



Smartcane BMP

OBJECTIVE

To continue the funding for the Smartcane Best Management Practice program (Smartcane BMP) over the next four years.

Smartcane BMP is an industry-led, voluntary program available to all sugarcane growers in Queensland.

Smartcane BMP was developed by the sugarcane industry with funding from the Queensland Government. It aims to document, benchmark and continuously improve on-farm practices for productivity, profitability and sustainability through:

- Solutions to on-farm challenges.
- Access to the latest information and research in sugarcane.
- Identifying latest technology practices to achieve more with less.
- Proving to community and customers that Queensland sugar is produced in a sustainable way.

POSITION

Smartcane BMP is the best platform for growers to meet the demand for sustainable sugar, reduce environmental impact and support ongoing productivity, profitability and innovation.

There are many reasons why growers adopt Smartcane BMP, which are dependent on the grower, their business drivers and the circumstances in which they farm.

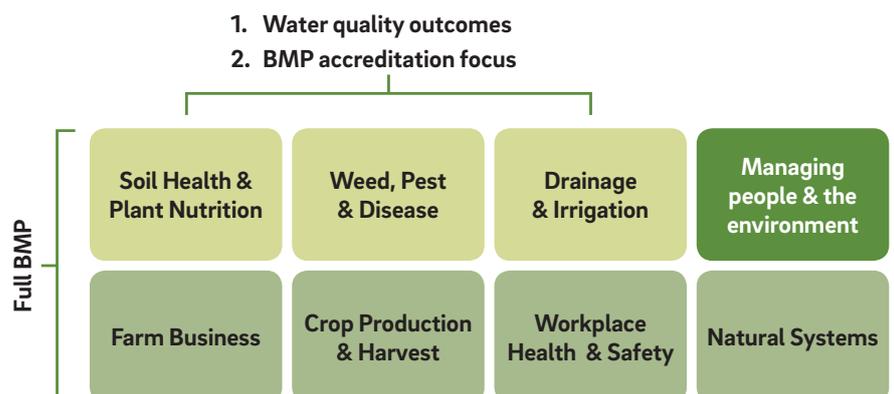
To date, Smartcane BMP has 1,532 farms benchmarked (265,318 hectares) and 191 farms accredited (51,977 hectares) in the program.



Smartcane BMP consists of seven modules that address all farm operations. The first three modules are core modules and practices within these modules address cane production and water quality improvement. Accreditation in the core modules means a grower will not be the focus of the Queensland Government reef regulation compliance program.

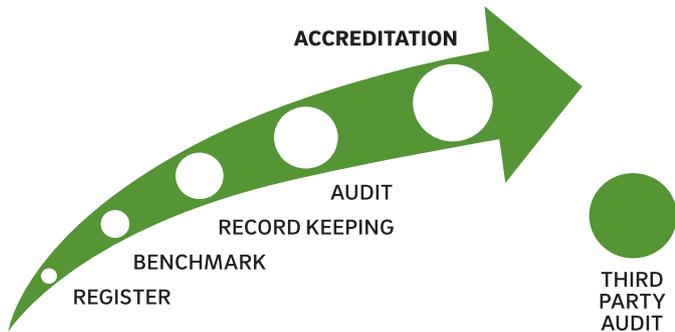
The Smartcane BMP modules are online (www.smartcane.com.au) and supported by a database, record keeping platform and record keeping tools.

Each module contains a list of practices within that key area. Growers complete the benchmarking step by self-assessing their practices against those in the modules. Once any gaps are filled, the grower progresses to accreditation and provide records and information to demonstrate how they meet or exceed the practice standards. ►



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Smartcane BMP has 14 district facilitators to support growers and the program links to industry extension, training and government funding programs.



Accreditation in Smartcane BMP is underpinned by ISO 19011: Guidelines for quality and / or environmental management systems auditing. Smartcane BMP has full alignment with the Paddock to Reef water quality modelling platform used to report change against the Reef Plan 2013 and Reef 2050 Plan water quality targets.

Smartcane BMP also has full alignment with the international standard for sustainable sugar production, Bonsucro.

ISSUES

- Funding is due to cease in December 2017.
- Adoption of Smartcane BMP has momentum and the program requires additional time and resources to fully establish itself in the Queensland cane industry.

ACTIONS

- Commit \$7.2m in funding to Smartcane BMP over the next four years to assist industry to support the Great Barrier Reef water quality targets.
- Continue to work with industry to identify incentives for Smartcane BMP adoption. ■



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Australia is the world's second largest exporter of raw sugar



80% of Australia's raw sugar production is exported



\$2.5 billion value to the Australian economy



17,400 direct jobs, and 80,800 indirect jobs supported by the sugar industry



CANEGROWERS is the peak representative body for Australian sugarcane growers. Representing some 80% of growers, **CANEGROWERS** ensures growers needs are represented at the highest possible level of industry and government decision making. For more information visit www.canegrowers.com.au