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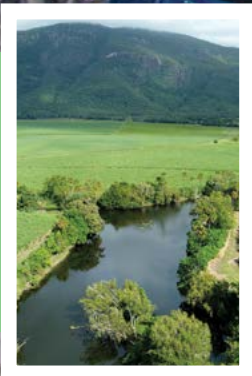


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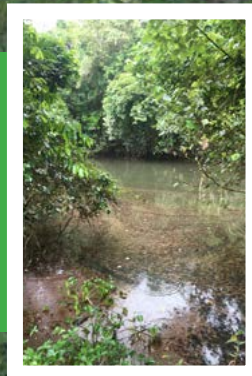
DAM FAILURE
Capacity drop at Paradise Dam leaves southern region growers in limbo



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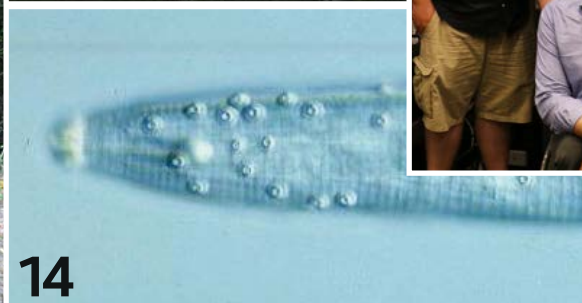
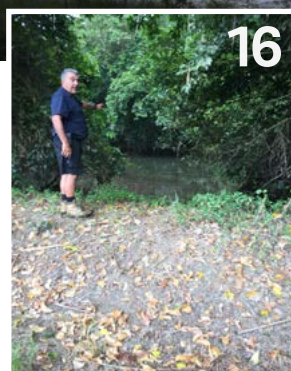
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7 October 2019



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COVER IMAGE: CANEGROWERS Isis Chairman Mark Mammino says the decision to slash storage capacity at Paradise Dam could be devastating for southern region irrigators.

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The future is worth working towards

By Dan Galligan, CEO CANEGROWERS

The successful passage of the State Government's Reef Bill through parliament means we move into a new phase in this seemingly never-ending conversation about the relationship our industry has with the Great Barrier Reef.

While it can be a polarising conversation, the reality is that we all want to see a sustainable future for the Reef and for our industry. The debate really should only be focused on how we achieve that outcome, but with Labor politicians taking the Reef legislation policy to the last election, perhaps changing their minds was always going to be an uphill battle.

This doesn't mean that the State Government's position was right, nor that the issue is resolved. CANEGROWERS continues to advocate strongly for the interests of growers as the regulations that sit under the Reef legislation are finalised.

The Government has made several commitments in response to industry concerns, particularly around certainty in the setting of farm practice standards for a minimum timeframe and not seeking third party data.

These commitments are to be delivered through regulations which will not have the same level of scrutiny required of legislation, so vigilance will be required to ensure the Government follows through on these commitments.

There is no doubt that Reef regulations will be a hot topic during next year's state election campaign. Over the long term, we must work as an industry to demonstrate that regulations are not justified and are counterproductive to both a sustainable, productive industry and the long term resilience of the Reef.

Meanwhile, indeed in the same week as the Reef Bill was being passed through State Parliament, the Federal Senate carried a motion to establish a committee to review the evidence base that is used to justify regulating farming practices to achieve water quality outcomes.

With initial submissions due within the month, but a reporting period stretching to October 2020, this Senate inquiry will provide a significant opportunity for us to share the stories of countless growers who are innovating and implementing practice change to help ensure we have a productive and sustainable industry.

It will also allow us to demonstrate just how counterproductive regulations on farming operations are in terms of achieving any sustainability agenda, when compared to empowering, recognising and incentivising farmers.

Our role in telling these stories and demonstrating that there is a better way than regulations, will be critical over the next twelve months.

Senate committees can be a powerful platform to air all views, and while the powers of the regulations sit with the State Government, it is the Federal and State governments who jointly must take responsibility for reporting to UNESCO on the management of the Great Barrier Reef. For this reason, the Commonwealth has a critical lead-role to play in ensuring agriculture is fairly treated in that management.

While it has undoubtedly been a difficult season and challenging twelve months in the markets, in the climate and the policy arenas, CANEGROWERS continues to look towards the future.

Recently we entered into perhaps one of our most important partnerships in terms of securing the future for our industry. As a new member of the Primary Industries Education Foundation Australia (PIEFA), we have taken a significant step forward in a new agenda for our industry relationship with the education sector.

Across our very active regions and indeed across the sugar supply chain there are many examples of effective work going on to engage in local school-based programs. We want to build on that within this partnership with PIEFA, which is a national body established jointly by government and industry to work towards building resources, professional development and curriculum-based programs within the school system to ensure the story of cane growing is understood by students from day one.

Our story is a proud one, with deep roots in history. Yes, times are challenging at the moment, but challenges have been accepted in the past and opportunities grasped as a result. The reality is that engaging with our students is more difficult than ever and I am sure that this new field of work with PIEFA will ensure that the decision makers of tomorrow may be better informed than those of today. ■





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NEWS IN BRIEF

Reef laws – what's next?

A new set of Reef regulations is being drawn up under the new law passed by the Queensland Parliament last month and CANEGROWERS is taking every opportunity to put the issues and perspectives of sugarcane growers forward.

The *Environmental Protection (Great Barrier Reef Protection Measures) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill* gave the State Government powers to compel farm data to be handed over, authority for the public service to change minimum farming standards in the future and new assessment and approval processes for land being developed for cane production.

It also extends regulations into the southern sugarcane regions of Bundaberg, Isis and Maryborough.

The Queensland Government has indicated in public statements and in the drafting of the regulations that it will respond to some of the concerns raised by CANEGROWERS and other farming groups.

This includes providing phase-in periods for nutrient management planning requirements across most regions although record-keeping in southern regions would apply immediately.

The Government has also committed to not reviewing or changing the new minimum farming standards for at least five years. The details of the new standards have been the subject of on-going debate between Government and CANEGROWERS.

Some industry concerns have been addressed, however it seems unlikely that further opportunities to comment on the detail of the practice standards will be provided

In relation to data, the Environment Minister has agreed not to regulate for the compulsory acquisition of fertiliser and other farm data from resellers and mills although this power remains as an option in the law.

In relation to data held by growers and their advisers, a Queensland Government web page on the regulations advises that, *"Under the proposed regulated practice standards, producers will need to keep records of soil tests and fertiliser and agricultural chemicals applied and advisers will need to keep records of advice provided to land managers. The regulations will not allow broad-scale data to be requested from farmers. They will be restricted to specific records only."*

The Government has indicated that penalty infringement notices would be a last resort in a regulatory compliance process but where fines are imposed, they would be up to \$2002 for individuals and \$10,009 for corporations.

The Office of the Great Barrier Reef is accepting written feedback on the draft regulations until October 11.

As we have all the way through this process, CANEGROWERS will be representing members' interests, providing a submission and attending all possible meetings.

It is expected that the new legislation, and its regulations, will come into effect on 1 December 2019 with some of the new requirements for cane farming being phased in over a two to three-year period.

There is more detailed information on the proposed regulations on the Department of Environment and Science website and CANEGROWERS is advised that additional fact sheets for industry will be added over the next six to eight weeks.

The website is: www.qld.gov.au/environment/agriculture/sustainable-farming/reef/reef-regulations ■

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Dam failure - capacity drop leaves growers in limbo

The State Government's decision to permanently reduce the capacity of SunWater's Paradise Dam by almost 60% has left irrigation-dependent cane growers in Queensland's southern growing regions fearing for the future of their local industry.

Last month the government announced it would release 105,000 megalitres from the dam, or the equivalent of 32,000 Olympic swimming pools, due to unspecified safety concerns.

The release will reduce the dam to just 42% of its current storage capacity and is in preparation for works to lower the spillway by five metres, making the reduction in capacity permanent.

CANEGROWERS Isis Chairman **Mark Mammino** is also chairman of the Bundaberg SunWater irrigator advisory committee.

Mr Mammino said the announcement that 80,000ML of water would be freely available to existing SunWater irrigators has done little to allay grower concerns.

"I struggle to comprehend how a decision like this could be made when we've got areas of Queensland in the worst drought for a long period of time [and] we've had fires where the firefighters have struggled to find water to put fires out," he told ABC News.

"Many growers aren't in a position to use it at this point in time – they may not even have crops in the ground.

"In reality much of our crops won't reach peak water usage until that Christmas period.

"It's devastating, you look around and it's so dry everywhere."

As one of the region's larger growing operations, with direct access to the Burnett River and significant on-farm water storage, Greensill Farming is able to utilise the free water.

However, for **Peter Greensill** (pictured), access to this water is small sweetener to what is otherwise a very bitter pill.

"Some of us are located on the river where we have a little bit more capacity to take advantage of that access, but to be honest, it's really a very small

sweetener in what is pretty dire message from a water security perspective for the region," Mr Greensill said.

"Realistically, we'll probably only be able to store 300 to 400ML in dams on farm. Anything else we take from this release will go straight onto the paddocks. Given it's been as dry as chips for the last 12-18 months, a lot of our irrigation systems are relatively stretched.

"Our crush has been shortened due to the impact of drought on the crop, which means the area we're harvesting every week is larger, so we're flat out just trying to get fields back to an acceptable soil moisture profile."

Mr Greensill said the mood among growers was one of concern for the future and also anger at what is viewed as a significant failure on the part of the State Government.

"There's a lot of concern and I'd say it's justified concern. In fact, I'd say a lot of growers are angry," he said.

"We've got the most recently built dam in Queensland, the second newest dam in Australia, and the fact that it's so fundamentally flawed in its engineering that we're having to slash its capacity by almost 60% is just disastrous.

"If it was a dam from the 1900s it wouldn't be so bad, but it's pretty disappointing that under this government's watch they've allowed engineering of such poor quality to be performed in our state. It's certainly not helpful for economic growth and confidence in the area.

"At the end of the day, most of Australia is either on fire or in drought, so it's a pretty tough message to swallow when you hear we've got to dump 105,000 megalitres of water down the creek."

However, he also acknowledged the State Government's efforts to minimise the impact on growers and said they

were cognisant of the need to protect communities in the event of a flood.

"They're in process of seeing if they can divert some of that water into other systems or streams, so certainly they're trying very hard to make that water available to everybody, but the simple fact is not everybody will be able to take advantage of it.

"Having said that, growers are quite mindful that we have to ensure the downstream residents are safe in the event of a flood. The question is, how do we get back to the situation we were in prior to this release as quickly as possible - whether that's rebuilding the dam to the current height or putting shutters on weirs, or whatever it may be.

"Everybody has a lot of questions, but at the minute the government doesn't seem to have any answers to how or when that's going to happen and that's a big concern.

"We're keen to work with the government to get the right safety profile for the dam, but we need to get that storage capacity back as quickly and efficiently as possible because that's critical to growth and our ability to produce the right economic outcomes from the region." ■



CANEGROWERS REGIONAL ROUND-UP

Supplied by CANEGROWERS district offices

MOSSMAN

In Week 16 (ending 21 September) 35,419 tonnes of cane were processed through Mossman Mill for an average CCS of 14.11 units.

Coastal growers supplied 23,832 tonnes of cane for an average of 14.07 CCS, while Mareeba growers supplied 11,587 tonnes of cane for 14.54 CCS.

The crop forecast remains at 12% below estimate, with a total expected crop contracted to Mossman Mill of around 881,000 tonnes.

With almost 80% of the estimate cut, the expected finish date for Mossman Mill is in late October. Toll-crushed cane through Tableland Mill is expected to be finished in early November.

CAIRNS REGION

Fine and dry weather continues across the Cairns region, but moisture will be required in some catchments in the near future.

Planting is close to being finished. Growers who are to be affected by the State Development Area (SDA) are involved in the consultation process.

A successful celebratory Cane Changer evening was recently held at Fishery Falls Hotel with growers being recognised for more than 500 practice changes made across the region to help improve water quality for the Great Barrier Reef.

INNISFAIL

Repairs to the damaged No.2 boiler at South Johnstone Mill have been completed and the boiler was back in full operation on 26 September. The extra steam capacity was immediately effective with the amount of cane crushed in the following 24 hours almost reaching 12,000 tonnes.

As at 29 September, South Johnstone Mill had crushed 720,130 tonnes, which is 57% of the forecast estimate.

The daily CCS has continued to sit in the mid-13s, with seasonal average at 12.48.

Crushing is still expected to finish on 23 November (allowing for 120 hours lost time due to wet weather).

Dry conditions continue to be experienced, meaning planting operations are unhindered. Growers throughout the district are either wishing for some rain or hoping it holds off until planting is completed.

TULLY

Only 9mm of rain was recorded in September, making it ideal for harvest, however the plant and ratoon cane are looking for a drink.

The seasonal CCS has been climbing on the back of weekly CCS levels of 14.5 and is currently at 13.05. With around 600,000 tonnes left to process, the season should be completed by the second week in November.

Sugar marketers are holding meetings to advise of pool offerings for the 2020 season, ahead of the 31 October deadline for growers to choose a marketer.

With planting completed, fertilising is now the main activity and growers are reminded that a new collection point for bags has been established at the container collection depo at Anderson Street, Tully.

HERBERT RIVER

Herbert River mills crushed a combined total of 206,743 tonnes in Week 13.

Victoria Mill had its maintenance day on 23 September and there was a break down on Thursday night with the cane carrier on B side.

Victoria ended up crushing 132,911 tonnes and Macknade crushed 73,832 tonnes. CCS continued to climb, with a mill average of 14.51 for the week.

Week 14 saw the mills impacted by a number of mechanical issues.

Victoria Mill had difficulties with B2 Mill turbine which needed to be bypassed before repairs could begin. B side was also down to carry out turbine repairs, with a failed electric motor on the tippler needing to be replaced.

Macknade Mill had an extended maintenance day on 30 September. This was started by an Ergon bump in the power supply. During this stop the mill replaced a broken pinion on the No. 3 Mill top roller.

These issues impacted the total number of tonnes crushed in the Herbert. The mills crushed a combined total of 185,492 tonnes, with Victoria mill crushing 124,795 and Macknade 60,697 tonnes.

CCS continued to hold at a mill average of 14.59. Q208 and Q253 were the dominant varieties at 22.4% and 16.4% respectively.

BURDEKIN

Burdekin's 2019 crushing season has hit the 70% mark with 5,581.861 tonnes crushed as of Week 17 (ending 28/9).

Extended stops at Invicta and Pioneer mills contributed to a reduced weekly throughput of 281,000 tonnes for the week. Invicta's lengthy stop of several days was due to power loss caused by a fire in a current transformer in the Powerlink substation. Pioneer had a failure at the No. 1 Mill pressure feeder chute.

The highest CCS samples for Week 16 was 18.1 for a rake of Q183 from Inkerman area and for Week 17 was 18.4 from a rake of Q240 plant cane recorded in the Pioneer area.

CCS continues to rise with seasonal CCS recorded to date for Burdekin at 14.63. The average weekly CCS may be starting to plateau with 15.58 recorded in Week 17. Pioneer is still leading the Burdekin mills with 14.85, followed by Inkerman with 14.70 season-to-date.

In Week 17, Q240 continues to be the highest supplied variety at 44% followed by Q183 at 17%.

On a district basis Q183 achieved 16.03 CCS followed by Q240 at 15.56 and Q252 at 15.86. All of the major varieties recorded well over 15 CCS in Week 17.

MACKAY

The Mackay mills passed the 3 million tonnes crushed mark in Week 15, with a total of 193,586 tonnes passing through the rollers in the week ending 29 September, for a season total of 3,108,239.

Weekly CCS was 15.10 bringing the season-to-date average to 13.37 units. Individual mill totals for the week were:

- Farleigh 72,289
- Marian 64,927
- Racecourse 56,370

PROSERPINE

Proserpine Mill passed the one million tonne milestone on Sunday, 29 September.

Throughput over the last few weeks has been behind budget due to a number of unscheduled stops to address some niggling mechanical issues. Sugar train delays in Week 13 also contributed to the lower production.

CCS continues to rise steadily. Week 13 CCS was 14.93, bringing the year-to-date average CCS to 13.71. The highest CCS sample for the week was 17.11 from a rake of Plant Q208 from the Kelsey Creek productivity district.

With 63% of the crop harvested, the mill remains on track for a mid-November finish.



PLANE CREEK

Plane Creek Mill crushed about 56,500 tonnes of cane for Week 15, bringing the season total to more than 860,000 tonnes. CCS remained steady for the week at 15.50 which pushed the season average above 14 units.

Throughput was down on previous weeks due to a maintenance day on 25 September and reduced crush rate caused by high pan stocks.

The weather conditions remain dry and favourable for harvesting.

The highest CCS for the week was 17.2 units from a rake of Q208 5R in the Cliftonville productivity district.

During the school holidays, parents are asked to remind their children of the dangers associated with cane trains. Children should stay well away from the tracks, points, locos and cane bins.

Continues page 8 ►

CANEGROWERS REGIONAL ROUND-UP

BUNDABERG

Bundaberg Sugar mills processed 75,956.66 tonnes during Week 13 (ending 29/9). This brings the total tonnes crushed for the season-to-date to 985,366.14.

Weekly average CCS was 15.86 units, bringing the season-to-date average to 14.56 units. The highest individual CCS for Week 13 was 17.80 units for Q252 Plant cane from the Millaquin mill area.

The four major varieties supplied for the week were Q208A at 28.63% of supply with a CCS average of 15.62 units, followed by Q240 at 27.65% and 16.04 CCS, KQ228 and 16.11 CCS units, and Q238 at 8.55% and 15.40 CCS.

ISIS

The total volume processed for the 2019 crushing season at the Isis Mill has now reached 714,731 tonnes of cane. The year-to-date CCS continues an upward trend and was sitting at 14.59 units as at the end of September. There is an estimated 235,268 tonnes remaining to be harvesting.

The highest individual CCS for Week 11 was attributed to a Gin Gin grower who supplied Q240 1st ratoon cane at 17.20 units of CCS. Week 12 saw a CCS of 17.68 from a North Isis grower from Q208 9th ratoon.

Conditions remained dry and both the current standing crop and emerging ratoons are being negatively impacted. Irrigation is now a necessity. Growers who are able to access the out-of-allocation water from Paradise Dam at no charge can continue pumping for a period of approx. another 8 weeks or when the 80,000ML has been released. The water can be accessed during this event for either direct application onto crops or storage for later use. Sunwater will provide regular updates to customers during the event.

MARYBOROUGH

We had a positive start to Week 11, with a few drops of rain on Saturday (28/9) offering a glimmer of hope in the otherwise unbroken dry spell. Crop estimates have been dropping due to the continuing dry conditions and without some significant rain we will struggle to reach 606,000 tonnes.

Weekly supply has been very consistent with 43,895 tonnes processed for Week 10. The highest CCS for the week was 17.3, achieved with 3rd ratoon Q240 from Bidwill. As at 1 October, the total crushed to date was 410,354 tonnes, which is 67% of the original season estimate. The season average for CCS is 13.91.

Maryborough hosted the annual Model T Ford National Tour from 29 September to 5 October, with more than 150 classic vehicles taking part (pictured below). They don't go very fast but look very elegant and even visited the Yerra area on 4 October to talk about cane growing and enjoy some morning tea.



ROCKY POINT

As at 28 September 2019, the Rocky Point Mill had crushed 95,147 tonnes of cane at an average CCS of 12.76. The mill had a reasonably good week in Week 9, crushing 15,697 tonnes at 13.71 CCS.

The area is still experiencing extremely dry conditions and the lack of moisture has some growers holding off planting. Many tonnes of cane trash are leaving the district for cattle feed.

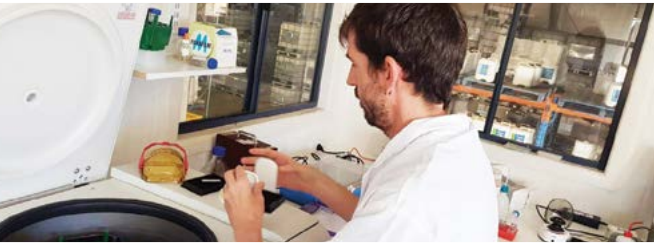
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NEXT CROP OF LEADERS

in the Australian sugarcane industry

The Australian sugarcane industry has nine potential new leaders following the graduation of a group of Queensland growers from a new leadership development program.



Called **Next Crop**, the program is an investment by Sugar Research Australia (SRA).

It is a professional and personal development program aimed at sugarcane growers and has created a network of confident, committed future leaders for the Australian Sugar Industry.

SRA CEO Mr Neil Fisher said that developing future industry leadership has been identified as a priority through SRA's five-year strategic plan and via ongoing engagement between SRA and the industry.

"To continue to grow and prosper, our industry needs to increase our leadership capacity," Mr Fisher said.

"This is more important than ever as the industry faces headwinds from depressed global sugar prices and other challenges."

He said Next Crop is specific for the Australian sugar industry and had helped emerging leaders build their

skills and contribute to future leadership roles, delivering a benefit for the whole industry.

The 2019 graduates are **Aaron Moore** (Atherton Tableland), **Tony Bartolo** (Mackay), **Chris Lyne** (Burdekin), **Ben Spann** (Rocky Point), **Kevin Stevens** (Brisbane), **Michael Giudice** (Mossman), **Leyton Peterson** (Hervey Bay), **Rhonda Pirrone** (Burdekin) and **Michael Cavallaro** (Bundaberg).

Mackay grower Tony Bartolo said he enjoyed the diversity of the program.

"The program gave me an opportunity to reflect on myself and to learn with other growers from across the industry," Mr Bartolo said.

"Working on the projects gave us all an opportunity to bring our specific skills together as a team.

"The future of the sugar industry depends on strong leadership and it will benefit each of the respective regions to have Next Crop participants."

The graduates focused on two project concepts aimed at creating a more positive and sustainable sugarcane industry for everyone.

The projects were presented at the graduation event where guest speaker Paralympic gold medalist **Kurt Fearnley** spoke to the group about recognising your strengths and building on them. ■

Pictured: Michael Cavallaro (Bundaberg), Ben Spann (Rocky Point), Aaron Moore (Atherton Tableland), Michael Giudice (Mossman), Chris Lyne (Burdekin), Kevin Stevens (Brisbane), Tony Bartolo (Mackay) and our guest speaker Kurt Fearnley. Absent: Rhonda Pirrone (Burdekin) and Leyton Peterson (Hervey Bay).



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QSL raises grower pricing limits and pool discretion



Bryce Wenham
QSL Executive Manager Supplier Relations and Systems

Growers marketing with QSL can now lock in more pricing in future seasons, following an increase to commitment limits.

QSL Executive Manager Supplier Relations and Systems Bryce Wenham said the committed pricing tonnage limits had recently been increased in response to grower feedback.

"The poor prices of recent seasons have reiterated the value of maximising pricing when times are good, so we've increased commitment levels to allow growers to lock in more pricing further out when the opportunity permits," Mr Wenham said.

QSL's revised commitment levels (noted in red) are:

	2019 SN (Current)	2020 Sn (Next)	2021 Sn (Next +1)	2022 Sn (Next +2)	2023 Sn (Next +3)	2024 Sn (Next +4)
Previous	65%	65%	50 %	40%	30%	25%
New	65%	65%	65%	50%	40%	30%

Commitment limits will increase to the following levels as of 1 July 2020:

	2020 Sn (Current)	2021 Sn (Next)	2022 Sn (Next +1)	2023 Sn (Next +2)	2024 Sn (Next +3)	2025 Sn (Next +4)
New	65%	65%	65%	50%	40%	40%

**NOTE: QSL pricing limits available to growers may vary due to their milling arrangements. Please contact your local QSL representative for details of the limits applicable in your milling district.*

ACTIVELY MANAGED POOL DISCRETION

QSL has also increased the pricing discretion limits for its popular Actively Managed Pool and its 2-Season counterpart to 40% and 50% respectively.

"This gives QSL's pricing managers more ability to increase or decrease pricing from the pool benchmark," Mr Wenham said.

"Again, this change is in response to grower feedback that QSL should be empowered to really back their market view in these QSL-managed pools, and these increased discretion levels enable us to do just that."

For full details of the commitment and pricing discretion limits outlined above, please read the full Pricing Pool Terms available on our website (www.qsl.com.au) or from your local QSL representative.

LESS PAPERWORK

Mr Wenham said that in addition to these pricing changes, growers using QSL Direct could now also consolidate their QSL statements by grouping farms which were under the same ABN.

"This new feature can really cut down on the QSL statement paperwork growers receive and can be tailored to meet their individual preferences," he said.

To access the new farm grouping options, please contact your local QSL representative or call 1800 870 756.

DEADLINE BROUGHT FORWARD

Growers in MSF Sugar milling districts are reminded that their 2020-Season marketing nomination deadline was recently brought forward to **31 October 2019**.

For further information about your 2020-Season QSL options, come along to one of our local update sessions (detailed on the opposite page) or contact Dan Messina on 0429 660 238.

DISCLAIMER: These articles contain information of a general or summary nature only and should not be relied on to make any pricing or pool selection decisions. This information does not constitute financial or investment advice, and growers should seek their own independent advice before making any such decisions, in addition to reading the full Pricing Pool Terms which are available on QSL's website. Information about past performance should not be relied on as an indication of future performance, nor should anything in relation to these articles be taken to include representations as to future matters.

WHY DO SO MANY QLD CANE FARMERS CHOOSE QSL?

- Industry-owned
- No margins or mark-ups
- Multiple pricing & payment options
- Dedicated support team

Got questions about the sugar market or your QSL options? Come get an update from QSL Managing Director and CEO Greg Beashel.

HERBERT RIVER: 6.30pm Wednesday 9 October 2019, Ingham Bowls Club, Ingham | **RSVP** to James on 0447 062 213

BURDEKIN: 6.30pm Thursday 10 October 2019, Burdekin Sports Club Hall, Ayr | **RSVP** to Kristen on 0438 470 235

INNISFAIL: 6pm Monday 14 October 2019, Australian Sugar Heritage Centre, Mourilyan | **RSVP** to Dan on 0429 660 238

BABINDA: 7.30am Tuesday 15 October 2019, Babinda RSL Hall, Babinda | **RSVP** to Dan on 0429 660 238

GORDONVALE: 11.30am Tuesday 15 October 2019, Parkview Tavern, Gordonvale | **RSVP** to Dan on 0429 660 238

TABLELANDS: 6pm Tuesday 15 October 2019, Jackaroo Motel, Mareeba | **RSVP** to Dan on 0429 660 238

All growers welcome – regardless of their current marketer



Don't miss your chance to use QSL in the 2020 Season – lodge your marketing nomination by 31 October 2019

Taking soil health into the 21st Century

By Dr Anthony Young, University of Queensland

The advent of molecular technologies has allowed us to glimpse the private lives of nematodes in ways we never before imagined. University and industry partnerships are developing the next wave of this technology and growers may be able to use it next year.

Even if they've never seen them, most farmers have heard of nematodes. However, the ones they know about will be the tiny, microscopic worms that chew away at plant roots. If you've ever tried to grow tomatoes in a sandy soil, you may have met with the damage caused by root-knot nematodes. For most cane farmers, the damage done by nematodes is completely unknown because we have lived with them for so long that we don't know any different.

With the advent of new DNA sequencing technology, growers will have the opportunity to learn more about the nematodes in their soil, and not just the ones that damage sugarcane roots. They will also be able to monitor the beneficial nematodes that prey on other nematodes and help supply nutrients to plants. The result will be soil health benefits that ultimately lead to improved sustainability and production in the future.

As part of a Federal Government Innovations Connections Partnership, Australian agricultural biotech company, Metagen, is teaming up with the University of Queensland (UQ) to develop cutting-edge molecular tools that can identify and count nematodes from soil samples. Working closely with eminent soil biologist and nematologist Dr Graham Stirling (Biological Crop Protection and UQ), the team is applying the latest DNA technology to assess and improve soil health.

"There are hundreds and hundreds of different kinds of nematodes," says Dr Stirling, "And they all do different things.

"You have nematodes that eat bacteria, some that eat fungi and some even eat other nematodes. In turn, they are food for many other organisms in the soil food web.

"They are essential for many aspects of nutrient cycling and nitrogen mineralisation.

"You can tell a lot about the health of a soil based on its nematode composition and by changing aspects of the farming system used, you can measure soil health improvements by monitoring the nematodes."

The presence of predatory nematodes is a bit like the presence of lions in the African savannah. If there are a lot of lions, there must be a lot of wildebeests. This means there must be enough grass to support the wildebeests, meaning that the system is productive and healthy.

In the same way, a productive, healthy soil will support higher numbers of free-living nematodes and consequently more predatory nematodes. The team is using the population of these nematodes to assess soil health.

It's possible to manually count nematodes but it takes years of expert training and there's a limit to how many samples can be processed in a day. Even then, the focus is usually just

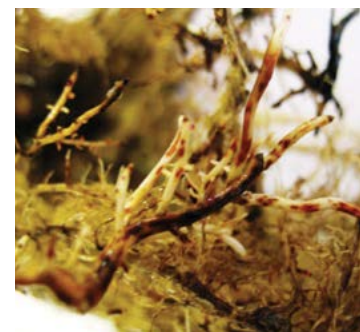
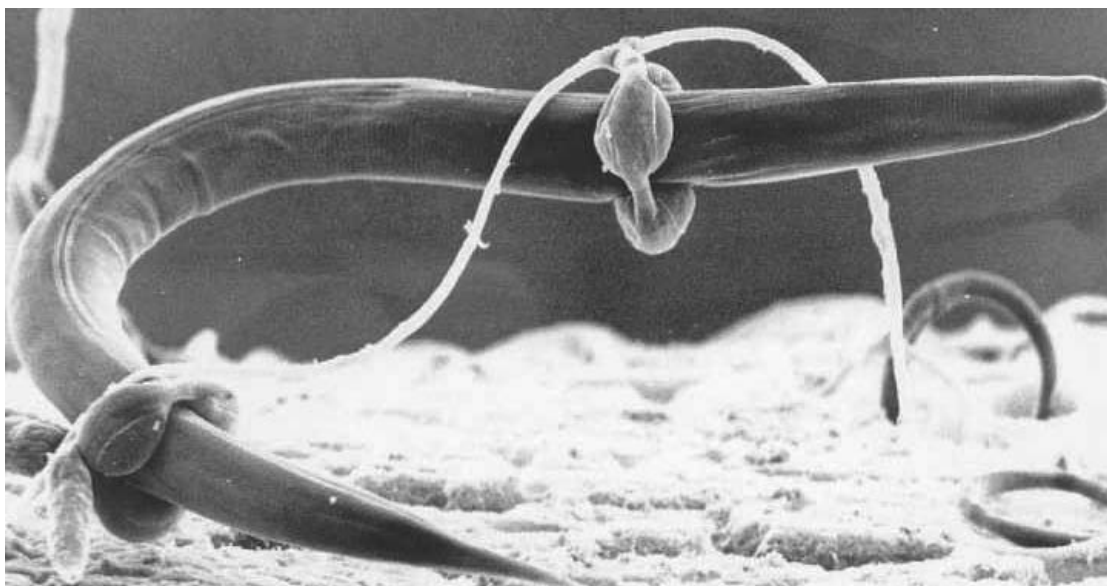
on the nematodes that attack plants. Unfortunately, the expertise required to identify and count the diverse groups of beneficial nematodes, which tell so much about soil health, is even thinner on the ground.

"We are harnessing next generation sequencing to not only identify all the nematodes in a soil sample, but also count them," says Dr Anthony Young (UQ).

The project evolved from a chance encounter at the SRA-funded Soil Health masterclasses led by Dr. Stirling in 2017 and 2018. Attending one of the sessions was Metagen founder Shane Fitzgerald.

"All of the class attendees were looking for a benchmarking system for rating soil health. Growers want to measure progress with soil health but there wasn't really any suitable assessment systems that were effective across a range of cropping systems," Shane said.





"Anthony was talking about doing something on nematodes with metagenomics, but it was knocked back for industry funding. My cousin Ken and I discussed it and I got into contact a short time later and said: 'Do you think it can be done?' We had previously done similar work with the University of Sydney but not on nematodes.

"Knowing that a reliable soil health diagnostic was a massive gap in improving farm sustainability, the Metagen leadership team approved the project to partner up with UQ."

Key to the success of the project is expert molecular biologist Dr Neil Wilson. Neil recently left the big smoke of Sydney and has taken to the country life like, well, a lesion nematode to a cane root. Based in Gatton, a short distance from the UQ Campus (itself the old Queensland Agricultural College), the team is looking to crack something that's never been achieved before.

"There are many challenges for a project like this. Different nematodes contain different amounts of DNA, and we need to model this with manual counts," Neil said. "But we believe we can do this, and if we succeed, we will be able to deliver a much-needed tool for the sugar industry."

Neil has been building a DNA database using individual nematodes specifically fished out of complex samples by Dr Stirling.

"Graham actually uses an eye-lash attached to a bamboo skewer and places

single nematodes into tiny tubes - and he thinks DNA is fiddly!" Neil joked.

The sugar industry is likely to be just one of many beneficiaries. Because the technology is not target-specific, it will be able to quantify soil health in bananas or wheat, or any other agricultural crop.

It could also be used to assess the rehabilitation of mining sites or monitor biological changes in the natural environment.

Most importantly, growers will be able to assess their farming systems year on year to see the impacts of their soil management interventions.

Dr Stirling says years of cultivation has reduced the natural fertility of Queensland's cane-growing land.

"For many years we have used aggressive tillage and fertiliser to boost our production but that has come at a cost of soil carbon and biology. Our soils are losing their natural fertility, and yet all the organisms we need are already present, if we could only manage our soils properly," he said.

"Think of a rainforest - who adds the fertiliser to that? Yet it keeps growing for thousands of years. We have to add fertiliser to our agricultural crops because we are removing nutrients when the produce is sold, but there's no reason why we can't also make use of the nutrient mineralisation systems that occur in natural ecosystems.

"If we can use this new tool to monitor the soil biology, farmers will be able to appreciate how cane can be grown at

a lower cost and in a more sustainable manner."

The extracted DNA is a fingerprint of all organisms in that soil. That means being able to study not only nematodes but earthworms, microarthropods, protozoa down to pathogens and beneficial bacteria and fungi.

These groups can be analysed with the nematodes to find other potential indicators of soil health. Chris Baldock, a Sydney University PhD candidate, is another key part of the research team. His expertise in bioinformatics and statistics will help to make sense of thousands of data points generated by the DNA sequencing.

With the collaboration already achieving promising results, it is expected a commercial molecular total soil health test based on these parameters will be available to growers in 2020.

This will not only help identify problem areas with high numbers of parasitic nematodes, but also be a decision-making tool that will help improve soil health management practices. With this technology, the Australian cane farming industry will get the competitive edge it deserves. ■

Pictured: (page 14) L-R Dr Ken Fitzgerald (Metagen) Dr Neil Wilson (Metagen) and Dr Graham Stirling (BCP and UQ). (Above - clockwise from left) electron micrograph of a nematode being trapped by fungal rings; signs of attack by root-lesion nematode; root-knot nematode galling.



Landcare lagoons benefit wildlife

By Sam Moore, Cane Changer

After more than 30 years in the business, Fishery Falls farmer Len Parisi knows a thing or two about growing sugarcane. But like all good growers, he's always eager to learn and improve, which is why he's adopting new ideas into his farming system. His latest projects have him teaming up with Landcare to expand wetlands.

If you visit the Parisi property on the banks of a creek just south of Cairns, you'll see Len's use of a trash blanketing, GPS technology, laser-levelled paddocks and fallow crops. These are just some of the many changes he's made in the past to boost his productivity while also protecting the quality of any water leaving his farm.

"We're always looking at what we can do to improve things around the property," he said. "At the moment I'm working to restore an area back to its original state of vegetation."

Len is now experimenting with natural methods to improve his productivity – working heavily with Mulgrave Landcare and Catchment Inc.

He's undertaking large-scale revegetation and tree planting on areas of his property that aren't suitable for cane.

Through Landcare, he's also built a lagoon - a swampy area to filter any nutrients that may be leaving his farm before run-off enters the waterways.

"There's been a pretty big increase in the wildlife numbers since we put in the lagoon," he said. "We've got about 40 to 50 different species of birds living here now and there's been an increase in vegetation throughout the area."

However, as Len will tell you, there's always more to do.

He has plans for a much larger lagoon on another area of his farm, a project that has been awarded funding through Greening Australia, and the first stages are about to commence.

"It's a huge project, which is currently in the middle of tenders," he said. "The lagoon I have at the moment is about half a hectare. This one is going to be much larger - about 3 or 4 hectares.

"I've got to admit, it's bigger than I thought it was going to be. It's on a massive scale that very few groups are doing."

Len also plans to introduce water quality monitoring throughout the lagoon to better understand the benefits of filtering the water leaving his property.

"There's a lot of work going into this project, and I think it's important that we have the results to show for it," he said.

"We're hoping the monitoring can highlight some of the great work happening in the industry and show how we can learn from one another and continue to identify ways to improve into the future."

"We're hoping the monitoring can highlight some of the great work happening in the industry and show how we can learn from one another and continue to identify ways to improve into the future."

With all that's happening on his property, and in the industry more broadly, it's not hard to see why he hasn't had much downtime. Snorkelling and diving on the reef near Cooktown are among his favourite hobbies and he plans to go back after the 2019 harvesting season comes to an end.

"There's often an overwhelming amount of information about the reef out there," he said. "I like to see the health of the reef firsthand and see how the changes we're making on our farms can help."

In the future, Len hopes to continue to experiment with natural methods to reduce his chemical use.

"We always try natural methods first. We have guinea grass growing on the banks of rivers that we're trying to get rid of," he said.

"Instead of spraying it, Landcare has planted trees right along the banks. These will help to stabilise the banks and reduce runoff but will also shade out the grass meaning that it won't be a problem soon."

He also hopes that he can help to further demonstrate how productivity and environmental benefits can often go hand in hand.

"I'm hoping the work with Landcare can show that you don't have to plant sugarcane everywhere," he said. "If you have an area that isn't great for growing cane or may not be economically viable, you can always consider how you can revegetate it to benefit the environment and water quality." ■



Money Matters

with Sunsuper

SUNSUPER APPOINTS NEW CEO

Sunsuper announced on 20 September that Mr Bernard Reilly had been appointed to lead the Fund through the next phase of its development and will be the fourth chief executive in its 32-year history.

Sunsuper is a profit-for-member super fund and is one of Australia's largest and fastest-growing top-10 superannuation funds with \$69 billion in funds under management.

Sunsuper Chair, Andrew Fraser, congratulated Mr Reilly on his appointment.

"Bernard is a vastly experienced executive. He has worked in leading roles both domestically and offshore, and brings breadth and acute strategic insight to the role of CEO of Sunsuper.

"The Board is confident that Bernard is a leader who will bring perspective, acumen and resolve to the stewardship of the fund."

Mr Reilly said he was excited and energised by the opportunity to lead Sunsuper.

"Since returning to Australia, I have been deliberate in looking for the right opportunity to lead in the local industry," he said.

"Sunsuper's success is clear for everyone to see. I was attracted to its aligned structure, and to the opportunity to meet and lead the challenges of change on behalf of the 1.4 million Australians who trust the Fund with their retirement savings.

"We need to keep and nurture that trust and continue to earn it every day in all that we do."

Mr Reilly will commence his new role on 8 October.

Disclaimer: This article has been prepared and issued by Sunsuper Pty Ltd, the trustee and issuer of the Sunsuper Superannuation Fund. Sunsuper Pty Ltd ABN 88 010 720 840, AFSL No. 228975, is the Trustee and issuer of the Sunsuper Superannuation Fund ABN 98 503 137 921, USI 98 503 137 921 001.

 sunsuper

THREE REASONS TO USE GENUINE DYNAPOWER PARTS

Supplied by Hydraulic Distributors

When doing hydraulic repairs on your sugarcane harvester, do you weigh up purchasing genuine or aftermarket parts?

For example, should Dynapower motors and pumps be replaced with genuine parts or will cheaper, imported products work just the same?

We've put together three reasons why genuine parts are better for you and your harvester.

Repair work is faster and simpler

Genuine parts are easy to work with; they always fit and require no 'finishing touches'. Therefore, the repair work is faster and simpler.

Genuine parts last long and are hardly ever faulty

Because genuine parts last longer and are hardly ever faulty, the testing and adjustment procedures are safer. Having parts that are hardly every faulty reduces the risk of having to re-open recently overhauled units.

Quality varies in aftermarket spares

There are numerous companies that will sell you spare parts for almost any existing brand and the quality ranges from superb to completely unacceptable.

Some aftermarket spare parts for hydraulic components even originate from the same factories that supply the genuine article and are therefore of the same quality.

In many cases however, aftermarket hydraulic parts come from niche manufacturers and their quality can vary vastly.

Likewise, the fact that you received a batch of excellent quality spares from a manufacturer or reseller one time does not guarantee that you will get the same quality in the next batch.

SOME PARTING WORDS

Going ahead with a hydraulic component repair using aftermarket or non-genuine parts without careful consideration of

all the issues involved can be a costly mistake.

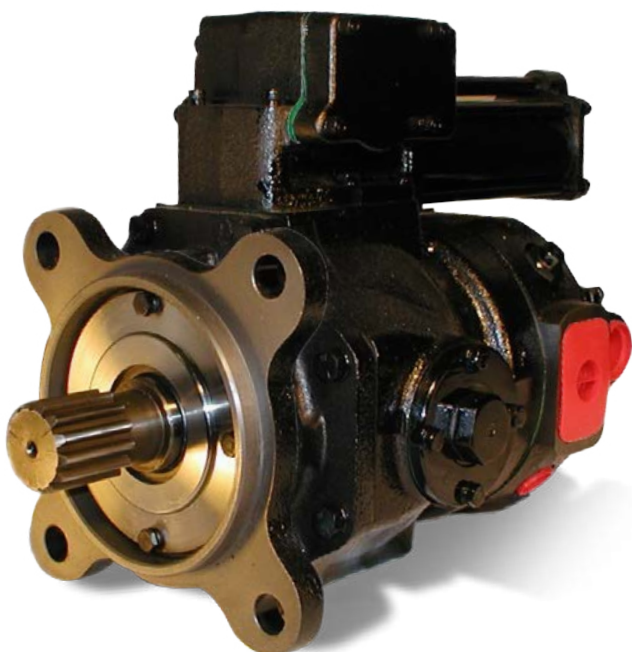
Ultimately, as a buyer you need to make an informed decision based on the amount of money the parts will save you if they live up to expectations, versus what it will cost you if they don't.

If you save \$500 now buying an aftermarket part that breaks down 50% earlier, how much will the downtime cost you in productivity while awaiting new parts and repairs?

At Hydraulic Distributors we supply genuine Dynapower motors and pumps.

With many parts already in stock, and only a one to two-week turnaround for parts that need to be ordered, your harvester will be up and running again in minimal time. ■

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Advertising feature



Notice of 2019 Annual General Meeting

9 am, TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2019

Members of Queensland Cane Growers Organisation Ltd (the Company) are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of their organisation.

The meeting will be held at:

Time: 9 am
Date: Tuesday 12 November 2019
Where: CANEGROWERS office
Level 6, 100 Edward Street
Brisbane, Queensland

BUSINESS

FINANCIAL AND OTHER REPORTS

Resolution 1

To receive and consider the Financial Report, Directors' Report and Auditor's Report for the Company and its controlled entities for the financial year ended 30 June 2019.

The financial report is available online for members only at: www.canegrowers.com.au/page/about/publications or you can contact the Company Secretary for a copy: Jodie_mittelheuser@canegrowers.com.au

Resolution 2

To receive the Annual Report of the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer on the Company activities for the financial year ended 30 June 2019.

The annual report for 2018/19 is available online now at: www.canegrowers.com.au/page/about/publications. For a hard copy, visit your local CANEGROWERS office after 21 October.

By order of the Board



Jodie Mittelheuser
Company Secretary
26 September 2019

IMPORTANT VOTING INFORMATION

For the purpose of the AGM a member is entitled to vote at the meeting and each member has the right to one vote. Any member entitled to vote at the AGM may appoint one proxy.

Rules to appoint a proxy:

- The proxy shall be a member of the Company
- The proxy form must be signed by the member or the member's attorney.
- The proxy form must be deposited at the Company's registered office at 6th Floor, 100 Edward Street Brisbane, or emailed to the Company Secretary jodie_mittelheuser@canegrowers.com.au by no later than 5pm on Friday 8 November 2019.

TURN OVER FOR PROXY FORM ►

CANEGROWERS AGM – Proxy Form

[CUT-OUT and RETURN by post or email to: jodie_mittelheuser@canegrowers.com.au]



I/We

Full Name BLOCK LETTERS

Address:

Being a member of Queensland Cane Growers Organisation Ltd and entitled to attend and vote hereby appoint:

STEP 1: APPOINT A PROXY

the Chairman of the meeting (mark box) or if you are not appointing the chairman of the meeting as your proxy, write the name of the person or body corporate you are appointing as your proxy

Full Name BLOCK LETTERS

or failing the person or body corporate named, or if no person or body corporate is named, the Chairman of the meeting, as my/our proxy to act on my/our behalf at the AGM of the Company to be held on 12 November 2019 at the office of CANEGROWERS, Level 6, 100 Edward Street Brisbane.

STEP 2: VOTING DIRECTIONS

If you want to direct your proxy how to vote, mark the appropriate box

	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN
Resolution 1: Financial Report	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Resolution 2: Annual Report	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

SIGNATURE OF MEMBER – this must be completed

Member 1 (individual)

Company Only

Company Only

Sole Director

Director/Company Secretary

Director



Policy Update

Industry with Burn Ashburner

Economics with Warren Males

Parametric Solutions

Wherever you are in the world, growing crops is something of a gamble. Farmers can never be quite sure what nature might throw at them in any given season.

In coastal Queensland, with its tropical and sub-tropical climates, the risks cane growers face include cyclones, floods, droughts and fires.

Managing these risks is considered both a public and private good. At the state level, ensuring a productive and efficient agricultural sector provides export earnings, food security, and maintains rural employment and populations. For individuals it's about ensuring the stability of family earnings, protecting assets and succession planning.

Multiperil crop insurance is one way growers can manage the risks involved with agricultural production but in Australia it can be costly.

Parametric solutions offer a more affordable, practical, flexible and sustainable alternative.

A pilot project enabling growers to purchase cover for cyclone damage is currently being funded by the Queensland Government's Drought and Climate Adaption Programme.

The project, being managed by QFF, the University of Southern Queensland and Willis Towers Watson (brokers), with input from CANEGROWERS, is based on a payout for participating growers that is triggered if a Category 3 or above cyclone passes within 50km of their farm.

This payment is not dependant on any assessment of damage and there are no restrictions how the payout is used. The payout can therefore be made quickly, often within 14 days.

While it sounds great, there is a risk that the damage incurred from the cyclone is much greater than the payout amount so the challenge is to design the parametric solution to minimise this risk.

With this in mind, the pilot is also looking at an option for a Discretionary Mutual Fund (DMF) which is effectively a collective fund whereby participating growers are members with the benefit of sharing the risk.

CANEGROWERS will continue to explore the suitability of parametric solutions for Queensland's sugarcane industry, with a view to reducing the risks faced by our members.

Bearing in mind that there is also a public good to protecting agricultural production, there may be a role for government in funding such a system. ■



It's October – Happy New Year!

October is the start of a new year for many in our industry.

Firstly, several sugar market analysts start their statistical year on 1 October. Secondly, with the ICE11 October raw sugar futures contract expiring on 30 September and a full five months before the next (March) contract expiry, 1 October is time to assess old season northern hemisphere stocks, ahead of the new harvest.

In Australia in October growers who have not selected their GEI marketer for 2020 season need do so, while those who have, re-assess their selection.

After the record amount of surplus Thai sugar delivered against the July raw sugar expiry, and the largely speculative-driven selling of the October contract that followed, many were looking to the October expiry with bated breath. It proved to be rather anti-climactic.

The smallest October delivery since 2011 was recorded and the contract expired 39 points higher. Thai surplus sugar found homes and the availability of Brazil's sugar was less than expected.

With the worst impact of the 2018-19 surpluses hopefully over, there is cause to look forward with cautious optimism.

Ahead of the new northern hemisphere harvest, smaller crops in India, Thailand and Mexico are widely expected. There are also questions over the impact of hot, dry weather on the European Union sugar beet crop. Many analysts predict that world sugar production will fall short of consumption and, for the first time in a couple of years, surplus stocks will be drawn down.

With the sugar cycle moving from surplus to a more neutral phase, the outlook for prices has improved. If the expected deficit is confirmed, the current incentive to carry sugar for future delivery will change to an incentive to draw stocks down, with the biggest price rises in the nearby positions.

Price volatility is likely to remain a feature in the changing environment so it's a good time to talk to your preferred marketer and financial adviser about the pricing options that best suit your circumstances and provide an opportunity to capture any price uplift.

Remember, making no decision about pricing is in fact making a decision that your sugar will be priced against your marketer's short-term pool.

Happy New Year!
And check out CANEGROWERS Marketing Information Service on the CANEGROWERS website. ■



Classifieds

FIRST 5 LINES FREE* FOR CANEGROWERS MEMBERS!

Book online anytime of the day or night at www.canegrowers.com.au or email us at ads@CANEGROWERS.com.au

Next deadline is **14 October 2019**.

* As a FREE service to CANEGROWERS members, *Australian Canegrower* will print suitable classified advertisements **UP TO 5 LINES FREE, FOR ONE ISSUE ONLY**. A charge of \$5.50 will apply for each extra line or part thereof. A charge will apply for advertising of non-cane growing activities. Advertisements must relate exclusively to cane farming activities, e.g. farm machinery etc. Advertisements from non-members are charged at \$11 per line incl GST. Only pre-paid ads will be accepted.

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3 point linkage offsets available also

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HBM billet planter. 4 tonne tipper bin. Toft 6000 harvester \$23,000. Ph: 0407364012.

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 <p>ROCCA ST-350 SupaTill \$25,950.00 +GST</p>	
<p>ROCCA ST-450F SupaTill (Folding) \$39,450.00 +GST</p>	

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REVOLUTIONIZING THE DISC TILLAGE INDUSTRY

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2012 John Deere 6630 Tractor. 1600 hrs. \$66,000 + GST. Home Hill. Ph: 0409481269.
Hodge 5 furrow heavy duty reversible plough. Good condition always undercover. \$1,500 inc GST. Ph: 0455213534.

Fiat F120 plus 12 ton Tully Tipper \$30,000.
Leyland Truck Tandem Drive twin steer 8 new rear tyres front 90% 29 ft. body 18 months machinery VGC no rust \$15,000. 6000lt. water tank and trailer single axel equipped for fire fighting many fire hoses has platform and underfloor storage new honda pump no rust \$15,000. All + GST. Ph: 0400730328.

Mackay-Proserpine

12T self-propelled 6x6 elev infielder. Very good condition. Ph: 0438606578 (Mackay).

6t side/tipper on Leyland tandem. Good condition. Ph: 0438606578 (Mackay).

Don Mizzi 741 model on Fiat 750 special turbo plus MF102 half-tracks to suit. Ph: 0438606578 (Mackay).

Celli Tiger spike hoe, 2.5m wide with hydraulic crumble roller and oil cooler. Very good condition. Ph: 0438606578 (Mackay).

6t side tipper Ian Ritchie, Excellent condition \$15,000 + GST. Ph: 0478719294.

2015 Case Track Harvester 8800, Trimble GPS, shedder topper, hyd. adjustable fronts 1.50m to 1.85m. Balance valve fitted to front suspension; iFit engineering chopper drums; Glenella Engineering taper locks on chopper gears; Blackey Bisalloy elevator floors; greasing system fitted; Tungsten on front shoes; floating side walls & base cutter discs. Track transporter; 2x6t side tippers; V10 Mercedes motor; Robot running gear. All in good condition. Ph: 0427617807.

2016 Case 8800 Track Machine, 2200 Hours, EHS 8 Blade Choppers, Trimble GPS, Blackey Bisalloy elevator floors, Standard Topper, 2 speed wheel motors, Pro Rata Engine Warranty. Very tidy machine. Ph: 0428182464 or 0427541030.

KUBOTA BX2670 4WD, 26hp, 187hrs, Front End Loader with GP Bucket, 60" Side Discharge Mower, 170kg Counterweight, \$19,990 Inc., Ph: 0428236165.

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Cane Brake Pusher \$100. Ph: 0457551626.
 44 x 4inch aluminium irrigation pipes, 9 metres long, with stands & sprinklers. \$60 ONO per length. Ph after 6pm: 0749545179.
 5500 litre tank on a single axel cane bin trailer \$4,500. Ph: 0458529367 or 0749598283.
 Mill Mud Applicator. High capacity 3 row. \$44,000 inc. neg. Ph: 0429600211.
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 Chisel plough (Graham Plow Yeomans) 3350 wide or 11' 2230 deep or 7'6", 11 legs (+4 spare legs) with leaf harrows \$3850. Ph: 0749595883 or 0407643441.

Bundaberg-Rocky Point

Old grey bonel 3 furrow disc plow. Criton Mark 2 Harvester with 135 Massey Ferguson Tractor attached. 2x 6000 Austoft Harvester Elevator Slews and 1 Ram. Quantity of elevator flights to suit Austoft Cane Harvesters 4000 & 6000. Hydraulic Wheel Motor to fit Austoft Cane Harvesters 4000 & 6000, as new condition. Quantity of commercial pumps and motors to suit Austoft Cane Harvester 4000, 6000 & Mark 1. Diff and Episicals to suit Austoft Harvester Mark 1 and Mark 2. Dyna Power motors and pumps. Quantity of 5 inch irrigation pipes. Topper to suit Austoft Harvesters 6000 & 7000. Ph: 0427598333.

HBM sugarcane planter used \$16,500. HBM billet planter set up for single row planting, new rear wheels, hydraulic hoses & covering discs. 3x 2 tonne custom cane tipper bins used \$33,000. Tandem rocker axles, set up for tractor with 2x rear remotes. Sugarcane harvester \$33,000. 1985 TOFT 6000 mark 4 sugarcane harvester, caterpillar 3306, 7800 Hrs, swing knife, new elevator chains, spare parts & books. All very well maintained, very GC, ready for work. Ph: 0741542356.

Temp water transfer Lower Mary System. For 19/20 water year. Up to 100 megs. Ph: 0457930627.

David Brown 990 with loader \$10,000. International 766 \$6,000. Masey Ferguson 1085 \$3,000. Whole stick planter and whole stick cutter \$1,500 for both. All prices excl. GST. Ph: 0419577110.

Wanted

International 766 to 1566 row crop tractor any condition even if not going. Ph: 0428283454.

Chamberlain 4080 in good condition with good tyres. Ph: 0418784291.

1 or 2 13.6/38 tyres. Ph: 0407364012.

Ford 6600 or 6640 - 2WD. Ph: 0439591455.

220 Komatsu engine for toft harvester, dead or alive or parts. Ph: 0749540237.

STL shares wanted. Genuine grower. Ph: 0419717006.

Case 8950 Magnum Tractor, any condition considered. Ph: 0418182067.

Property

Pleystowe cane farm. On 2 Lots. Approx 190 acres all up. Teemburra water, 2 pumps & licences, plus 32,000 gallons an hour underground bore. Machinery/irrigation shed. 2x 4" soft hose irrigators, farm lasered, underground main throughout. 2 sidings adjoin farms. Access to farm from Pleystowe School Rd & Formosa's Rd. Does not include 2019 crop. Ph: 0408733793.

Cane farm Crystalbrook Proserpine. 154 hectares with 350ML of water allocation from River. Lateral move irrigator. 122.1 hectares currently developed for cane. Ph: 0427678572.

Rainfall Report

brought to you by Sunsuper

Location	Recorded rainfall (mm)		Year to date	Average rainfall (mm)
	7 days to 9am			January-Sep
	23.09.19	30.09.19		
Mossman	0	0	2493	1834
Mareeba AP	0	0	634	736
Cairns	0	0	1898	1689
Mt Sophia	0	1	2741	2800
Babinda	0	0	2579	3641
Innisfail	0	7	2899	3052
Tully	0	2	2243	3548
Cardwell	0	0	1934	1754
Lucinda	0	0	2251	1790
Ingham	0	0	2649	1671
Abergowrie	0	0	1903	1522
Townsville	0	0	1756	908
Ayr DPI	0	0	948	752
Proserpine	0	0	1394	1098
Mirani	0	0	1389	1211
Mackay	0	0	1051	1256
Sarina (Plane Ck)	0	0	1303	1368
Bundaberg	0	0	252	722
Childers South	0	4	265	618
Maryborough	0	0.6	446	865
Tewantin	0	7	800	1334
Eumundi	0	0	506	1288
Nambour	0	1	841	1270
Woongoolba	0	1	557	1006
Murwillumbah	0	2	495	1196
Ballina	1	1	861	1411
Woodburn	0	0	261	1088



dream with your eyes open

Zero indicates either no rain or no report was sent. These rainfall figures are subject to verification and may be updated later. Weather forecasts, radar and satellite images and other information for the farming community can be accessed on www.bom.gov.au. Weather report provided by the Bureau of Meteorology's Commercial Weather Services Unit.

Classifieds

Cane farm Mulgrave Valley. 35 kms South of Cairns. 209 Acres Total. Approx 170 Acres cane area. Ph: Steve 0410600247.

Cane farm Mulgrave Valley. 40 kms South of Cairns. 185 Acres Total. Approx 100 Acres under cane. Ph: Steve 0410600247.

Cane farm, Silkwood area. 27.82 ha total, 27.62 under cane on 1 freehold title. 5 yr av 97 t/ha. 7.5 kms from Kurrimine Beach. Shed and bore water. Ph: 0417647002.

Cane farm Tarakan Road ABERGOWRIE 270 acres freehold Genuine enquiries pls. Ph: 0747774633 or 0408608664.

Tropical Paradise Cane Farm/Equestrian Training Property, 96 acres 6klms to PORT DOUGLAS. All farmable land, 70 acres producing quality cane, 25 acres set up for horses. Easy farm to maintain. Ph: Mandy 0408880724.

GLEN ISLA Cane Farms - Tightly Held Area. Approx* 334.82 acres in 8 FH titles with fertile alluvial soils. 2 equip irrig bores, mains & hydrants, 190ML allocation. Queenslander style home. Motivated Vendors looking to retire. Currently under contract. Ph: Gary Johns 0427241250.

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DESIGNED FOR AUSTRALIAN CONDITIONS

**4 & 6
ROW**
CONFIGURATIONS
AVAILABLE



Now available with
'Spider' spray head



The Silvan Cane Boom is designed specifically for Australian cane growers. It incorporates choice of standard or shielded spray heads and air induced nozzles to minimise spray drift.

The fully galvanised 4 or 6 row boom comes standard with a hydraulic twin folding ram mechanism and adjustable tracking arms.

- Available with 600, 800 or 1100 Litre tank capacity
- 50mm Camlock bottom fill and venturi chemical suction probe (1100 Litre only)
- Choice of manual, electric or automatic rate control
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