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MEMBERS INFORMATION FORUM

Over 50 delegates attended the Member Information Forum and BBQ held at Canegrowers Hall Home Hill yesterday.

Guest speakers included:

Mayor Bill Lewis provided an overview of the various activities the Council is undertaking and of the key areas of focus for the council moving forward. Several members took the opportunity to quiz Bill in regard to what is felt to be Council's unfair treatment of cane farmers in regard to general rates.

Gary Halliday. Gary's role has recently changed and he has now taken on the role of Cane BMP Facilitation Officer. Gary provided an overview of where things are at in regard to the Cane BMP. It was also explained that with the breakaway of the Invicta Collective and the negative impact this has had on CBL's revenue (decrease of approximately \$200k) that CBL can no longer offer the services Gary previously provided. Members may recall that we had endeavoured to establish a "Harvester Association" with the goal of retaining what we felt were very valuable services previously provided by Gary.



Wayne Smith, Russell Jordan, Arthur Woods, Craig Doyle, Debra Burden, Gary Halliday & John Pratt at the Members Information Forum

BREAKING NEWS

Reef Rescue Announcement

- The Rudd Labor Government has announced \$137.3 million of project funding.
- The funding includes \$61 million over 3 years for Water Quality Grants and \$3 million over five years for Water Quality Partnership Grants.
- Reef Catchments \$7.5M, NQ Dry Tropics \$15M, Terrain \$16.5M, BMRG \$4.5M
- QCGO received \$750,000 for its project to provide coordination of extension, training, innovation and R&D in the sugarcane industry.

The idea being that the cost of these services would be paid for by Harvester and Haulout Contractors as it was felt that this group most benefited from the services provided. Unfortunately this proposal did not receive sufficient support to make it viable. Gary is contactable on 0438 747 596.

Mark Whitten, Burdekin Account Manager for Ravensdown. Mark provided an overview of the 6 easy steps to Ravensdown. All growers were encouraged to assist with "Retaining Ravensdown in the Burdekin" by buying at least some of their fertiliser from Ravensdown. The fact that Ravensdown has exited the WA and SA market was discussed. As was the fact that fertiliser increased by \$90 per tonne when Ravensdown exited the Rocky Point market. Mark is contactable on 0408 965 123.

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IMPORTANT REMINDER UNFILLED TARGET PRICE ORDERS

The upcoming deadline to have your Target Price order/s filled is drawing near. The last day to achieve a price for any unfilled order/s is the 16th September 2013.

Should you not achieve a price for any order by the 16th September, Wilmar will price these on your behalf at the prevailing market price the next business day (17th September).

If you have any questions regarding unfilled orders or need further assistance please contact either Michelle or Wayne at the CANEGROWERS Burdekin or Richard McGuire or Neil Cawthorne at Wilmar.



COURT GREEN LIGHTS CHANGES TO PROPOSED ETHANOL PLANT

The Planning and Environment Court has accepted changes made to a proposal to build an ethanol processing plant in north Queensland.

Austcane is planning to process one million tonnes of sugarcane each year to produce the ethanol.

The company had lodged a proposal with the Planning Department to build the plant in the Burdekin.

Since it was lodged, Austcane has made several minor adjustments to the plan, including changes to landscaping and vehicle access.

The changes were opposed by Australia's largest sugar producer, Wilmar, which was seeking leave to appeal against the amendments in the Planning and Environment Court.

However, the court found the changes are not substantive and are mainly operational.

It rejected Wilmar's application.

*The above report was from the ABC News

Join us on



@BurdekinCANE

MEMBERS INFORMATION FORUM CONTINUED

Merv Pyott provided an overview of the Barratta Creek project that is being undertaken by Wetlandcare Australia. Merv particularly asked growers to let him know if they are aware of any "corridors" in the Barratta region that would be suitable for the project. Merv is contactable on 0477 912 274.



Gerry MacManus and Steve Attard gave a detailed overview of the new BBIFMAC project that is focused on "Energy Efficiency Gains of Australian Irrigators". Gerry will shortly be seeking 220 growers to undertake a high level assessment of the energy used on their farm. Gerry is contactable on 0417 429 586.

Carla Keith from QSL spoke about the fact that every 1 cent change in the Australian Dollar equates to approximately a \$4 change in the price of sugar. Carla is contactable on 0409 372 305.

Davey Olsen from SRA provided attendees with an update on the research being undertaken by SRA into Yellow Leaf Syndrome. Davey is contactable on 0478 142 630.



Pictured Top: Steve Attard, Middle: Davey Olsen, Bottom: Mayor Bill Lewis

continues page 3

MEMBERS INFORMATION FORUM CONTINUED

Craig Doyle provided his final update on Wilmar advising that he was pleased the mills were going so well at the time of his departure. Craig also stressed that Mr Kuok must be happy with the direction being taken in Australia and hence the internal promotions in reference to John Pratt's promotion to the role of Executive General Manager and a further internal promotion of Paul Giordani into the role of GM Cane Supply and Customer Relations (the role previously held by John).

Craig spoke to the following information (presentation attached):



Craig Doyle
with CBL
Chairman
Phil Marano

Season to date as at 25 Aug,2013				
Criteria	Inkerman	Kalamia	Pioneer	Invicta
Estimated final crop (tonnes)	1,653,000	1,477,000	1,573,000	2,597,000
Season to date crushed (tonnes)	1,010,118	855,457	966,245	1,615,762
Completed (%)	61	58	61	62
Likely finish date with no rain	17 Oct	25 Oct	16 Oct	14 Oct
Cane Purity (%)	86.42	86.76	86.89	86.61
CCS (%)	14.12	14.07	14.20	14.06
Sugar (tonnes)	148,028	125,279	141,040	230,151
Fibre (%)	15.01	15.61	14.88	14.95
Crush rate (tonnes per hour)	562	481	534	975
Hours lost not due to factory breakdown	1	12	4	18
Planned factory lost time (hours)	121	127	71	235
Reliability (%)	91.3	91.1	92.4	85
Estimated final crop			7,300,000	
Total cane crushed as at 25 th August, 2013			4,445,345	
Completed (%)			61	
Average weekly throughput			385,000	
Wet weather impacts			Basically zero	
Weeks remaining if no rain			8	
Mud levels lowest since 2009 and fibre levels also lowest for several years				
Factory reliability and crush rates have improved again on last year’s performance and previous years gains.				

United we stand: strength in solidarity

When CANEGROWERS speaks, it represents over three quarters of Australia's sugarcane growers. Our membership of 80% is the highest of any agricultural lobby in Australia. This wall of solidarity is the envy of agriculture. This gives CANEGROWERS a voice which packs a powerful punch.

Whether it's government, business leaders, the community, media or the industry – here or abroad – when CANEGROWERS speaks, people sit up and listen.

UPDATE ON WILMAR'S PROPOSAL TO MARKET GROWERS ECONOMIC INTEREST IN RAW SUGAR

Members may be aware (refer to the 24th May edition of *canenews*) that *Wilmar Sugar Australia* has been engaging with all collectives and large growers to ascertain if there is support for a concept they have proposed whereby *Wilmar Sugar Singapore* (a privately owned company) would provide an option for growers to nominate a percentage of raw sugar that *Wilmar Sugar Singapore* would market rather than QSL.

QSL have already reached an agreement with Wilmar whereby Wilmar has the right to market the sugar that they have an economic interest in ...this represents approximately 40% of the raw sugar from the mills owned by Wilmar (33% of all of the raw sugar plus the raw sugar produced from the farms owned by Wilmar).

Wilmar are now seeking the ability to market growers' economic interest raw sugar in addition to the 40% already agreed to.

The proposal Wilmar currently has put forward is that they would offer growers a small amount (30 cents per tonne of cane) above the "Shared Pool Element" achieved by QSL.

Your Board and Management team have dedicated considerable time and effort in evaluating the regularly changing proposals that have been put forward. We are very aware that any change of this nature would weaken QSL and could lead to the end of QSL completely. We are also of the view that the small amount offered (30 cents per tonne of cane) above the QSL "Shared Pool" would in-fact prove to be worthless in the event the value of the "Shared Pool" falls.

In June, CANEGROWERS Qld engaged Green Pool to prepare an independent report to assist in considerations on this important topic.

On 15 August, CBL met with QSL as part of QSL's road show to gain feedback from all collectives on the Wilmar proposal. QSL have provided the following summary of the consistent themes raised:

- The response to the proposed change put forward by Wilmar to the marketing system is an issue that all grower groups see as important to work on together
- A desire to improve growers' knowledge of the system, including QSL's role, so that Wilmar's offer and impacts could be better assessed and

understood.

- Growers are interested in the potential negative impacts 'Wilmar's' offer' could have on QSL and the industry
- Growers would like clarity on QSL's ability to manage and maintain a sustainable benchmark and the minimum tonnes QSL would need through the RSSA to ensure growers weren't worse off
- Growers value QSL's independence and transparency whereby all profits are returned to the members. Ensuring an equitable and transparent system is extremely important to growers
- Growers are seeking security of payments now and into the future
- Growers are seeking ownership of sugar, a direct relationship with QSL and an ability to price directly with QSL
- There is concern about QSL's stability and its ability to attract and retain key staff
- Recognition that QSL plays a valuable role for the industry
- Positive feedback for the Industry Relationship Managers and the work

Going forward the next steps on this important matter include:

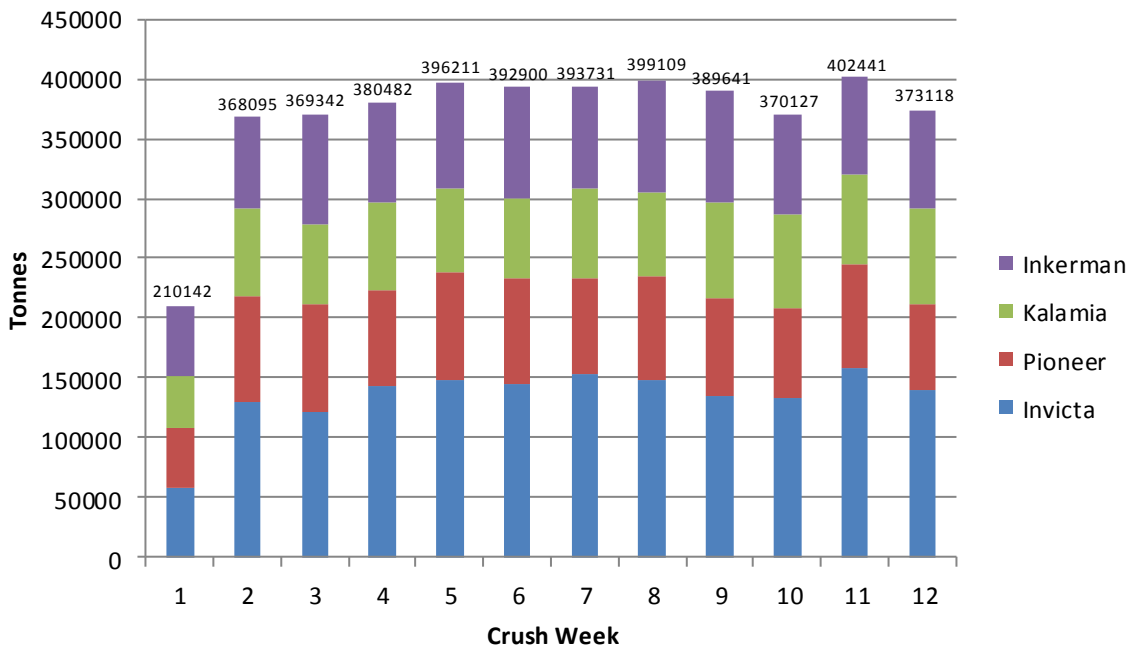
1. The CANEGROWERS Qld Board will review the Green Pool report at their September board meeting. This report will be shared with CBL and the other CANEGROWERS companies after this Board meeting
2. We have obtained approval from CANEGROWERS Qld to share this report with the other four collectives in the Burdekin to assist them in their consideration of this important matter
3. CBL will consider this independent report with our fellow CANEGROWERS companies
4. On 10th September we, and the other relevant CANEGROWERS companies, will meet with Jean-Luc Bohbot and David Burgess of Wilmar again to consider the proposal.

We will keep growers informed as more information comes to hand.

In the mean time we welcome your thoughts on this important matter please contact Debra or Wayne or any of our Directors (contact details are on page 16 of *canenews*).

2013 SEASON CRUSHING STATISTICS

Burdekin Tonnes Cut Per Week



CROP CRUSHED TO DATE

2013
estimate
7,440,000

4,445,342
tonnes

60%

Week 12 - as at 24/08/2013

PAYROLL & HR UPDATE BY TIFFANY PALMER



Have you considered using CANEGROWERS Payroll Services?
See below the cost of using our service based on either one
or two employees, employed for the entire year:

Cost per annum	1 Employee	2 Employees
Monthly Fee	\$264.00	\$264.00
Payslip Fee (paid fortnightly for 12 mths)	\$228.80	\$457.60
PAYG Summary (Group Certificates)	\$ 8.80	\$ 17.60
Total Cost	\$501.60	\$739.20
Members Discount 50%	\$250.80	\$369.60

That is just \$1 a day for a member with two employees!

For more information on the payroll service I can be
contacted by phone on 47903601 or email
tiffany_palmer@canegrowers.com.au

Wilmar Sugar Australia Limited



Announcement

Wilmar is pleased to announce that Paul Giordani has been promoted to the position of **General Manager, Cane Supply and Grower Relations**. Paul will replace John Pratt, who is assuming the position of Executive General Manager, North Queensland.

Paul will commence in the new role on 15 October 2013, and will report directly to John Pratt.

Paul brings a wealth of experience to this role, having been with the Company since 1981, when he first started as a graduate. Over this time, Paul has worked in a range of cane supply and transport roles and locations, gaining broad experience across the cane supply function.

Over the next two months, Paul and John will be working closely together handing over the responsibilities of the role. Paul's move will trigger other changes; however in the interim our full attention will be focused on the remainder of the crush to ensure that we continue to fulfil our operational requirements.

Further announcements regarding resultant changes will be made when the crushing season has concluded.

Please join with me in congratulating Paul on his promotion.

Craig Doyle
Executive General Manager and Group Technical Head Sugar.

23rd August 2013

CANEGROWERS ENGAGES WITH THE QUEENSLAND PLAN

The *Queensland Plan* has been designed to develop a shared vision for the next 30 years and identify local and statewide priorities. The Plan will be used to guide future activities delivered by all levels of government, business and the community.

CANEGROWERS has made a submission on behalf of the sugarcane industry, responding to six questions designed at a forum in Mackay in May. The CANEGROWERS response ensures that the collective voice of sugarcane farmers across Queensland is heard.

The themes of the CANEGROWERS response are:

1. As the largest agricultural crop by volume and value, the sugarcane industry is a corner-stone of the Queensland economy and society.
2. All Queenslanders should be proud of our world-leading sugarcane industry and the positive contribution it makes to communities in regional Queensland.
3. The future of the sugarcane industry in Queensland requires certainty about a profitable future, to encourage reinvestment and to attract the next generation of sugarcane farmers.

The CANEGROWERS response to the six questions is below. More information on the Queensland Plan can be found on the following website: <http://queenslandplan.qld.gov.au/>

1. ***In the context of living in the community, how do we move our focus from me to we?***

For generations, CANEGROWERS has been effective at promoting the interests of the sugarcane industry, not simply the interests of individual growers. The structure of CANEGROWERS has been key to its success in promoting the collective good of the sugarcane industry.

Clear, concise and honest communication between CANEGROWERS directors and staff with sugarcane growers ensures that all industry participants are always up-to-date with the latest issues and how they impact the industry. By keeping our members informed, they are able to come together on key issues that impact the industry, develop a consensus position and act as one industry voice – in the interests of the whole industry.

Governments can build opportunities off our model. By supporting projects and organisations that bring communities together – schools, community centres, sporting activities, health centres, chambers of commerce and representative organisations like CANEGROWERS – individuals in a community will work together for the common benefit of the groups they represent.

Connectedness is also important. CANEGROWERS is continually seeking opinions of sugarcane growers and including them in key policy discussions and processes. Governments could do this too, by having greater regional consultation for policy development and listening to and learning from the people most impacted by government policies.

2. ***How do we create and foster an education culture that teaches skills and values to meet global challenges and optimise regional strengths?***

The Government has a role in fostering an education culture, and needs to focus on recognising and optimising our regional strengths – by teaching skills to meet global challenges. For the sugarcane industry, this means three things.

Primarily, it means that Governments need to recognise the important role agriculture contributes to the economic and social fabric of our state. Queensland's farmers are amongst the most environmentally sustainable in the world and are the only farmers in the world to operate in the world market without subsidies or trade protections. In many towns, sugarcane is the only source of income and employment. The sugarcane industry is one of the strengths of the Queensland economy.

Queenslanders (including Governments) should be proud of our sugarcane industry. Governments need to focus on fostering an education culture that ensures people are encouraged to participate in agriculture and to be the next generation of farmers, not to deride farmers as environmental vandals.

Finally, Government needs to ensure all efforts are made to ensure the sugarcane industry goes from strength-to-strength. This would entail repealing punitive environmental regulations, improved public research into the economic and environmental sustainability of the sugarcane industry, and support for expansion of agricultural production area.

3. ***How do we empower and educate individuals, communities and institutions to embrace responsibility for an active and healthy lifestyle?***

As a community, education and awareness can be provided to help empower individuals to embrace responsibility for their own health. This includes accurate, scientific information about how to maintain a balanced diet.

The global sugar industry has come under attack in recent times, by a concerted effort to discredit the nutritional value of sugar in a balanced diet. This information is deceptive and misleading. Picking on a single food and demonising it is not a pragmatic or informed approach. Health professionals and public health groups describe it as simply unhelpful.

THE QUEENSLAND PLAN CONTINUED

Nutritionists, doctors and even the head of Diabetes Australia have come out strongly saying sugar consumption in Australia is actually on the decline – a drop of 23% since 1980 – however obesity has doubled and diabetes has tripled in this time. This does not support a correlation between sugar and obesity in Australia.

Sugar is a carbohydrate. It is a natural sweetener, and used within the dietary guidelines, is a source of energy within a healthy diet. It's about energy-in and energy-out.

For a state full of healthy people, the focus needs to be brought back to science – which still firmly supports a balance diet and exercise regime.

4. ***How do we structure our economy to ensure our children inherit a resilient future?***

To ensure our children inherit a resilient future, government needs to be the enabler, not the disabler. Governments need to promote business activity and opportunities across all sectors of the economy, not deny industries opportunities to realise their potential. Only through a robust economy can our children inherit a resilient future.

In Queensland, the sugarcane industry is a good case study. Since the 1870s, Queensland Governments have supported the growth and development of the sugarcane industry, to the point where it became the primary driver of economic growth in Queensland and the lifeblood of coastal Queensland. Governments helped the sugarcane industry realise its potential and Queensland prospered.

Over time, regulations have become punitive and designed to restrict economic activity. Regulations like Reef Regulations and the Vegetation Management Act have sent the sugarcane industry into decline – not only impacting on sugarcane growers, but the regional towns and the broader economy that relies on income from sugar exports.

For the sugarcane industry to expand and reach its current potential of doubling or tripling production, Governments must again support the development of the sugarcane industry to realise its potential, so children in regional Queensland can inherit a resilient economy for the future.

5. ***How do we strengthen our economic future and achieve sustainable landscapes?***

A strong economy is the key to achieving sustainable landscapes. Farmers are the natural stewards of our natural land and water assets. It is in farmers' collective interests to ensure that land remains productive and waterways remain healthy, because they are the source of farm income.

Farmers and land managers in the sugarcane industry regularly undertake environmental works to reduce the impact of their agricultural activities and to improve the biodiversity values and resilience of their surrounding environs. These works are almost exclusively conducted on private land, with private money, for public good. These environmental works can only be undertaken if farmers can afford to undertake environmental engineering – a difficulty considering red tape & rising input costs like electricity and water.

Farm profitability is not exclusive to environmental sustainability. The sugarcane industry is putting in programs to strengthen its own future, at the same time as achieving environmental sustainability. The Cane Best Management Program is designed to focus on cutting edge RD&E to promote framing practices that improve profitability, productivity and environmental sustainability.

Governments also have a role to invest in the roads, rail lines, ports and water storage and distribution facilities to encourage sustainable development, to strengthen our economic future.

6. ***How do we attract and retain the brightest minds and ideas where they are most needed and capitalise on global opportunities?***

Global demographic change has created a unique opportunity for Queensland. Sugar consumption around the world will increase by 53% between 2010 and 2030 to 257 million tonnes. As the largest agricultural crop in Queensland and the third largest exporter of raw sugar in the world, this is an opportunity we cannot afford to miss.

It will be difficult for the sugarcane industry to realise its full potential (twice or thrice current production levels) in Queensland without attracting the best and brightest in the industry. This issue is compounded by an ageing workforce and a severe shortage of younger farmers – despite the sugarcane industry offering real learning experiences and career opportunities for a range of skills.

The biggest challenge facing recruitment and retention in the sugarcane industry is low profitability of agricultural commodities, especially compared to the mining industry. Governments have a very large role to play in ensuring our agricultural industries are profitable and productive, by removing regulation and containing government fees and charges (including rates, electricity and water).

If the sugarcane industry is profitable now and into the future, the brightest minds can be attracted to and retained within the industry – this is the key to success in sugarcane.



QSL UPDATE BY CARLA KEITH

QSL was formed by the Queensland sugar industry, for the Queensland sugar industry and exists to serve the needs of its members and to optimise the value of the Queensland sugar industry for all participants; growers and millers. Queensland's sugar industry is evolving and developing and it is essential that QSL adapts and grows with these changes to provide flexible marketing options and maximise returns for our members. Industry support has been received and changes are underway to RSSAs providing millers the option to sell their economic interest sugar only.

However, further discussions are continuing in the industry about future changes and this is demonstrated by Wilmar's proposed Grower Choice model. This proposes to provide choice to growers who supply directly to Wilmar about who sells their sugar; QSL or Wilmar.

QSL believes that significant value comes from keeping Queensland's raw sugar exports together and moving it through QSL value offerings (financing, pricing, marketing and logistics) to maximise revenue and minimise costs. QSL recognises that selling (marketing) is just one component of the total value offerings it provides as part of its end-to-end supply chain and Wilmar's involvement in the RSSA brings significant benefits. It is clear Wilmar's proposal is a highly emotive topic within the industry and there has been plenty of discussion between our grower and miller members.

Importantly, QSL is owned by its members and any decision about QSL's future marketing model will be made by the

industry. Please note that QSL cannot make any changes to RSSAs without support from our grower and miller members. We will continue to encourage and facilitate robust discussion within the industry to assess all potential outcomes but QSL will play an impartial role. To-date no decision has been made by the industry regarding Wilmar's proposal. Ultimately, the decision is in the hands of our members.

2013 Pool Performance

Growers can monitor and track the performance of QSL's pricing pools via the Price Pool Matrices, published on our website (www.qsl.com.au). This information is updated regularly and is all about giving growers a sense of how the QSL-managed pools are performing over the current season. The prices given are in Gross \$A dollars/ IPS tonnes and don't include a firm shared pool allocation and are current as at 16.08.13.

	2013 Gross
QSL Harvest Pool	\$393
QSL Discretionary Pool	\$395
QSL Actively Managed Pool	\$404
QSL Guaranteed Floor Pool	\$392
QSL US Quota Pool	\$471
QSL 2013 Season Forward Pool	\$428
QSL 2014 Season Forward Pool	\$413






















MARKET OVERVIEW BY QSL TREASURER STEPHEN STONE

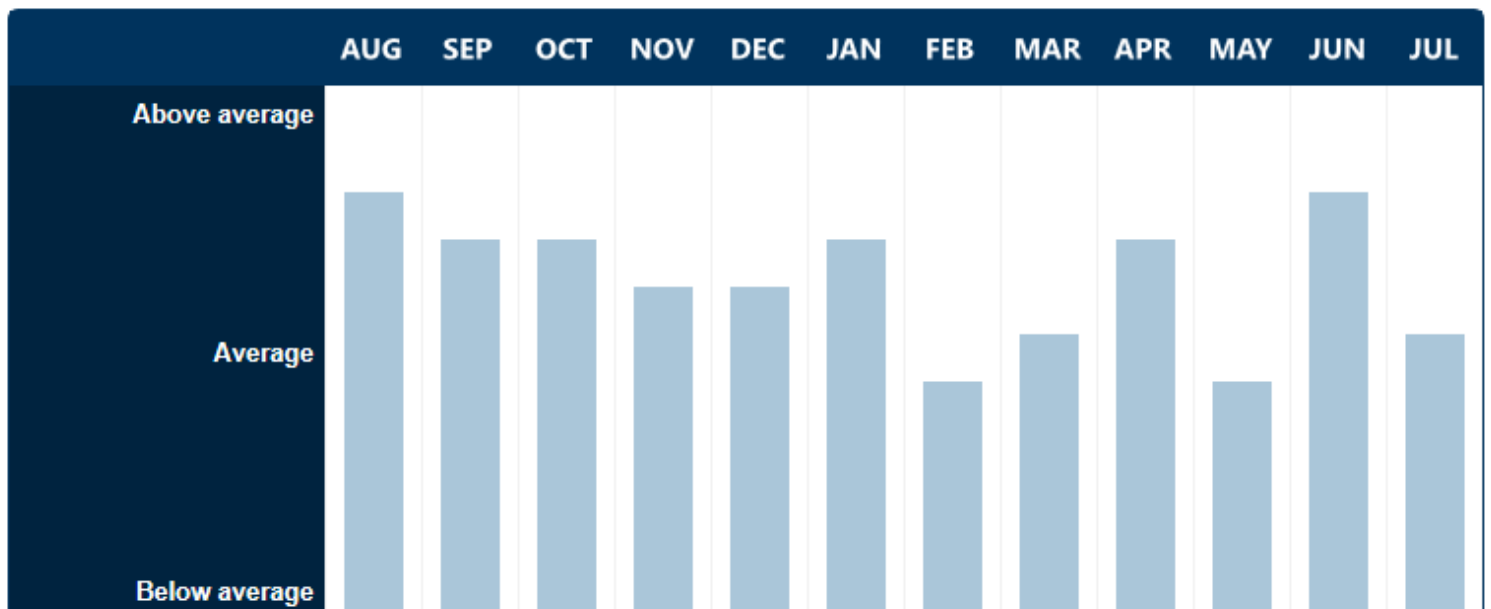
Some key factors currently influencing world raw sugar prices:

- A global surplus of sugar continues to weigh on the market but sentiment is returning to a more neutral position (i.e. less bearish).
- The tapering of Quantitative Easing in the US is having a significant effect on markets; with less liquidity, all of the emerging markets (bond, equity & currency) are being hit.
 - This has been driving Brazilian, Indian and Thai currencies down, effectively lowering the cost of production in these large sugar producing countries.
 - Weaker local currency means it becomes more attractive for producers in these countries to hedge current and future production (priced in US dollars).
 - It has also made it more attractive for these countries to export sugar that may have been stockpiled or intended for the domestic market.
- The Australian currency remains within the 92-89 cents range to the US dollar but has come under pressure by the current instability in emerging markets.
- This instability has been caused by capital "upflow" from emerging markets as concerns remain that the US Federal Reserve plans to reduce its purchase of bonds as soon as September 2013.
- We expect to see a continued weakening of the Aussie dollar into 2014.
- In the absence of weather events, sugar prices are expected to remain under pressure during the rest of 2013 and we expect to see raw sugar prices trading in a range of 15 -17c/lb.
- Prices are expected to remain towards the lower end of this range if Brazil's harvest progresses well, but could move upwards for short periods if there are interruptions to the harvest.

CANEGROWERS WEATHER UPDATE

Did you know the CANEGROWERS website has a section dedicated to weather? When you log onto the website there is a weather tab at the end of the header bar. Click on this, enter your postcode and the weeks forecast for your area will be displayed. The forecast for **Home Hill** is represented below.

	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU							
Summary														
	Fine, mostly sunny.	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly sunny	Late shower	Late shower	Possible shower							
Minimum	14°	15°	16°	15°	15°	16°	15°							
Maximum	28°	28°	29°	29°	28°	28°	27°							
Chance of rain	10%	5%	10%	30%	50%	80%	90%							
Likely amount	< 1mm	< 1mm	< 1mm	< 1mm	< 1mm	< 1mm	1-5mm							
Frost risk	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil							
Wind speed	9am 22 km/h	3pm 23 km/h	9am 23 km/h	3pm 26 km/h	9am 25 km/h	3pm 26 km/h	9am 27 km/h	3pm 32 km/h	9am 34 km/h	3pm 33 km/h	9am 36 km/h	3pm 36 km/h	9am 32 km/h	3pm 31 km/h
	ESE 	E 	E 	E 	ESE 	E 	ESE 	E 	E 	E 	E 	E 	E 	E 
Wind direction														
Relative humidity	60%	55%	60%	56%	59%	53%	61%	54%	58%	58%	58%	56%	56%	56%
Dew point	15°C	15°C	15°C	15°C	15°C	15°C	16°C	15°C	14°C	14°C	14°C	14°C	14°C	14°C



CLASSIFIEDS

Wanted to Buy

Spray Boom 6 Row with Irvin Legs
Phone Dan 0419 718 560

How you can help us help you

Please supply details of your Profit and Loss reports for the past 5 years to help show the government the impact of electricity price increase and the local council the impact of the increase of general rates.

All information remains confidential, all identifying details will be removed from documents

DATES TO REMEMBER

2 September

BPS Field Walk
2.00pm
@ Mona Park

7 September

Federal Election Voting

21 November

CANEGROWERS Burdekin AGM
CANEGROWERS Hall, Home Hill



COURTS COMMERCIAL TAVERN

2013

106th

Burdekin Water Festival

Street Parade & Mardi Gras
Queen Street Ayr
7th Sept from 5pm

colourful floats
art exhibition
Classic Cars
Food Stalls
Novelty Stalls
Fashion Parade
Kids Rides
WEARABLE ART Competition
LIVE MUSIC & Entertainment
Street Performers

www.burdekinwaterfestival.com.au

Thank you to our Major Sponsors

wilmar SunWater advocate Queensland Government Burdekin Shire Council Ribbon

Great Family Fun!

sra

Sugar Research
Australia

The Professional Extension and
Communication Unit

Email Alert

Changes to Biosecurity in the Australian sugarcane industry

Sugarcane plant material (stalks and leaves) or machinery that has been in contact with a sugarcane plant, or soil on which a sugarcane plant is or has been growing must have an Inspector's Approval to move between pest quarantine areas.

In the past Inspector Approvals were managed by BSES.

If you need to move a machine between pest quarantine areas you should contact your nearest Plant Protection Act Inspector.

In most areas some Productivity Service staff have been appointed Inspectors by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Queensland (DAFFQ) for the inspection of machinery.

For approval to move sugarcane plants between pest quarantine areas or for further information visit the DAFFQ website www.daff.qld.gov.au or call 13 25 23.

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Email sra@sugarresearch.com.au

Web sugarresearch.com.au

<http://www.bses.com.au/page/library/videos>

If you wish to place a classified, email

bdk@canegrowers.com.au

PRICING INFORMATION

2013 Season Advances & Payments as at 2 August 2013

	<u>\$/tonne IPS</u>	<u>% estimated return</u>
Initial *	\$219	
22 August 13	\$235	
26 September 13	\$244	
24 October 13	\$254	
21 November 13	\$264	
19 December 13	\$274	
23 January 14	\$277	72.5%
20 February 14	\$286	75%
20 March 14	\$306	80%
24 April 14	\$325	85%
22 May 14	\$344	90%
26 June 14	\$363	95%
Final Payment	\$382	100%

* paid
+ scheduled

The Advance Program is a guide only. CANEGROWERS Burdekin takes no responsibility for its accuracy. It only applies to growers who did not forward price for 2013 (the default method). Growers who have forward priced for 2013 will be paid the same percentage of their final expected proceeds. For individual advance rates check your grower forecast on the Wilmar website.

Wilmar Indicative Future Sugar Prices as at 29 August 2013

	<u>Gross</u>	<u>Net</u>
2013 Season	\$409	\$385
2014 Season	\$432	\$408
2015 Season	\$451	\$427

Estimated QSL Pool Prices As at 16 August 2013

	<u>\$/Tonne IPS GROSS</u>
QSL Harvest Pool	\$393
QSL Discretionary Pool	\$395
QSL Actively Managed Pool	\$404
QSL Guaranteed Floor Pool	\$392
QSL US Quota Pool	\$471
QSL 2013 Season Forward Pool	\$428
QSL 2014 Season Forward Pool	\$413

See www.qslcom.au for more information

Weekly production figures

Wilmar Sugar Burdekin Mills Week 12, ending 24 August 2013

Cane crushed	This week	Season to date
Invicta	140,098	1,615,439
Pioneer	70,965	966,245
Kalamia	80,098	853,483
Inkerman	81,957	1,010,175
Total	373,118	4,445,342

CCS	This week	Season to date
Invicta	15.21	14.02
Pioneer	15.13	14.21
Kalamia	14.96	14.05
Inkerman	15.25	14.10
Burdekin	15.15	14.08

Cane variety performance for region

Variety	%	CCS	Variety	%	CCS
KQ228	34	15.48	Q183	35	15.15
Q208	24	14.77	Q133	<1	14.67
Q200	3	15.00	Tellus	1	14.99
Q171	1	15.16			

Comments:

A total of 373,118 tonnes of cane was crushed last week.

A number of milestones were achieved last week. Inkerman Mill crushed one million tonnes of cane for the season. The district average weekly CCS was also above 15 for the first time this year.

In the coming week, Inkerman Mill will have a planned maintenance stop.

We ask the public to take care as they approach all cane rail crossings. Our cane trains operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Paul Giordani
Cane Supply Manager
Burdekin Region



Queensland Farmers' Federation—Update

LABOR TO MATCH GROWER FUNDING ON BEETROOT STUDY

MINISTER for Agriculture, Joel Fitzgibbon, has pledged to match grower funds dollar-for-dollar, up to \$125,000 to fund a study into finding processing options for beetroot in the Lockyer Valley. The study aims to make a project "shovel ready".

STRIVING FOR A COMMON APPROACH ON ELECTRICITY PRICES

THE Queensland Farmers' Federation and Cotton Australia last week gathered industry bodies across a number of sectors to find a solution to escalating energy prices, which have been rising rapidly for more than a decade (this followed QFF's Energy Forum at Parliament House last Monday). The CA-QFF forum, *Electricity Price Reform – A Common Approach*, was held in Brisbane and heard about the technical issues behind energy price increases and their impacts on the agriculture, manufacturing and household sectors. Specialist energy economist Bruce Mountain (Carbon Market Economics) also detailed market drivers behind energy price rises over the past 10 years. Australian electricity prices are now among the highest in the world and are 4-5 times the price of similar countries. The expansion of the regulated asset base has been the key driver for price increases. Industry groups are urging State and Federal Governments to work with industry on long term solutions to arrest unfair energy price rises and implement a tariff scheme to address the requirements of farmers and other businesses.

Organisations that participated in today's forum included:

- Energy Users' Association of Australia
- Carbon Market Economics
- Australian Food and Grocery Council
- Australian Council of Social Service
- QLD Council of Social Service
- The QLD Local Government Association
- Cotton Australia
- Queensland Farmers' Federation
- Ricegrowers' Association of Australia
- CANEGROWERS
- National Irrigators' Council
- Irrigation Australia Ltd
- Daley's Water Service
- Bundaberg Regional Irrigators Group
- Coleambally Irrigation

National Farmers' Federation—Update

NFF releases Election Scorecard

This week, The NFF released their election scorecard, which rates Labor, the Coalition and the Greens on their commitment to the NFF identified key priorities for agriculture this election, based on each party's capacity to deliver on their promises and their broader policy stance on issues affecting agriculture.

The scorecard will continue to be updated as new policies are announced, with a final version to be released prior to polling day. The scorecard can be viewed [here](#). For more, read the NFF media release [here](#).

NFF leads ag delegation to TPP negotiations in Brunei

NFF President Mr Duncan Fraser will lead an Australian agriculture delegation to the 19th Round of Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations in Brunei, from 24-30 August 2013. The delegation will include representatives from the red meat, pork, dairy, sugar, grains and rice sectors. Joining Mr Fraser is NFF General Manager of Policy & Manager Economics and Trade, Tony Mahar, Warren Males of CANEGROWERS, Andrew McCallum of Meat & Livestock Australia, Sam Lawrence of Australian Pork Ltd, John Eastburn of GrainGrowers, Milton Basley of Sunrice and Robert Pettit of Dairy Australia.

The NFF is of the view that a comprehensive outcome for agriculture from the TPP will not only deliver a range of flow on benefits for farmers but the entire food and fibre supply chain and more widely, the Australian economy via increased profitability, investment and employment.

CERTAINTY NEEDED FOR ON FARM AND RIPARIAN RECOVERY PROGRAM

THE Queensland Farmers' Federation has called on the State and Federal governments to cooperate and ensure that funding to repair riparian areas and farms from the Australia Day flood event was delivered on the ground and was able to deliver real outcomes for farmers and the community. It follows questions last week about how the \$20 million on-farm productivity and riparian recovery program would be funded, with State Minister Andrew Cripps accusing the Commonwealth of reneging on its half of the funding commitment. This program is one that industry sees as vital for targeting the right areas to help fix the damage, including on farms. Therefore, any suggestion that Prime Minister Rudd has put the Commonwealth funding in doubt needs urgent clarification by Mr Rudd.

QFF understands that much work is already underway, and industry is continuing to engage with the State Government to see that it directs funding to the most needed areas. Given the scale of the disaster, this funding will only begin the process of restoration – but it is a vital first step that needs commitment from all levels of government.

Sugar unlikely key to unlocking trade market access impasse

Sugar could prove just the sweetener the latest trade negotiations need to unlock the current export market access impasse.

At round 19 of Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations being held in Brunei this week, United States negotiators will find they are unlikely to be able to achieve their own objectives of improving access to other markets for dairy and other agricultural industries, if they are unwilling to show leadership on market access for sugar.

The Australian sugar industry is part of the National Farmers' Federation led Australian agricultural delegation attending the Brunei meetings, the first to include Japan as a full negotiating partner.

CANEGROWERS message is clear. "A TPP agreement must include commercially worthwhile new market access opportunities for sugar, with annual increases thereafter, until open access is achieved," specifies CANEGROWERS Acting CEO Ron Mullins.

Like other Australian agricultural industries, the sugar industry has said it will not support a TPP outcome that doesn't include commercially meaningful market access gains for all agricultural products.

"There is no place for tariffs, quotas or other trade restrictions for any production in a 21st century trade agreement," says Mullins. "This means there can be no carve outs or exclusions of any agricultural products."

80% of Australian sugar is exported. Australian sugarcane farmers are the only sugarcane producers in the world who don't operate with subsidies or price supports.

"For too long, sugar has been left out of key trade agreements," says Mullins. "Growers can't sell their sugar if they don't have access to international markets."

He says access to export markets is a critical issue for the Australian sugarcane industry, and that CANEGROWERS has made trade one of its five key platforms coming up to the 7 September election. CANEGROWERS has called on the incoming government to prioritise completing the Australia – Korea Free Trade Agreement (FTA) in 2013 and complete the Australia – Japan FTA and Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiation by 2014.

More information on CANEGROWERS federal election priorities:

www.canegrowers.com.au/page/election

CANEGROWERS federal election platforms: the 'five i's':

1. Introduce measures: to reduce cost of production
2. Invest: in world leading efficiency
3. Improve: trade access to export markets
4. Increase: research & development
5. Introduce: an improved regulatory process for chemicals



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Peak group, CANEGROWERS, is recruiting for an exciting new contract position



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Applications by Friday 20 September 2013

Marked Private and Confidential should be emailed to: Jodie Mittelheuser, Human Resources 07 3864 6413 or jobs@canegrowers.com.au

Enquiries:

Jodie Mittelheuser, Human Resources 07 3864 6413 or jobs@canegrowers.com.au

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PHOTOGRAPHY PRIZE NOW OPEN



Matthew Jones *Little Lily Trotter (detail)* Open Photography 3rd Prize 2013

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