

MAURITIUS CANE INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

MAURITIUS SUGARCANE INDUSTRY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Ref A 1/2020

18 November 2022

SUGAR CANE CROP 2022

Status: End October 2022

1. CLIMATE

1.1 Rainfall (Table 1)

Rainfall recorded over the island during October 2022 averaged 35 mm and represented 44% of the long-term mean (LTM, 80 mm) for the month. Rainfall was below the LTM in all sectors with 20 mm in the North, 48 mm in the East, 36 mm in the South, 2 mm in the West and 59 mm in the Centre. These amounts represented 51%, 49%, 36%, 9% and 56% of the respective long-term means.

The month of October is known to be the driest month of the year.

Table 1. Rainfall in mm and as a percentage of the long term mean (LTM) for October during crops 2021 and 2022

	Crop	North	East	South	West	Centre	Island
October	2021	81 (208)	138 (142)	129 (128)	35 (152)	161 (152)	116 (145)
	2022	20 (51)*	48 (49)	36 (36)	2 (9)	59 (56)	35 (44)
	LTM	39	97	101	23	106	80

* figures in brackets are % of LTM (1991-2020) Source: Mauritius Meteorological Services

1.2 Air Temperature (Table 2)

Data on air temperatures recorded during the month of October 2022 on MSIRI agrometeorological stations are given below.

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

Stations	Maximum (°C)		Minimum (°C)		Amplitude (°C)	
	Oct 2022	+ / -	Oct 2022	+ / -	Oct 2022	+ / -
Ferret	27.1	-1.3	17.7	-0.5	9.4	-0.8
Réduit	24.9	-0.4	16.7	-0.2	8.2	-0.2
Union Park	24.3	+0.1	16.9	-0.1	7.4	+0.2
Belle Rive	23.5	-0.8	15.8	-0.1	7.7	-0.7

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

During October 2022, mean maximum temperature was below normal at all stations except at Union Park where it was comparable to the normal. Mean minimum temperature was close to the normal at Union Park and Belle Rive but lagged behind the normal at the other two stations. The resulting mean temperature amplitude exceeded the normal at Union Park by 0.2 °C but was inferior to the normal at the remaining stations by more than 0.2 °C.

1.3 Sunshine (Table 3)

Data from the four MSIRI agro-meteorological stations showed that bright sunshine hours during October 2022 exceeded the normal at Ferret and Union Park but was lagging behind the normal at the other two stations. Recorded bright sunshine as a percentage of the normal amounted to 105% at Ferret, 92% at Réduit, 111% at Union Park and 86% at Belle Rive.

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

Station	Oct 2022	Normal	% of Normal
Ferret	273	260	105
Réduit	237	256	92
Union Park	203	183	111
Belle Rive	184	214	86

* Normal (1991-2020)

2.0 CROP PRODUCTIVITY 2022

As at 29 October 2022, 21 773 ha representing about 81% of corporate planters' land was harvested compared to 18 825 ha (67%) at the same period last year. Sector-wise and for miller-planters only, harvested area reached 77% in the North, 82% in the East, 85% in the South, 82% in the West and 77% in the Centre. An analysis of cane productivity based on the harvest statistics for corporate planters follows.

2.1 Cane productivity (Table 4a)

At the end of October 2022, the cane productivity of 64.0 TCH for the island lagged behind that of the corresponding period in 2021 (70.2 TCH) by 6.2 TCH and that of October 2020 (67.1 TCH) by 3.1 TCH.

Table 4a. Cane productivity (TCH) as at end September and end October for crops 2020, 2021 and 2022

Sector	End September			End October		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
North	75.2	71.8	73.5	70.8	70.7	68.4
East	70.9	73.4	67.6	68.2	72.8	63.7
South	70.8	73.5	64.1	67.9	73.2	63.6
West	67.9	66.0	71.4	65.4	65.2	69.1
Centre	53.9	54.9	43.8	50.9	53.9	41.1
Island	70.0	70.7	66.9	67.1	70.2	64.0

Sector-wise, cane productivity recorded was 68.4 TCH in the North, 63.7 TCH in the East, 63.6 TCH in the South, 69.1 TCH in the West and 41.1 TCH in the Centre. Cane productivity recorded to-date exceeded that of last year in the West by 3.9 TCH but lagged behind in the other sectors by 2.3 TCH in the North, 9.1 TCH in the East, 9.6 TCH in the South and 12.8 TCH in the Centre. When compared to October 2020, cane productivity to-date was inferior in all sectors except in the West.

2.2 Extraction rate (Table 4b, Figure 1)

The recorded island extraction rate of 10.39% at the end of October 2022 was higher than that of the corresponding period in 2021 (9.53%) but was at the same level as that of 2020 (10.41%). Sector-wise, the extraction rate recorded was 10.84% in the North, 9.86% in in the East, 10.46% in the South, 10.92% in the West and 9.14% in the Centre. Compared to the corresponding period last year, extraction rate to-date was superior in all sectors by 1.09° in the North, 0.63° in the East, 0.99° in the South, 0.64° in the West and 0.27° in the Centre. Islandwise, the October 2022 extraction rate as compared to that in October 2020 was higher in the South, comparable in the West but lower in the other three sectors.

Table 4b. Extraction rate (%) as at end September and end October for crops 2020, 2021 and 2022

Sectors	End September			End October		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
North	11.17	9.54	10.36	11.36	9.75	10.84
East	9.96	9.09	9.51	10.04	9.23	9.86
South	10.12	9.29	10.30	10.18	9.47	10.46
West	10.81	10.03	10.67	10.91	10.28	10.92
Centre	9.46	8.76	8.93	9.54	8.87	9.14
Island	10.31	9.34	10.08	10.41	9.53	10.39

2.3 Sugar productivity (Table 4c)

Sugar productivity over the island at the end of October 2022 was 6.65 TSH and was comparable to that of the corresponding period in 2021 (6.69 TSH). The recorded sugar productivity in the different sectors was 7.41 TSH in the North, 6.28 TSH in the East, 6.65 TSH in the South, 7.55 TSH in the West and 3.76 TSH in the Centre. Compared to October 2021, sugar productivity to-date was higher in the North by 0.52 TSH and by 0.85 TSH in the West but lagged behind by 0.44 TSH in the East, 0.28 TSH in the South and 1.02 TSH in the Centre. These sugar productivity figures in October 2022 were also inferior to those obtained in October 2020 except in the West.

Table 4c. Sugar productivity (TSH) as at end September and end October for crops 2020, 2021 and 2022

Sectors	End September			End October		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
North	8.40	6.85	7.61	8.04	6.89	7.41
East	7.06	6.67	6.43	6.85	6.72	6.28
South	7.16	6.83	6.60	6.91	6.93	6.65
West	7.34	6.62	7.62	7.14	6.70	7.55
Centre	5.10	4.81	3.91	4.86	4.78	3.76
Island	7.22	6.60	6.74	6.99	6.69	6.65

3. CROP 2022

As was the case in September 2022, the dry weather conditions persisted in October 2022 over the island and has generally favoured the extraction rate; the latter was superior to those recorded at the same date (end October) in 2021 with a mean increase of 0.86° over the island. As cane productivity over the island at the end of October 2022 was lower than that of 2021 by nearly 9%, this resulted in a lower sugar productivity over the island. With 81% of the area of the corporate planters harvested and should the dry weather persist in November 2022, sugar productivity in 2022 is not expected to be better than that of crop 2021.

Figure 1. Evolution of extraction rate on miller-planters' land for crops 2020, 2021 and 2022

