Agricultural Production - Year 1992

1. Introduction

This report presents data on agricultural production for the year 1992.

2. Sugar Cane

In 1992, the area harvested was 75,645 hectares for a production of 5,780,512 tonnes of sugar cane against 75,966 hectares for 5,621,110 tonnes in 1991. A reduction of around 320 hectares in area harvested was noted for the second consecutive year.

The sugar cane plantation suffered from unfavourable climatic conditions in 1990 and 1991. But in 1992, the climatic conditions that prevailed during the vegetative stage were favourable in general. Consequently, the yield of sugar cane per hectare increased to 76.4 tonnes as compared to 74.0 tonnes a year earlier. Furthermore, the extraction rate surpassed that of the previous year and stood at 11.13% against 10.88% in 1991. As a result, in 1992, sugar production rose by some 31,,828 tonnes (+5%) to attain 643,168 tonnes as compared to 611,340 tonnes the previous year.

3. Tea

Compared to 1991, the area harvested increased by around 265 hectares to attain 3,135 hectares in 1992, an increase of about 8%. Owing to unfavourable climatic conditions towards the end of 1992, production of green leaves dropped by nearly 2% to reach 30,160 tonnes against 30,865 tonnes a year ago.

As a result, the production of black tea declined by around 2% from 5,920 tonnes in 1991 to 5,830 tonnes in 1992. The average export price of black tea in 1992 went down to Rs 17.43 per kg as compared to Rs 18.31 per kg in the previous year.

4. Tobacco

The total acreage under tobacco increased by almost 30% from 620 hectares in 1991 to 810 hectares in 1992. However, in 1992, a reduction of nearly 14% was noted in the yield per hectare mainly because of unfavourable climatic conditions. Consequently, only 970 tonnes of tobacco leaves were produced against 860 tonnes the preceding year.

5. Foodcrops

In 1992, foodcrop production increased by around 7,540 tonnes or 12% to 71,630 tonnes from 64,090 tonnes in the previous year. Contrary to 1991, an increase of about 420 hectares was noted in 1992 due to new areas planted. However, a reduction in the yield per hectare of many crops, particularly potatoes, was noted because of the appearance of a new strain of leaf miner coupled with unfavourable climatic condiditons.

Significant changes were observed in the production of the following crops: cauliflower (+47%), garlic (+11%), potato (+16%), banana (+32%), pineapple (+55%) and ginger (-25%).

6. Livestock and Poultry

As compared to 1991, there was an increase of 10% (220 tonnes) in production of beef in 1992 when it was nearly 2,375 tonnes. Production from local (including Rodrigues) sources went down by about 3% to reach 530 tonnes whilst that from imported live cattle rose by 15% to attain 1,850 tonnes in 1992. The share of imports in total production increased to nearly 78% from around 75% in 1991.

Production of goat meat and mutton fell by 22% from 180 tonnes in 1991 to 140 tonnes in 1992. The share of mutton in this subgroup increased from 5% (10 tonnes) to 10% (15 tonnes) during the same period. Goat meat taken alone saw its production decreased by 26% from 170 tonnes in 1991 to 125 tonnes in 1992. However, this decrease is the result of a big reduction of 60% (from 100 to 40 tonnes) in goat meat from imported animals. Local production, in fact, showed an increase of 21%, from 70 tonnes in 1991 to 85 tonnes in 1992.

Pork production was 10% higher; around 995 tonnes were produced in 1992 against 905 tonnes in 1991.

Poultry production recorded an increase of about 12% to reach 14,850 tonnes in 1992 from 13,250 tonnes a year earlier.

7. Fisheries

Total fish production in 1992 remained at a level similar to last year at around 18,200 tonnes. As compared to 1991, the production of frozen fish from banks jumped to nearly 5,830 tonnes (+34%) whilst production of fresh fish (coastal) increased to almost 2,750 tonnes (+9%) and that of tuna fish for the canning industry decreased to 9,540 tonnes (-15%) in 1992.

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Table 1 - Agricultural Crops: Area Harvested and Production

CROPS	1991 1/		1992 3/	
	Area Harvested (Hectares)	Production (Tonnes)	Area Harvested (Hectares)	Production (Tonnes)
1. Sugar cane	75,966	5,621,110	75,645	5,780,512
2. Tea (Green Leaves)	2,869 2/	30,863	3,133 2/	30,162
3. Tobacco	622	862	811	970
4. Foodcrops	5,493	64,090	5,915	71,630

1/ Revised
2/ Area under cultivation
3/ Provisional

Table 2 - Production of Agro-Industrial Products

Agro-industrial Products	Unit	1991 3/	1992 4/
1. Sugar	Tonnes	611,340	643,168
2. Tea (manufactured)	"	5,918	5,828
3. Beef 1/	"	2,157	2,375
Local including Rodrigues	"	(544)	(527)
Imported	"	(1,613)	(1,848)
4. Goat meat and mutton	"	178	144
5. Pork 1/	"	906	994
6. Poultry	"	13,250	14,850
7. Milk	000 Litres	10,800	10,500
8. Fish 2/	Tonnes	18,081	18,200
Coastal	"	(2,518)	(2,750)
Other	"	(15,563)	(15,450)

1/ Comprises abattoir slaughters only
2/ Fresh weight equivalent
3/ Revised
4/ Provisional

Table 3(a) - Sugar Industry - Field Statistics

Ownership	1991 1/			1992 2/		
	Area harvested (hectares)	Cane produced (tonnes)	Yield (tonnes/ hectare)	Area harvested (hectares)	Cane produced (tonnes)	Yield (tonnes/ hectare)
1. Estates	39,235	3,510,638	89.48	39,497	3,496,692	88.53
2. Metayers	1,713	87,236	50.93	1,702	81,722	48.01
3. Planters	35,018	2,023,236	57.78	34,446	2,202,098	63.93
T O T A L	75,966	5,621,110	74.00	75,645	5,780,512	76.42

1/ Revised

2/ Provisional

Table 3(b) - Sugar Industry - Factory Statistics

D e t a i l s	Unit	1991 1/	1992 2/
1. Tonnage of canes crushed	tonnes	5,621,110	5,780,512
2. Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered % cane)		10.88	11.13
3. Average polarisation	degrees	98.78	98.78
4. Average yield of sugar	tonnes/ hectare	8.05	8.50
5. Average tonnes of cane for 1 tonne of sugar	tonnes	9.19	8.99
6. Production of sugar		611,340	643,168
(white)	"	(47,969)	(70,000)
(Raw)	"	(563,371)	(573,168)
7. Molasses	"	174,933	173,000

1/ Revised

2/ Provisional

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

(tonnes)

Type of Producer	1991	1992 1/
1. Estates	1,740	1,743
2. Metayers	2,156	1,953
3. Free Planters	2,189	2,159
4. Planters in Co-operatives Societies	24,555	24,106
5. Other (including T.D.A.)	223	201
T O T A L	30,863	30,162

1/ Provisional

Table 5 - Tobacco - Area Harvested and Production of Leaf

Variety	1991 1/		1992 2/	
	Area Harvested (Hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Area Harvested (Hectares)	Production (tonnes)
1. Virginia (flue cured)	558	767	736	850
2. Amarello (air cured)	64	95	75	120
T O T A L	662	862	811	970

1/ Revised

2/ Provisional

Table 6 - Foodcrops: area harvested and production[1/]

Foodcrops	1991[2/]		1992[3/]	
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
Potato	833	16,445	1,009	19,155
Rice	2	10	2	5
Maize	570	2,120	500	1,850
Groundnut	480	1,380	403	1,190
Onion	215	2,960	217	3,240
Ginger	24	460	19	345
Garlic	17	140	21	155
Chillies	126	595	145	655
Tomato	887	9,385	960	10,275
Beans and Peas	265	975	289	1,015
Cabbage	172	3,490	175	3,320
Cauliflower	52	780	61	1,145
Brinjal	98	1,270	108	1,270
Creepers	979	12,345	1,069	12,790
Other vegetables	321	3,765	372	4,380
Banana	359	6,490	450	8,540
Pineapple	93	1,480	115	2,300
Total foodcrops	5,493	64,090	5,915	71,630

1/ Calendar year

2/ Revised

3/ Provisional