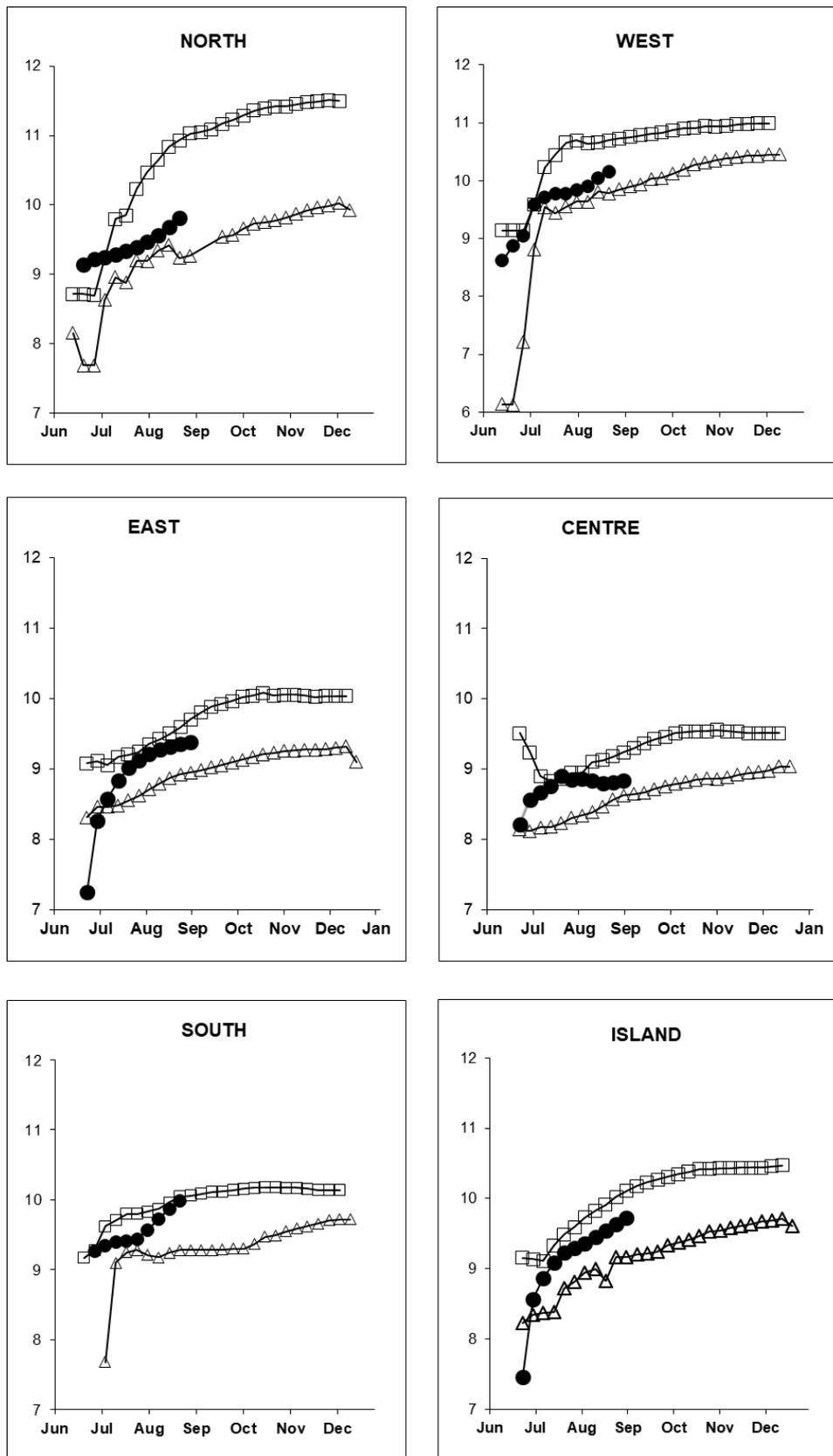
Sectors	End July			End August		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
North	7.71	6.41	7.10	8.12	6.67	7.23
East	6.81	6.44	7.10	7.00	6.53	6.73
South	7.73	6.74	6.19	7.43	6.57	6.52
West	7.02	5.08	6.54	7.15	6.37	7.47
Centre	5.58	4.83	4.76	5.27	4.82	4.24
<b>Island</b>	7.13	6.10	6.66	7.21	6.39	6.73

Sector-wise, sugar productivity was 7.23 TSH in the North, 6.73 TSH in the East, 6.52 TSH in the South, 7.47 TSH in the West and 4.24 TSH in the Centre. These figures when compared to those of August 2021 were higher by 0.56 TSH in the North, 0.20 TSH in the East and 1.10 TSH in the West. It was comparable in the South but lagged behind in sector Centre by 0.58 TSH. Sugar productivity recorded in August 2022 was inferior to that of 2020 in all sectors except in the West.

## 4. CROP 2022

The weather conditions that prevailed during the month of August 2022 were characterised by below normal rainfall in all sectors coupled with above normal solar radiation at most stations and below normal temperature amplitude at Ferret and Belle Rive but comparable to the normal at the other two stations. The below normal rainfall was favourable to ripening rather than growth of the crop, but the rate of sucrose accumulation could have been better had it been for above normal temperature amplitude. So far, with 41% of the crop harvested on corporate planters' land, milling data indicate a lower cane productivity when compared to that of last year except in sector North and West. The extraction rate in August 2022 over the island exceeded that of last year by 0.56°. The overall sugar productivity in August 2022 over the island was higher compared to that in 2021 and lower than that of 2020.

**Figure 2. Extraction rate for the 2020, 2021 and 2022 crops.**



□ 2020    △ 2021    ● 2022