AGRICULTURAL AND FISH PRODUCTION
Year 2001

Introduction

This issue of the Economic and Social Indicators presents data on agricultural and fish production for the Island of Mauritius for the year 2001, as well as revised figures for year 2000. 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.

2. Sugar cane

The favourable climatic conditions that prevailed in 2001 resulted in an increase of 13.4% in the production of cane : 5,792,326 tonnes in 2001 as compared to 5,109,521 tonnes in 2000. Total area harvested increased slightly by 246 hectares (+0.3 %) from 73,056 hectares in 2000 to 73,302 hectares in 2001 while the yield per hectare went up by 13.0% from 69.94 tonnes to 79.02 tonnes.

The average extraction rate for the 2001 sugar crop was similar to that of 2000, that is 11.15%, yielding 645,598 tonnes of sugar as compared to 569,289 tonnes in 2000, which it is recalled was a drought year.

The 2002 sugar crop has been affected by cyclone Dina which visited Mauritius in January. Information gathered from the Mauritius Chamber of Agriculture and from other organisations working closely with the sugar sector indicate that the 2002 crop would yield around 570,000 tonnes of sugar, that is 12% lower than last year. However, this estimate could improve slightly if favourable conditions prevail.

3. Tea

Area under tea plantation decreased by 1.5% from 670 hectares in 2000 to 660 hectares in 2001. On the other hand, because of better climatic conditions, production of green tea leaves increased by 15.5%: 7,440 tonnes as compared to 6,440 tonnes for 2000.

Production of black tea rose by 15.6% from 1,312 tonnes in 2000 to 1,517 tonnes in 2001. More details on tea are given at Table 4.

4. Tobacco

An area of 373 hectares under tobacco cultivation was harvested in 2001, which is 16.4% lower than the 446 hectares in 2000. The production of tobacco leaves has accordingly went down from 646 tonnes to 608 tonnes (-5.9%), with a drop of 50.0% in production of “air-cured” leaves while that of “flue-cured” leaves went up slightly by 2.4%.

5. Foodcrops

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

Compared to 2000, production of foodcrops in the year 2001 showed a rise of 12.7% from 114,484 tonnes in 2000 to 129,010 in 2001. Area harvested registered an increase of 7.6% from 7,357 hectares to 7,919 hectares.

6. Livestock.

The production of beef from live cattle decreased by 11.4% in year 2001 to reach 2,248 tonnes against 2,538 tonnes in 2000. Beef production from the slaughter of imported cattle declined by 18.5%, from 2,298 tonnes to 1,873 tonnes whilst local beef production (including live cattle from Rodrigues) rose significantly by 56.3%, from 240 tonnes in 2000 to 375 tonnes. Local production accounted for 16.7% of total beef production.

The production of goat meat and mutton witnessed a 11.8% rise: 114 tonnes in 2001 against 102 tonnes in 2000. The share of local production, inclusive of imports from Rodrigues, was 51.4%.

Production of pork decreased slightly by 1.0% from 891 tonnes in 2000 to 882 tonnes in 2001.

7. Fish

In 2001, total fish production dropped by 13.4% from 7,842 tonnes in 2000 to 6,792 tonnes. Fresh coastal fish catch registered a decline of 12.3% and other catch (tuna, bank, etc.) went down by 13.8%. The drop in tuna catch was mainly due to the closing down of the enterprise engaged in local tuna fishing.

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Table 1 - Agricultural crops: Area harvested and production, 2000 - 2001

Crops	2000		2001 [3]	
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
Sugarcane	73,056	5,109,521	73,302	5,792,326
Tea (green leaves)	670 [2]	6,440	660 [2]	7,440
Tobacco	446	646	373	608
Foodcrops	7,357 [1]	114,484 [1]	7,919	129,010

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

Table 2 - Production of agro-industrial products, 2000 - 2001

Agro-industrial products	Unit	2000 [3]	2001 [4]
Sugar	tonnes	569,289	645,598
Tea (manufactured)	"	1,312	1,517
Beef [1]	"	2,538	2,248
Local (incl. imports from Rodrigues)	"	(240)	(375)
Imported	"	(2,298)	(1,873)
Goat meat and mutton [1]	"	102	114
Pork [1]	"	891	882
Poultry	"	25,600	27,200
Milk	000 Litres	4,000	4,000
Fish [2]	tonnes	7,842	6,792
Coastal	"	(2,310)	(2,025)
Other (tuna,bank,etc)	"	(5,532)	(4,767)

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

Table 3.1 - Sugar Industry - Field statistics, 2000- 2001

Ownership	2000			2001 [1]		
	Area harvested (hectares)	Cane produced (tonnes)	Yield (tonnes per hectare)	Area harvested (hectares)	Cane produced (tonnes)	Yield (tonnes per hectare)
1. Estate	35,885	2,877,914	80.20	35,601	3,139,433	88.18
2. Metayers	1,092	55,483	50.81	1,101	63,807	57.95
3. Planters	36,080	2,176,103	60.31	36,600	2,589,088	70.74
TOTAL	**73,056**	**5,109,500**	**69.94**	**73,302**	**5,792,326**	**79.02**

[1] Provisional

Table 3.2 - Sugar Industry - Factory statistics, 2000 - 2001

Details	Unit	2000	2001 [1]
1. Tonnage of canes crushed	tonnes	5,105,700	5,788,157
2. Extraction rate (commercial sugar recovered % cane)	%	11.15	11.15
3. Average polarisation	degrees	98.5	98.5
4. Average yield of sugar	tonnes per hectare	7.79	8.81
5. Average tonnes of cane per tonne of sugar	tonnes	9.0	9.0
6. Production of sugar	"	569,289	645,598
- White	"	3,061	N.A
- Raw	"	566,228	N.A
- Special	"	-	-
7. Molasses	"	144,027	175,665

[1] Provisional
N.A : not available

Table 4 - Tea - Production of green leaves by type of producer, 2000 - 2001

(Tonnes)

Type of Producer	2000 [1]	2001 [2]
1. Estates	1,015	1,108
2. Metayers	2,143	2,416
3. Free planters	2,171	2,792
4. Planters in Co-operatives Societies	1,111	1,124
TOTAL	**6,440**	**7,440**

[1] Revised
[2] Provisional

Table 5 - Tobacco - Area harvested and production of leaf, 2000 - 2001

Variety	2000 [1]		2001 [2]	
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
1. Virginia (flue-cured)	348	544	323	557
2. Amarello (air-cured)	98	102	50	51
TOTAL	**446**	**646**	**373**	**608**

[1] Revised
[2] Provisional

Table 6 - Foodcrops: area harvested, production and yield per hectare, 2000 - 2001

Foodcrops	2000 [1]			2001 [2]		
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Yield per hectare (tonnes)	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Yield per hectare (tonnes)
Potato	622	13,843	22.3	778	16,345	21.0
Maize	70	623	8.9	54	361	6.7
Groundnut	123	408	3.3	122	319	2.6
Onion	310	11,134	35.9	332	10,952	33.0
Ginger	32	498	15.6	52	868	16.7
Garlic	7	46	6.6	6	39	6.5
Chillies	202	905	4.5	213	1,031	4.8
Tomato	788	9,719	12.3	932	12,358	13.3
Beans and Peas	354	1,715	4.8	375	1,997	5.3
Cabbage	422	10,823	25.6	459	11,664	25.4
Cauliflower	102	2,045	20.0	90	1,847	20.5
Brinjal	160	2,160	13.5	182	2,722	15.0
Creepers	2,176	27,435	12.6	2,080	28,901	13.9
Other vegetables	1,421	21,214	14.9	1,520	22,575	14.9
Banana	489	8,500	17.4	558	11,000	19.7
Pineapple	79	3,416	43.2	166	6,031	36.3
TOTAL	**7,357**	**114,484**	**15.6**	**7,919**	**129,010**	**16.3**

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

[1] Revised

[2] Provisional