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sweet life!



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Kalamia Sweet Notes

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KCGOL acknowledges and
thanks all contributors.

23rd March 2018

Welcome to our 92nd edition of our magazine where we strive to keep members updated with the happenings of the Sugar Industry.

PLANTING NEWS:

Planting Operations have recently commenced in the past week after waiting for the ground to dry out, although it's unsure if this will continue due to the forecast of rain coming from Cyclone Nora.

WEATHER NEWS:

Following the release of the February magazine, the Burdekin saw more and very welcome substantial rain fall throughout the district. An event that all farmers were I'm sure, only too happy to witness as Rain = no irrigation = less electricity costs = more in our members pockets.

Even though the following week saw torrential rain fall over our far northern neighbours, the Burdekin farms missed out. A little too much rainfall we think judging by the record flooding throughout Ingham and surrounding areas. The mighty Burdekin River saw water flow bank to bank with a wait to see if the Ingham and surrounding catchment areas caused local flooding to the Burdekin area. Driving around the district shows great promise to the crop harvest for the 2018 season. Cane is looking great. Some of our office staff and Directors drove to the Burdekin Dam over two weekends to witness the mass of water flowing over the dam wall. Cover photo supplied is an impressive sight of the mighty Burdekin Dam!

QSL & WILMAR NEWS:

A reminder to our members to take note of deadlines for pooling, pricing and nominations which are due at the end of April. All information regarding these deadlines are available in the QSL and Wilmar Update pages (QSL – Page 2-3 & Wilmar – Page 4-5)

FARM ESTIMATES NEWS:

Farm Tonnage Estimates are available on the Wilmar Grower Portal. A step by step guide to locate the estimates are on the Kalagro website under **KCGO News – Wilmar Miscellaneous**. Again, the office staff are only too happy to assist members if required.

2018 CRUSH SEASON NEW ARE YOU READY FOR THE UPCOMING SEASON?

A reminder to all members to make sure your Wilmar forms for Weekend Harvesting and if applicable, the Harvest Deduction Authority are up to date for the 2018 Crush Season.

Members that have your harvesting costs automatically taken out of your cane pay, a reminder that the Harvest Authority Form is only current for each season. The KCGO office staff are only too happy to help members who require assistance with these forms, completing and forwarding them on to Wilmar Cane Pay office before the 2018 season.

KCGO STAFF NEWS:

Our Manager Les, has just returned to work after his annual leave break, and our Chairman, Robert Malaponte has a new lease on life after his successful dual knee replacement operation. We hope that you had a Happy Easter and had a break to spend with family and friends.

*Thank you
KCGO Office Staff – Jacki,
Narelle & Annmaree*



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QSL POOLS OPEN FOR NOMINATIONS

QSL is now accepting nominations for our 2018-Season Harvest, Actively Managed and Guaranteed Floor pools, as well as the 2019-Season 2-Season Actively Managed Pool. Nominations for the QSL Target Price Pool and Individual Futures Contract Pool for grower-managed pricing out to and including the 2020 Season are also being accepted. Nominations for QSL's new Early-Start Actively Managed Pool are now closed for the 2018 Season.

This year QSL has moved the Pricing Declaration Date back from the traditional February deadline to 30 April 2018, giving Burdekin growers an extra two months to assess their production before finalising their pool nominations.

Growers can change their QSL pool nominations at any time up to their Pricing Declaration Date, including moving unfilled 2018-Season Target Pool pricing to other QSL-managed pools. Unfilled pricing for 2018-Season Individual Futures Contract can also be moved prior to the Pricing Declaration Date, if no portion of the nominated tonnage has been priced.

YOUR QSL PRICING OPTIONS

For the 2018 Season, growers using QSL's marketing services can choose either the QSL Harvest Pool or the QSL Harvest Pool in combination with one or more of these alternative QSL pools and pricing products:

- » QSL Actively Managed Pool
- » QSL Early-Start Actively Managed Pool (nominations closed 28.2.18)
- » QSL Guaranteed Floor Pool
- » QSL 2019 2-Season Actively Managed Pool
- » QSL Target Price Pool
- » QSL Individual Futures Contract Pool

In addition to the pools and products noted above, QSL operates a US Quota Pool. Participation in this pool is automatic, with a mandatory tonnage allocation of up to 5%. Please read the QSL US Quota Pool Pricing Pool Terms, available at www.qsl.com.au, for full details.

Participation in the 2018 QSL Harvest Pool is mandatory for production risk purposes and 35% of your pricing allocation will automatically be designated to this pool, as per previous QSL pool arrangements. The QSL Harvest Pool is also QSL's default pool, meaning that if you do not make a pricing nomination or do not price your full QSL pricing tonnage allocation, any unallocated tonnages will default to the 2018 QSL Harvest Pool.

HAVE YOU MET YOUR LOCAL RURAL BANK FARM FINANCE SPECIALIST?

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QSL-MANAGED POOL OPTIONS

QSL-managed pools aggregate tonnage from one or more participants, with QSL making all pricing decisions for the pool. The choices available are:

The 2018 QSL Harvest Pool: A QSL-managed pool designed to manage a limited amount of production variation throughout a season. All Growers who nominate QSL as their GEI Sugar Marketer must allocate to this pool 35% of their expected GEI Sugar for which QSL is to be the marketer. Growers are only paid for the final sugar delivered into this pool. If QSL Growers make no other pool allocation their GEI Sugar defaults into this pool.

The 2018 QSL Actively Managed Pool: A committed-tonnage pool that targets the best return over the Season by pricing more frequently as short-term market opportunities arise.

The 2018 QSL Guaranteed Floor Pool: A committed-tonnage pool that provides a guaranteed minimum return with the potential for higher returns across the Season. Growers using this option receive an Accelerated Advances program (up to 90% of the value of their completed pricing by the end of crushing).

The 2019 QSL 2-Season Actively Managed Pool (previously known as the 2-Season Forward Pool): A committed tonnage pool for the 2019 Season, with pricing undertaken across the 2018 and 2019 Seasons. This pool aims to target the best return, with some pre-set price triggers. It has been designed for Growers who seek exposure across multiple seasons.

GROWER-MANAGED PRICING

QSL's grower-managed pricing products allow you to make your own pricing decisions, either for the current season or for future seasons. The choices are:

QSL Target Price Pool: Enables Growers to price their Grower's Economic Interest in sugar (GEI Sugar) during the current season and up to three seasons ahead. Features rolling of unfilled orders until 19 April in the year after crushing commences for the relevant season. Growers using this option can choose an Accelerated Advances program

(up to 90% of the value of their completed pricing by the end of crushing) or the standard QSL Advances program once they have completed their pricing for the season. **QSL Individual Futures Contract Pool:** Enables growers to price their GEI Sugar incrementally during the current season and up to three seasons ahead, with separate pricing decisions for each individual futures position. Pricing is to be completed by 16 April in the year after crushing commences.

2020-SEASON PRICING OPTIONS

Growers keen to price into the 2020 Season with QSL are reminded they can do so if they have QSL marketing arrangements in place for that season. Wilmar Growers can nominate QSL as their GEI Sugar marketer for the 2020 Season as part of the CSA process within the Wilmar Grower Web, while Tully Sugar and MSF Sugar Growers must complete the necessary nomination paperwork with their Miller. All growers should be aware that by making a GEI Sugar marketer nomination or pricing into the 2020 Season, they are in effect signing a CSA for that season, and so should check with their local collective regarding the implications of signing a 2020-Season CSA now.

PRICING INFORMATION

Growers keen to manage their own pricing with QSL can find an update on the latest ICE 11 prices for the 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 seasons on the QSL Daily Market Snapshot page of the QSL website (www.qsl.com.au/sugar-prices/market-snapshot). You can also have these prices delivered to your in-box each day via our Daily QSL Price Update. To subscribe to this free email service or our daily SMS price update, please contact Rebecca Love on 0429 054 330 / rebecca.love@qsl.com.au

UPDATING YOUR ESTIMATE INFORMATION

Kalamia Growers are reminded that before completing their 2018-Season QSL pool nominations, they should revisit their 2018-Season tonnage and hectare figures within the Wilmar GrowerWeb to ensure these accurately reflect their current production estimates.

These estimates, together with the CCS estimate, are used by Wilmar to generate your Grower's Economic Interest in sugar (GEI Sugar) tonnes nomination used for

pricing with QSL.

Please be aware that in order to amend your tonnage and/or hectare figures within your CSA, you will need to re-sign this CSA within Wilmar's Grower Web system.

QSL recommends that any adjustments to this information are made as soon as possible to ensure your amended GEI Sugar estimated tonnages are processed and passed on to QSL well before the Pricing Declaration Date of 30 April, when your QSL pool nominations for the 2018 Season must be finalised.

CASHFLOW FORECASTING TOOL REMINDER

Growers using QSL's Cashflow Forecasting Tool are reminded that it uses the latest indicative pool values to create a forecast and so as a result, the cashflow data generated will continue to fluctuate until the pool results are finalised on 30 June each year.

For this reason we recommend that Growers using this tool generate a new forecast at least once a month to ensure they are accessing the latest estimate.

The cashflow forecast data provided is based on many assumptions and is subject to significant uncertainties, many of which are outside the control of QSL.

Growers using this tool should also be mindful that the data provided only details the Grower's Economic Interest in sugar (GEI Sugar) payment portion of their QSL Advance payment and does not include any allowances, deductions or adjustments that may be passed on by the Miller.

As such, QSL does not make any representations as to the accuracy of the information derived from the Cashflow Forecast tool, nor does QSL make any guarantees that this outcome will be achieved.

Please visit the Wilmar Growers page of our website (www.qsl.com.au) or your local QSL office for details.

HAVE QUESTIONS? NEED HELP?

Your local QSL Grower Services Team members are available to provide assistance and support.



Rebecca Love:
0429 054 330
rebecca.love@qsl.com.au

Carla Keith:
0409 372 305 / carla.keith@qsl.com.au

WILMAR 2018 SEASON PRICING AND ADVANCES NOMINATION DATE

Choose your pricing, pooling and payment options by

30 APRIL 2018

Including:

- Call and Target Pricing
- Wilmar Managed Pool
- Deferred and Cash on Delivery advance options



Your sugar price will be based on your **own** pricing and payment decisions. You'll receive the cost or benefit of your own choices - you won't be impacted by other growers.

CONTACT Trudi Anderson
(07) 4722 1931 | 0438 176 335

**wilmar**

Wilmar Sugar Update



PRICING AND PAYMENT OPTIONS

With this year's new Pricing and Advances Nomination Date of 30 April 2018, you can wait until closer to the crush before selecting your pricing, pooling and payment options. This means you can be more certain about your crop size and more confident you're past the cyclone season.

Growers marketing with Wilmar can choose from:

PRICING

The **Call and Target** mechanisms you know

- » Allocate up to 70% of your exposure to AUD target pricing
- » Pricing to be completed by 20 February 2019

Wilmar Managed Pool

- » Committed Tonnage Pool
- » Wilmar Manages the price exposure from 01.05.2018 to 30.06.2019

Grower-Managed Production Risk Scheme (GMPRS)

- » Manage the price outcome for almost 100% of your GEI Sugar
- » No tonnage in Wilmar's Production Risk Pool
- » Full details of our revised GMPRS for 2018 will be released after Easter

PAYMENT

Cash on Delivery

- » Receive a minimum of 90% of your price on delivery

Deferred

- » Delay your first cane payment for the season until after 1 July
- » Provides options for managing your tax affairs

Default

- » Get paid based on your own estimated final sugar price for the entire season

We recommend you seek your accountant's advice when considering your payment options.

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Steve: 0418 155 844



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info@agritechsolutions.com.au



MAJOR UPGRADES FOR BURDEKIN LOCOS

Two of Wilmar Sugar's 40-tonne Burdekin locos are undergoing major upgrades ahead of the 2018 crush at a cost of 1.9 million. Pioneer Mill's Jardine loco and Invicta Mill's Hodel loco are being fitted out with new engines, transmissions, cooling systems and control systems. The Jardine is also getting a new cab and fuel tank.

Project engineer Peter Murray said the upgrades would deliver significant fuel savings, greater hauling capability and improved reliability.

"We've basically gutted the locos and are fitting them with smaller engines and superior transmission systems," he said.

The new Mercedes Benz OM502 engines are rated at 600 horsepower, slightly lower than the 760 horsepower engines they will replace. The loss in power will be compensated by a new

high-efficiency Renk-Maag/Allison transmission combination.

The locos will also be fitted with a Renk-Maag reverse box, designed and manufactured in Switzerland specifically for Australian 40-tonne cane field locos. The remote shunting unit systems will also be upgraded.

Last year, Invicta's Piralko loco became the prototype for the new drive train system across the Wilmar group. The first year trials were successful, with fuel savings of about 33 per cent and significantly improved hauling capability.

Wilmar Sugar will upgrade all 24 of its 40-tonne locos over the coming years as part of an overall replacement strategy.

This year, five locos are undergoing major upgrades: the Jardine and Hodel in the Burdekin, Proserpine Mill's number 11 loco, Plane Creek Mill's Carmila loco, and the Macknade 19 loco in the Herbert.



Boilermaker Mark Horan and Project Engineer Peter Murray at the Pioneer Mill workshop where the Jardine loco is undergoing a major upgrade. Photo courtesy of Wilmar Sugar.

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To check your 2017-18 Burdekin Variety Guide

Go to: www.sugarresearch.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Burdekin-Variety-Guide-17-F-LowRes.pdf



Variety Guide 2017/18

Burdekin region



MEMBERS INFORMATION NOTICE BOARD

KCGO Members Reminder:

Wilmar Notice (Page 4): Pricing, pooling & payment options deadline - 30th April 2018

QSL Notice (Page 2&3): Pools open for Nominations

Kalagro Fuel Customers

Kalagro Fuel Prices have been giving great savings to our current customers.

To maintain our special fuel prices, a minimum of 2000 Litres is required to place an order.

Throughout the coming months, Puma (Kalagro's Supplier) will
be delivering on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays

A reminder that to place orders, please ring:

Kalamia Cane Growers office - ph 07 47831312.

Kalagro customer's cannot ring direct to Puma and receive the Kalagro discounted rate.

Smartcane Accreditation Information

Smart Cane Accreditation can be completed at Burdekin Productivity Services with local
representative, Terry Granshaw - mobile 0437 553 149,

email tgranshaw@bps.net.au. Terry regularly holds Smartcane BMP self-assessment
workshops as an initial introduction as well as one-on-one interaction with a
grower for the three required modules to achieve Smartcane BMP accreditation.

Smartcane BMP is funded by the QLD Government with no cost to growers
to undertake the course. Bonsucro accreditation requires further
modules to be completed in addition to that for Smartcane

Please Note:

As an incentive for Growers to undertake Smartcane BMP
adoption and Bonsucro accreditation, Wilmar makes available a
per tonne incentive payment (capped at 25,000 tonne).

Please refer to Collective CSA (Cane Supply Agreement)

- Page 77 - 78 for additional information.



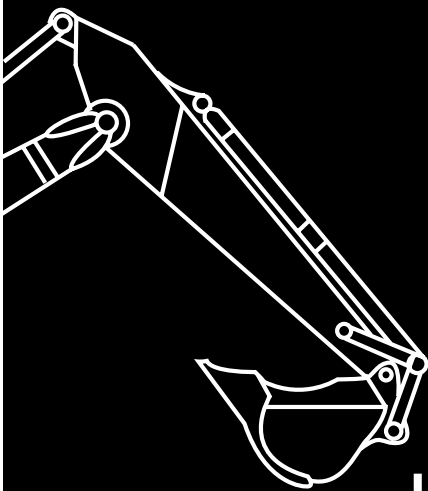
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Sweet Memories

Burdekin River Bridge 1917



Burdekin River



Bridge 1922



Flood damaged railway bridge over the Burdekin River 1917



Burdekin Railway Bridge

Sweet Industry News

AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY ADVANCEMENTS

Sydney Royal Easter Show displays robots that will change future of farming

The Conversation –

www.abc.net.au/rural By Sze-Yen Tan

A farm where livestock weigh themselves, robots weed paddocks and GPS trackers act as virtual shepherds is being showcased at this year's Sydney Royal Easter Show.

Almost 800,000 people are expected to attend the Easter Show, which begins today and runs until April 3 at Olympic Park.

The newest exhibit is called Farm of the Future, highlighting the latest advancements in agricultural technology.

Jamie Barwick from the University of New England (UNE) explained that an auto-drafter would save huge amounts of man power when sorting and weighing sheep.

Typically, at least two or three people would be needed to draft sheep – where they are sorted into groups of similar weight, sex or pregnancy.

"[The machine will] do that all automatically without us having to be in the yards," Dr Barwick said.

"Not just the labour-saving but also the accuracy of the data recording as well is quite important ... not introducing that human error into the data recording."

Dr Barwick hopes the new exhibit will inspire kids into careers in agriculture.

"It's not just being out mustering sheep all day or being out in the field all the time, we



PHOTO: Dr Jamie Barwick from the University of New England stands in front of an auto-drafter. (ABC News: Kathleen Calderwood)

actually use some pretty cool stuff," he said.

VIRTUAL SHEPHERDS AND ROBOTS THAT FEED CATTLE

UNE is also displaying GPS collars for sheep which measure animal activity, helping farmers monitor the health of their stock without having to physically check them.

"You're getting a 24/7 monitoring system in real time ... sort of like a virtual shepherd," Dr Barwick said.

The University of Sydney is displaying robots which can feed and monitor livestock, spray weeds and check crops.

Professor Salah Sukkariéh said the use of

robots in agriculture had grown over the last decade thanks to better access to algorithms and cheaper technology costs.

"Farms are changing, they're not the image they're used to, there's a lot more technology being focussed on farms," he said.

"Ten years ago there was the assumption that there was no way that robotics would work on a farm – in a very small space of time there's been a complete refocus and an attention on how robotics can be used on a farm and the farmers are really looking forward to the technology."



PHOTO: The technology will improve data accuracy, developers say. (ABC News: Kathleen Calderwood)



PHOTO: GPS devices track livestock and measure their activity. (ABC News: Kathleen Calderwood)



2018 BURDEKIN EXPORT FORUM



FRI 4 MAY ♦ 8.30AM - 4.30PM

**ARE YOU A
HORTICULTURE
PRODUCER
INTERESTED IN
EXPLORING NEW
OPPORTUNITIES
TO EXPORT YOUR
PRODUCT?**



**ARE YOU A
CANE FARMER
LOOKING TO
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EXPAND AND
DISCOVER NEW
OPPORTUNITIES?**

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- ♦ **INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**
- ♦ **SUPPLY CHAIN INFORMATION**
- ♦ **PRACTICAL EXPERIENCES & CASE STUDIES**

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Sweet Industry News

WHITE, BROWN, RAW, HONEY: WHICH TYPE OF SUGAR IS BEST?

The Conversation – www.abc.net.au/rural By Sze-Yen Tan



PHOTO: Despite the large variety of sugars, they are very similar nutritionally. (Flickr.com: Gunilla G (CC-BY-SA-2.0))

In nutrition, sugar refers to simple carbohydrates consisting of one or two basic carbohydrate units such as glucose, fructose and galactose. Consumers often use “sugar” to describe simple carbohydrates that taste sweet, but not all sugars are sweet.

There are many different types of sugars we add to our baking or hot drinks such as white sugar, brown sugar, raw sugar and honey. But when we're looking at a packaged product the ingredients list will have many more options still. Corn syrup, palm sugar, molasses, maple syrup and agave nectar are but a few.

Despite the large variety of sugars, they are very similar nutritionally. They are comprised predominantly of glucose, fructose and sucrose, which are the basic forms of sugar. Glucose and fructose are slightly different in chemical structure, while sucrose is a sugar composed of one glucose and one fructose.

of sugarcane or beet. During the refining process, moisture, minerals and compounds that give sugars their colour are removed, and white refined sugar is formed. The byproduct containing the removed compounds during sugar refining is known as “molasses”.

Raw sugar is formed if the final refining process is bypassed.

Brown sugar is refined white sugar with varying amounts of molasses added. Raw sugar, brown sugar and molasses are higher in compounds that provide colour, from natural sources or by-products of the breakdown of sugar (caramel) during sugar processing.

Honey is sugar-rich nectar collected by bees from a wide variety of flowers. Fructose is the main sugar found in honey, followed by glucose and sucrose. The sweet taste of honey is attributed to its higher fructose content, and fructose is known to be sweeter than glucose or sucrose. Honey is about 17 per cent water.

Honey contains a sweeter type of sugar, meaning you don't have to use as much. It also contains more water than table sugar.

Syrups can be produced from a wide range of plant sources in the forms of sap and

The factors that distinguish sugars are their sources (from sugarcane, beet, fruit, nectar, palm or coconut saps), flavour profiles, and the levels of processing.

TYPES OF SUGAR

White sugar, also called table sugar, is the final product of the processing and refining



HOTO: The Mongee banana is high in sugar content. (Supplied: D&T Farming)

Sweet Industry News



PHOTO: Syrup from the agave plant is higher in fructose, which is sweeter than glucose and sucrose. (Supplied: MSF Sugar)

fruits. Some examples include agave (a desert succulent), corn, date, grape, maple and pomegranate syrup.

Because agave and corn are more complex carbohydrates, they're first broken down into sugar during food processing before being concentrated into syrup. Corn syrup is often further processed into the sweeter version, high fructose corn syrup.

Fruit sugar can be made from the drying and grinding of fruits such as dates. Sugar produced through this process shares similar nutrient composition with the fruit (such as fibre and minerals) but it is lower in water content.

WHICH TYPE IS BEST?

Several studies have reported adverse effects of white sugar and high fructose corn syrup on our health. So should we substitute these types of sugars with another?

SWEETNESS AND SUGAR CONTENT

Some sugars such as honey and agave syrup are higher in fructose. Fructose is sweeter than glucose and sucrose, hence a smaller amount may be needed to achieve similar level of sweetness from white sugar. Honey and syrups also have a higher water content. So the sugar content is less than the equivalent weight of white sugar.

Antioxidant capacity

Due to the different levels of processing and refining, sugars that are less processed and refined tend to have higher content of minerals and compounds that give plants their colour. These compounds have been found to increase antioxidant capacity, which reduces the cell damage in the body that causes several chronic diseases.

Although the antioxidant capacity of date sugar and molasses is many-fold higher than white sugar and corn syrup, it's still relatively low compared to antioxidant-rich foods. For example, more than 500g of date sugar or molasses need to be consumed to get the same amount of antioxidant contained in a cup (145g) of blueberries.

Glycemic index

Different types of sugar raise the amount of sugar in our blood at different rates after being consumed. The glycemic index (GI) concept is used to compare the ability of different carbohydrate-containing foods in raising blood sugar levels over two hours. Pure glucose is used as the reference carbohydrate and it's given a value of 100. Higher GI indicates greater ability of a food in raising blood sugar levels, and having high levels of sugar in the blood can lead to disease. High GI foods tend to be less filling, too.

The GI values in the table below are compiled from the GI database. Corn syrup has the highest GI as it is composed mainly of glucose.

White sugar, composed of 50 per cent glucose and 50 per cent fructose, has slightly lower GI. Based on available values in the GI database, agave syrup has the lowest GI value. Therefore, it's a better option than other sugars in term of blood sugar management.

Antimicrobial activity

Honey has been reported to possess several germ-killing capabilities due to the presence of several naturally-occurring compounds. But it's still unclear how the antimicrobial property of honey may be obtained.

In the end, sugar in our body is still sugar. So while honey, raw sugar, date sugar and molasses are "better" than white and other types of sugar, everyone should try to cut down their sugar intake.



PHOTO: In the end, sugar in our body is still sugar. (ABC: Kerri Kapernick)

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Sweet Industry News

SUGAR INDUSTRY COUNTS DAMAGE BILL FROM MARCH FLOODS AS ASSESSMENTS CONTINUE

ABC Rural – www.abc.net.au/rural By Tom Major



While debris was strewn across many Herbert cane rail bridges, all survived the floodwaters intact. (Supplied: Wilmar)

Millions of dollars of infrastructure damage and lost sugar cane production has been reported in north Queensland, as growers and millers continue to assess damages from major flooding this month.

Days of inundation across the Tully and Herbert valleys will lead to a serious downgrade of estimated cane yields this season, with some farmers facing immense losses. Canegrowers Herbert River chief executive Peter Sheedy said last year growers had harvested a near-record crop of more than 5 million tonnes, but this season would be well down.

"We were looking at something that was going to be every bit as good as last year," he said.

"In light of what we're seeing, what's being reported, it's certainly going to be downgraded. It's definitely taken the shine off the 2018 crop."

RAIL NETWORK WRECKED

While growers have been the hardest hit, Wilmar Sugar has reported about 120 kilometres of the company's 600km Herbert rail network has been damaged.

But cane supply and grower relations manager Paul Giordani said the extent of the damage was lower than the 2009 flood and costs would likely be under 1 million.

"So 20 per cent [of cane rail] has had some sort of damage, from very minor to in some places where we've had washouts, significant," he said.



The floodwaters have dumped debris on cane fields in the Ingham region. (Supplied: Lawrence Di Bella)

Mr Giordani expects the 2018 season to begin on time, with accurate crop estimates beginning to be collated by Wilmar.

"That whole process will be finalised at the end of April. That will give us the crop size and from there we'll look at the mill plans for start-up," he said.

Mr Giordani and Mr Sheedy believe the district fared comparatively well in the flood, and lessons are being learned from each separate event.

Recovery sub-groups set up by Hinchinbrook Shire Council will now evaluate how drainage channels and infrastructure performed during the flood.

"We're always looking for ways to improve longer term resilience, and I think you do see good work that has stood up from previous events," Mr Sheedy said.

"We just keep working at it, keep trying to improve and enhance as we move along."

TULLY RECOVERS

Further north up the Bruce Highway, Tully Canegrowers chairman Tom Harney is yet



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Sweet Industry News



Floodwaters have swept away topsoil, severely damaging cane fields in the Tully Valley. (ABC Rural: Tom Major)



Brothers Alf (R) and John Strano lost valuable farmland despite efforts to stabilise the banks of Liverpool Creek. (ABC Rural: Tom Major)

to assess damage on all parts of his farms alongside the Tully River.

"We can't access to see what the damage is. We're only picking the nice spots at the moment which are accessible to us," he said.

"You can see just past here there's a lot of logs and debris on the headlands. Further I can see erosion on the river bank, but I wouldn't venture down there to have a look now, too dangerous."

Mr Harney said parts of his farm that were heavily inundated would need to be harvested first and then replanted due to damage sustained in the flood.

"It could have grown another 10-15 tonnes per acre, but I'll harvest it early and get it off in preparation for next year," he said.

"The problem is the harvester will pick the cane up and they'll pick up everything else with it.

"We like to leave the stool [roots of the cane] so it can ratoon for another crop. More than likely, the harvester's going to have no choice but to pick the lot up."

While about 2.9 million tonnes of cane was predicted to be harvested this year in Tully, Mr Harney believes that figure is now much lower.

"Allowing for the dead and damaged cane, we're probably talking 2.7 million tonnes, and that would be an average crop," he said.

RIVERBANKS SUFFER

Further north in the South Johnstone mill area, more than a metre of rain caused raging floodwaters in Liverpool Creek, 25 kilometres south of Innisfail.

Lower Cowley growers the Strano brothers lost about a hectare of their cane crop to the floods, a situation they say could have been avoided.

"We've complained about this over the last 15, 20 years, [and] we've planted trees to try and stabilise the banks," Alf Strano said.

"But the way the river's changing course, it's just making its own course."

The torrent has brought the creek's banks to within metres of the Cowley Beach

Road, the only route out of town for about 80 residents.

Cassowary Coast councilor Jeff Baines said the issue was on his radar.

"I don't think we can put banks back so I think the important thing at the moment is to stop the bank eroding any further than it already has," he said.

"It's starting to intrude its way towards one of our major assets, so it's very high on council's agenda."

ON THE BRIGHT SIDE

Conversely, Innisfail Canegrowers chairman Joe Marano said the rain had restored balance to the wet season.

"It's a normal wet season. We haven't had a decent wet season for five or six years," he said.

"We need the rain this time of year to help the crop grow. There was a bit much rain but on the whole, a little bit of cane went underwater. It'll recover.

"Probably in another week or so we'll probably be looking for rain again."

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Sweet Time Out

JOKE OF THE MONTH

Q: Why are fish easy to weigh?

A: Because they have their own scales.

Q: Why did the house go to the doctor?

A: It was having window pains.

Q: What do you call a cow with two legs?

A: Lean beef.

WORD OF THE MONTH

aberration

noun [jab-uh-rey-shuh n]

the act of departing from the right,
normal or usual course



'I choose a lazy person to do a hard job. Because a lazy person will find an easy way to do it'

BILL GATES



DID YOU KNOW...?

- » Did you know the word typewriter is the longest word that can be typed using only the top row of a keyboard
- » Did you know more people die from falling coconuts than from shark attacks
- » Did you know The first English dictionary was written in 1755
- » Did you know your brain uses 25% of all the oxygen you breathe



HONEY-PISTACHIO CHEESECAKE

INGREDIENTS

- » 250g Arnott's Nice biscuits, halved
- » 125g butter, melted
- » 2 x 250g packets cream cheese, chopped, softened
- » 2/3 cup caster sugar
- » 3 eggs
- » 1/4 cup honey
- » 1/2 x 80g packet pistachio kernels, chopped
- » Warmed honey, to serve
- »

METHOD

Step 1

Grease a 3cm-deep, 24cm (base) loose-based round fluted flan tin. Preheat oven to 160°C/140°C fan-forced. Process biscuits until mixture resembles fine breadcrumbs. Add butter. Process until combined. Press mixture over base and side of prepared tin. Refrigerate.

Step 2

Meanwhile, make filling: Using an electric mixer, beat cream cheese and sugar until smooth. Add eggs, 1 at a time, beating until combined. Add honey. Pour mixture into tin. Sprinkle with pistachios. Place pan on a baking tray.

Step 3

Bake for 30 to 40 minutes or until just set (cheesecake will wobble slightly in centre). Turn off oven. Cool cheesecake in oven for 3 hours with door ajar. Refrigerate overnight. Serve drizzled with honey. Serve.

Sweet Time Out

MOVIES FROM THE 1980S

Think back to big glasses, big hair and the Reagan years as you try to unscramble these popular movie titles. All were released between 1980 and 1989. The number in parentheses indicates the number of words in the title.

1. TRASHOFFICOREI (3)
2. IDAGHN (1)
3. SMEDAAU (1)
4. UTRACOOFIFA (3)
5. MARNINA (2)
6. SYMRIASIDINGDIVS (3)
7. DODOGLONNPEN (3)
8. MABNAT (1)
9. YEASTGIVLAIN (2)
10. ALLTHAWPEONE (2)
11. HEROROPPETCLUL (3)
12. BRUSHSTOGSET (1)
13. ADDEHIR (2)
14. KOCRUSTNOM (1)
15. RESTLAWELT (2)
16. NUTPOG (2)
17. ANTOLOP (1)
18. TRANGED (1)
19. GLARESAPDNICT (2)
20. DIPPOYONLEERAR (2)

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Solution: 1. Chariots of Fire, 1981, 2. Gandhi, 1982, 3. Amadeus, 1984, 4. Out of Africa, 1985, 5. Rain Man, 1988, 6. Driving Miss Daisy, 1989, 7. On Golden Pond, 1981, 8. Batman, 1989, 9. Staying Alive, 1983, 10. Lethal Weapon, 1987, 11. The Color Purple, 1985, 12. Ghostbusters, 1984, 13. Die Hard, 1988, 14. Moonstruck, 1987, 15. Wall Street, 1987, 16. Top Gun, 1986, 17. Platoon, 1986, 18. Dragnet, 1987, 19. Trading Places, 1983, 20. Ordinary People, 1980.

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