Agricultural Production - Year 1990

1. *Sugar cane*

The constant decline in total acreage, under sugar cane, continued in 1990 when a further reduction of 600 hectares was recorded which brought total cane area harvested to 76,200 hectares.

The 1990 crop was also affected by lack of rainfall, more particularly in the northern regions, at the vegetative stage. Yield per hectare was 72.83 tonnes compared to 70.80 in 1989 and total sugar cane production reached 5,548,291 tonnes from 5,436,122 in 1989 registering a slight increase of only 2%. It must be recalled that the 1989 crop was affected by the passage of two cyclones, Firinga and Krissy.

Dry weather conditions at harvest time was however favourable to the extraction rate which increased to 11.5% from 10.45% in 1989.

Consequently, sugar production reached 624,302 tonnes increasing by 10% over the 1989 crop of 568,301 tonnes. The 1990 production of 624,302 tonnes is below the targeted production of 650,000 tonnes for an average year.

2. *Tea*

After a period of continuous decline over the past four years, the situation in the tea industry seems to have stabilised. About 3,000 hectares were cultivated yielding 29,900 tonnes of green leaves, a slightly higher crop compared to the 29,200 tonnes recorded in 1989. The average export price of black tea remained constant at the previous year's level of Rs 19.37 per kg.

3. *Tobacco*

The tobacco growing industry registered a severe drop of around 25% in 1990. The main reason was the decrease in total acreage under tobacco which was reduced by 190 hectares dropping to 585 hectares from 775 hectares in 1989. Consequently, production of tobacco leaves fell to 790 tonnes compared to 1,086 tonnes in 1989.

4. *Foodcrops*

Production of foodcrops last year reached 65,600 tonnes as compared to 62,300 tonnes in 1989, representing an increase of 5%. Climatic conditions throughout 1990 were almost normal for foodcrops cultivation and production suffered no major set back, except towards the end of the year when lack of rainfall started to affect production. It will be recalled that foodcrops production in 1989, more particularly, tomato and banana, suffered from the passage of two cyclones.

Significant increases were observed in the production of the following foodcrops: tomato (+25%), banana (+32%), cabbage (+25%), cauliflower (+38%), ginger (+64%), and brinjal (+47%).

Production of potatoes dropped from 19,700 tonnes to 17,600 tonnes mainly as a result of the lack of rainfall during the second season when the bulk of production is harvested.

5. ***Livestock***

Total cattle meat production increased by 25% to reach 2,050 tonnes from 1,650 tonnes in 1989. Meat produced from local sources registered a decrease of 24% totalling 450 tonnes, whilst that from imported live cattle increased by 50% to reach 1,600 tonnes. The share of imports in the total increased to 80% from around 65% in 1989.

- Pig meat production was 25% higher; 830 tonnes were produced in 1990 as compared to 660 tonnes in 1989.

- Production of goat and sheep increased from 130 tonnes in 1989 to 150 tonnes in 1990.

- Poultry production registered a substantial increase of about 20% to reach 12,500 tonnes in 1990 from 10,500 tonnes a year ago.

6. ***Fisheries***

Last year total fish production recorded a reduction of about 6% to reach 14,000 tonnes compared to 14,900 tonnes in 1989. Production of fresh fish was constant at 2,500 tonnes while the production of frozen fish from banks and that of tuna decreased by about 7%.

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Table 1 - Agricultural Crops : Area Harvested and Production

CROPS	1989		1990	
	Area Harvested (Hectares)	Production (Metric Tons)	Area Harvested (Hectares)	Production (Metric Tons)
1. Sugar cane	76,785	5,436,122	76,186	5,548,291
2. Tea (Green Leaves)	3,071 1/	29,239	3,070 1/	29,868
3. Tobacco	775	1,036	585	789
4. Foodcrops	5,303	62,280 2/	5,674	65,615

1/ Area under cultivation

2/ Revised

Table 2 - Production of Agro-Industrial Products

Agro-industrial Products	Unit	1989	1990
1. Sugar	M/Tons	568,301	624,302
2. Tea (manufactured)	"	5,500	5,751
3. Cattle 1/	"	1,641	2,049
Local including Rodrigues	"	(589)	(450)
Imported	"	(1,052)	(1,599)
4. Goat and Sheep 1/	"	132	149
5. Pigs 1/	"	660	830
6. Poultry	"	10,500	12,500
7. Milk	000 Litres	13,650	11,000
8. Fish	M/Tons	14,861	13,985
Coastal	"	(2,564)	(2,525)
Other 2/	"	(12,297)	(11,460)

1/ Comprises abattoir slaughters only

2/ Fresh weight equivalent

Table 3(a) - Sugar Industry - Field Statistics

Ownership	1989			1990		
	Area harvested (hectares)	Cane produced (metric tons)	Yield (m/tons/ hectare)	Area harvested (hectares)	Cane produced (metric tons)	Yield (m.tons/ hectare)
1. Estates	39,374	3,180,083	80.77	39,056	3,356,359	85.94
2. Metayers	1,842	80,123	43.50	1,746	74,147	42.47
3. Planters	35,569	2,175,916	61.17	35,384	2,117,785	59.85
T O T A L	76,785	5,436,122	70.80	76,186	5,548,291	72.83

Table 3(b) - Sugar Industry - Factory Statistics

Details	Unit	1989	1990
1. Tonnage of canes crushed	m.tons	5,436,122	5,548,291
2. Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered % cane)		10.45	11.25
3. Average polarisation	degrees	98.78	98.78
4. Average yield of sugar	tons/ hectares	7.40	8.19
5. Average tons of cane per ton of sugar	m.tons	9.57	8.89
6. Production of sugar	"	568,301	624,302
(white)	"	(43,508)	(44,321)
(Raw)	"	(524,793)	(579,981)
7. Molasses	"	164,718	179,000

Table 4 - Tea - Production of Green Leaves by Type of Producer

(Metric Tons)

Type of Producer	1989	1990
1. Estates	2,155	1,851
2. Metayers	2,803	2,338
3. Free Planters	2,403	2,460
4. Planters in Co-operatives Societies	21,637	22,932
5. Other (including T.D.A.)	241	287
T O T A L	29,239	29,868

Table 5 - Tobacco - Area Harvested and Production of Leaf

Variety	1989		1990	
	Area Harvested (Hectares)	Production (Metric Tons)	Area Harvested (Hectares)	Production (Metric Tons)
1. Virginia (flue cured)	662	855	506	685
2. Amarello (air cured)	113	181	79	104
T O T A L	775	1,036	585	789

Table 6 - Foodcrops : area harvested and production

Foodcrops	1989 1/		1990 1/	
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (Metric tons)	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (Metric tons)
Potato	925	19,690	969	17,640
Rice	3	20	-	-
Maize	641	2,395	542	2,305
Groundnut	458	1,505	592	1,750
Onion	245	3,225	215	2,625
Ginger	23	380	36	625
Garlic	21	160	21	175
Chillies	111	475	117	600
Tomato	813	9,195	975	11,570
Beans and peas	327	1,140	334	1,275
Cabbage	132	2,945	167	3,680
Cauliflower	52	920	69	1,280
Brinjal	79	835	92	1,230
Creepers	700	9,340	765	9,310
Other vegetables	325	3,875	343	4,060
Banana	348	4,640	350	6,135
Pineapple	100	1,540	87	1,355
Total foodcrops	5,303	62,280	5,674	65,615

1/ calendar year