AGRICULTURAL AND FISH PRODUCTION

Year 2002

Introduction

This issue of the Economic and Social indicators presents data on agricultural and fish production for the Island of Mauritius for the year 2002, as well as revised figures for year 2001. Table 1 shows area harvested and production in respect of the main agricultural crops while table 2 shows production of the main agro-industrial products. Details on the sugar industry and foodcrops are given at Tables 3 and 6 respectively.

It is to be noted that the production of agricultural crops (sugarcane, tea leaves, tobacco leaves and foodcrops) in 2002 has been adversely affected by the passage of cyclone Dina in January of the same year.

2. Sugar cane

The unfavourable climatic conditions that prevailed in 2002 resulted in a decrease of 15.9% in the production of cane : 4,873,673 tonnes in 2002 as compared to 5,792,325 tonnes in 2001. Total area harvested declined by 933 hectares (-1.3%) from 73,197 hectares in 2001 to 72,264 hectares in 2002 while the yield per hectare decreased by 14.8% from 79.13 tonnes to 67.44 tonnes.

The average extraction rate was 10.70% as compared to 11.15% in 2001 (-4.0%), yielding 520,887 tonnes of sugar as compared to 645,598 tonnes in 2001.

The 2003 crop has been slightly affected by cyclone Gerry which visited Mauritius in February and the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture has estimated the production of sugar to be around 600,000 tonnes.

3. Tea

Area under tea plantation increased by 3.0% from 660 hectares in 2001 to 680 hectares in 2002. On the other hand, production of green tea leaves decreased by 7.7%: 6,870 tonnes as compared to 7,440 tonnes for 2001.

Production of black tea dropped by 9.0% from 1,517 tonnes in 2001 to 1,381 tonnes in 2002.

4. Tobacco

An area of 351 hectares under tobacco cultivation was harvested in 2002, which is 6.6% lower than the 376 hectares in 2001. The production of tobacco leaves has declined by 21.7% from 609 tonnes in 2001 to 477 tonnes in 2002.

5. Foodcrops

Data on foodcrops production are supplied by the Agricultural Research and Extension Unit (AREU). Figures are therafter adjusted to take into account backyard production, namely banana, eddoes, manioc and sweet potato.

Compared to 2001, production of foodcrops in the year 2002 showed a fall of 18.9% from 129,119 tonnes in 2001 to 104,747 tonnes in 2002. Area harvested registered a decrease of 9.4% from 7,918 hectares in 2001 to 7,174 hectares.

6. Livestock

The production of beef from live cattle increased by 9.2% in year 2002 to reach 2,454 tonnes against 2,248 tonnes in 2001. Beef production from the slaughter of imported cattle went up by 19.9%, from 1,873

tonnes to 2,246 tonnes whilst local beef production (including live cattle from Rodrigues) fell significantly by 44.5%, from 375 tonnes in 2001 to 208 tonnes. Local production accounted for 8.5% of total beef production.

The production of goat meat and mutton witnessed a 23.7% rise: 141 tonnes in 2002 against 114 tonnes in 2001. The share of local production, inclusive of imports from Rodrigues, was 50.0%.

Production of pork decreased by 14.3% from 882 tonnes in 2001 to 756 tonnes in 2002.

7. Poultry

Production of poultry went up by 7.7% from 27,200 tonnes in 2001 to 29,305 tonnes in 2002.

8. Fish

In 2002, total fish production rose by 3.9% from 8,794 tonnes in 2001 to 9,136 tonnes. Fresh coastal fish catch registered an increase of 11.2% and other catch (tuna, bank, etc) went up by 1.7%.

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Table 1 - Agricultural crops: Area harvested and production, 2001 - 2002

	2001 [1]		2002 [3]	
Crops	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
Sugarcane	73,197	5,792,325	72,264	4,873,673
Tea (green leaves)	660 2	7,440	680 2	6,870
Tobacco	376	609	351	477
Foodcrops	7,918	129,119	7,244	104,747

[1] Revised |[2] Area under cultivation |[3] Provisional

Table 2 - Production of agro-industrial products, 2001 - 2002

Agro- industrial product	Unit	2001 [3]	2002 [4]
Sugar	tonnes	645,598	520,887
Tea (manufactured)	"	1,517	1,381
Beef [1]	"	2,248	2,454
Local (incl. imports from Rodrigues)	"	(375)	(208)
Imported	"	(1,873)	(2,246)
Goat meat and mutton [1]	"	114	141
Pork [1]	"	882	756
Poultry	"	27,200	29,305
Milk	000 Litres	4,000	4,000
Fish [2]	tonnes	8,794	9,136
Coastal	"	(2,025)	(2,252)
Other (tuna,bank,etc)	"	(6,769)	(6,884)

[1] Comprises abattoir slaughters only |[2] Fresh weight equivalent |[3] Revised |4 Provisional

Table 3.1 - Sugar Industry - Field statistics, 2001- 2002

Ownership	2001			2002 [1]		
	Area harvested (hectares)	Cane produced (tonnes)	Yield (tonnes per hectare)	Area harvested (hectares)	Cane produced (tonnes)	Yield (tonnes per hectare)
1. Estate	35,495	3,139,431	88.45	29,619	2,292,568	77.40
2. Metayers	1,101	63,806	57.95	1,073	50,353	46.93
3. Planters	36,601	2,589,088	70.74	41,572	2,530,752	60.88
TOTAL	73,197	5,792,325	79.13	72,264	4,873,673	67.44

[1] Provisional

Table 3.2 - Sugar Industry - Factory statistics, 2001 - 2002

Details	Unit	2001	2002 [1]
1. Tonnage of canes crushed	tonnes	5,788,157	4,870,051
2. Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered % cane)	%	11.15	10.70
3. Average polarisation	degrees	98.5	98.5
4. Average yield of sugar	tonnes per hectare	8.82	7.21
5. Average tonnes of cane per tonne of sugar	tonnes	8.97	9.35
6. Production of sugar	"	645,598	520,887
- White	"	22,676	7,091
- Raw	"	546,983	443,180
- Special	"	75,939	70,616
7. Molasses	"	174,095	140,814

[1] Provisional

Table 4 - Tea - Production of green leaves by type of producer, 2001 - 2002

(Tonnes)

Type of Producer	2001 [1]	2002 [2]
1. Estates	1,106	830
2. Metayers	2,416	2,182
3. Free planters	2,792	2,669
4. Planters in Co-operatives Societies	1,126	1,189
TOTAL	7,440	6,870

[1]Revised|[2] Provisional

Table 5 - Tobacco - Area harvested and production of leaf, 2001 - 2002

Variety	2001 [1]		2002[2]	
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
1. Virginia (flue-cured)	336	557	320	444
2. Amarello (air-cured)	40	52	31	34
TOTAL	376	609	351	477

[1]Revised|[2] Provisional

Table 6 - Foodcrops: area harvested, production and yield per hectare, 2001 - 2002

Foodcrops	2001 [1]			2002 [2]		
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Yield per hectare (tonnes)	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Yield per hectare (tonnes)
Potato	779	16350	21	605	13301	22
Maize	54	389	7.2	36	294	8.2
Groundnut	123	323	2.6	112	275	2.5
Onion	333	10950	32.9	249	7497	30.1
Ginger	52	868	16.7	31	473	15.3
Garlic	6	40	6.7	4	25	6.3
Chillies	213	1031	4.8	210	826	3.9
Tomato	934	12395	13.3	941	11656	12.4
Beans and Peas	377	2006	5.3	392	2217	5.7
Cabbage	459	11663	25.4	330	8252	25
Cauliflower	90	1846	20.5	85	1796	21.1
Brinjal	182	2721	15	174	2359	13.6
Creepers	2087	28984	13.9	2113	27498	13
Other vegetables	1524	22537	14.8	1279	18361	14.4
Banana	540	11000	20.4	530	8000	15.1
Pineapple	165	6016	36.5	83	1917	23.1
TOTAL	7918	129119	16.3	7174	104747	14.6

Source: Agricultural Research and Extension Unit (AREU) and CSO estimates

[1]Revised|[2] Provisional