

Bright future for Australia's cane-growing industry - Regional round-up

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# GROWER



CANEGROWERS

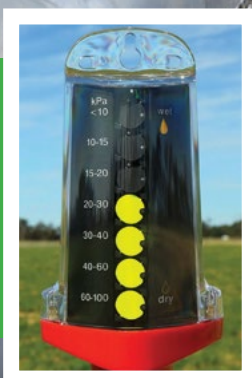
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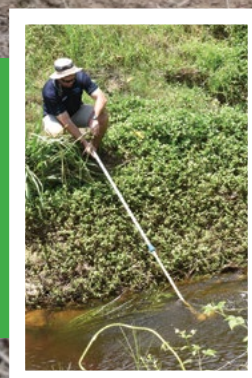
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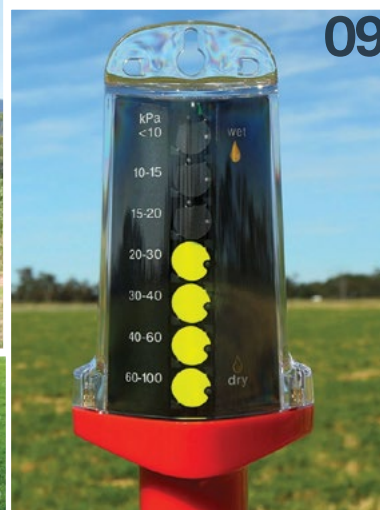
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COVER IMAGE: Automated furrow irrigation trials are saving Burdekin growers time and money

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# Shifting sands

By Dan Galligan, CEO CANEGROWERS

"It has become clear that for Australia, like many other countries, the role raw sugar production will play in the future viability of the supply chain is changing."

There is no question about it, the business of sugarcane growing has a bright future. Australian farmers are some of the world's finest, turning out high quality agricultural produce and cane growers are no exception.

In terms of production, sustainability and farming systems, the Australian cane industry ranks among the world's best.

But there's a new and interesting dynamic developing in our industry. A dynamic that is not solely focused on the traditional challenge of increasing yield, but is examining why yield is important, for what purpose and to whose benefit.

Our traditional supply chain of sugar production and sale remains stable. Global sugar consumption continues to grow at just over 2.5% per year, a figure that has been relatively constant for the past decade.

But the matters that influence price and volatility in the sugar market are far more complex than simply supply and demand.

International trade policies, market speculators taking finance positions, the price of oil versus ethanol, and other ethanol policies (particularly in Brazil) are all hugely influencing factors on the price that is eventually paid for sugar. And of course, there's the weather.

The sugar marketing landscape is complex and the players are changing their priorities.

It has become clear that for Australia, like many other countries, the role that raw sugar production will play in the future viability of the supply chain is changing.

Over the past six months, the Queensland Government has announced more than \$2bn worth of projects either investigating or advancing what it is calling the biofutures industry.

Cane as a biomass plays a huge role in the potential growth of this sector.

MSF Sugar, in particular, has made it clear that alternative products, beyond sugar and electricity, are part of their future business strategy in Australia.

It seems to make sense that to create value from sugar processing factories we need to be looking for multiple avenues of return from inputs.

For farmers, the need to make a return on the enormous and increasing investment in their farming businesses is no different.

These investments need to be matched by new and diverse revenue streams that reflect the commitment and business management required to guarantee a reliable supply of feedstock to any processing plant, regardless of what it's making.

CANEGROWERS is playing a positive and proactive role in the innovation that's unrolling in and around our industry.

While our members will need to be cognisant of the changing landscape in sugar marketing, this is just the tip of the iceberg.

A financially sustainable farming business will require us to all work together as the traditional seesaw of risk and reward continues into this new and exciting evolution of our industry. ■



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# NEWS IN BRIEF

## Tech bid to scare pests from farms

CSIRO scientists are taking inspiration from Africa for a new high-tech way to scare feral animals such as pigs and dogs away from Australian farms.

They're going to trial Vertebrate Pest Detect-and-Deter (VPDaD) technology which has been used to keep elephants away from farms and crops in Gabon.

It works by detecting and identifying animals as they come close to farms or crops, and emitting a tailored series of sounds and lights to humanely scare them away before they cause damage.

CSIRO scientist Dr **Ash Tews** says trials in Queensland's Lockyer Valley may lead to the technology being scaled-up and offered to farms across Australia for wild dogs, pigs, cockatoos, rabbits and ducks.

"The idea here is that we can adapt as necessary," he said.

"One of the issues with existing deterrent technologies is that, not only do animals become de-sensitised to them, but smarter ones can even learn to use the deterrents as an indication of a food source, which is the opposite of their purpose.

"Our autonomous technology allows the system to recognise animal behaviours in response to deterrents and modify the deterrent strategy until the desired effect is achieved.

"This allows the system to be more effective over long periods of time such as the key threat times during crop growing." ■

## Herbicide study on toxic toads

A study conducted in Europe has suggested that exposure to a popular weed killer could give cane toads a venom boost.

Researchers from the Centre for Agricultural Research at the Hungarian Academy of Sciences exposed cane toad tadpoles to varying levels of a glyphosate-based herbicide in water.

When the tadpoles were about to metamorphose into adults, the team measured how much of the normal deadly chemicals, bufadienolides, their venom contained.

They found that the toads which had been in herbicide-infused water as tadpoles generally grew up to produce more dangerous venom than those raised without exposure to the chemical.

In a pond enclosure, they said toads raised in the presence of the herbicide developed more than 150% more venom than those raised in clean water.

Study lead author **Veronika Bokony** was surprised by the findings.

"We had expected a negative effect, because herbicide exposure usually makes the animals weak and sick," she told Newsweek.

Monsanto, which manufactures glyphosate herbicides, has questioned the findings.

"The researchers exposed the toads to environmentally unrealistic levels of the glyphosate-based formulation," said spokeswoman **Charla Lord**.

She said the concentration of glyphosate-based herbicide that wildlife would likely be exposed to from a single spraying or application would be 50 to 100 times lower than the level used in the study. ■

## TRUST ISSUES

Farm businesses will be exempt from Labor's proposed crackdown on discretionary trusts, it has been revealed.

An ALP official has told *Australian Financial Review*: "We are not interested in a war with charities and farmers."

The National Farmers Federation had expressed fears that any reform of trust tax laws could hurt farming families which use trusts to protect their single biggest asset, the family farm.

But, announcing his party's tax reform policy at the NSW Labor State Conference on 29 July, Opposition leader **Bill Shorten** confirmed that farms, charities and deceased estate trusts would be exempt from proposed changes.

CANERGROWERS has welcomed the announcement, with CEO **Dan Galligan** saying the use of trusts helped growers to balance their income across good and not-so-good years.

"Family trusts play an important role in farming business across Queensland," Mr Galligan said.

"Any change to the way those trusts are taxed could have had a devastating impact on countless farming families, so the announcement that farms will be exempt from any trust tax reforms is very welcome." ■



## New cane train safety campaign

MSF Sugar has launched a new cane train safety campaign calling on the public to be vigilant around the rail network during the current crushing season.

The *Have You Seen A Cane Train Yet?* campaign will feature television, radio and online advertisements reminding motorists to take care when crossing cane rail lines.

"Our rail network sits dormant for six months of the year ... this creates a level of complacency among motorists," MSF Sugar CEO Mike Barry said.

This complacency was in evidence recently when an MSF train struck a B-double as the truck attempted to perform a U-turn over rail lines near Wangan, south of Innisfail.

"A fully loaded locomotive rounded the bend and ... the loco driver was



unable to stop in time to avoid the collision," South Johnstone mill manager Kim Kendell said.

"Our driver did a terrific job in reacting to the incident to minimise the collision, however, considerable damage was done to both the locomotive and the trailer of

the B-double truck. Fortunately no-one was injured in the incident."

Cane trains operate 24 hours a day during the crushing season and can weight up to 600 tonnes when fully loaded. The average stopping distance for a loco is 250 metres, in ideal conditions. ■

## Wet Tropics Sugar Cane Growers Funding Opportunities



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Wet Tropics  
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# CANEGROWERS Regional round-up

## Mossman

In Week 8 (ending 29 July) Mossman Mill crushed a total of 37,482 tonnes of cane for a mill average of 12.84 CCS, with an average crush rate of 329 t/hr.

The mill factory had two major downtime events during the week – a pinion gear on the drive for the cane carrier failed and the bagasse reclaimer also failed. Other works were carried out during this period, resulting in the cancellation of a scheduled maintenance day.

To date, Mossman Mill has crushed a total of 296,937 tonnes, with a mill average CCS of

12.08 units. Coastal growers have supplied a total 200,339 tonnes, with an average of 11.71 CCS, while Mareeba growers have supplied a total of 96,600 tonnes, with an average of 13.17 CCS. To date, Tableland Mill has crushed 111,335 tonnes of Mossman cane supply.

Congratulations to the growers who entered cane into the Mossman Next Gen Group Show Cane Exhibition.

A special mention to **Royce Scomazzon** for winning the Most Successful Exhibitor prize.



## Cairns Region

Wet weather continues to hamper both farming and milling operations, with sporadic rainfall across the Cairns Region in recent weeks.

CANEGROWERS Cairns Region is in the process of compiling a submission regarding the Proposed Cairns South State Development Area.

The organisation also continues to meet with other stakeholders regarding the crushing plan and inter-mill transfers.

Smartcane BMP project manager, Mick Quirk, recently met with staff to assess all options for the continued promotion and uptake of BMP across the region.

## Innisfail

Wet weather has again disrupted harvesting operations, resulting in lost crushing time at the mill. The crop is currently cutting out at 101.8% of the pre-season estimate. Recent rain and the mild winter is expected to contribute to an increase in growth.

Despite the loss of 14 days crushing, as at 31 July the mill had crushed 22,000 tonnes more than at the same time last year.

With a steady estimate in the South Johnstone Mill supply area and a slight drop in estimate in the Mulgrave Mill supply area, there will be an increase in the amount of tonnes transferred to Mulgrave this season.

## Tully

As at 7 August, Tully had crushed almost 950,000 tonnes of the 2.55 million tonne crop, with CCS working towards a better than average result. While the climate forecasts indicate showers through spring, it should be a good season for Tully.

The Sugar Research Australia Board will visit the district on 16 August and may be able to outline their strategy for extension and adoption.

The restructure of BSES to SRA resulted in a withdrawal from one-on-one extension, and the need for local districts and regions to fill the gap.

The Wet Tropics Sugar Industry Partnership (WITSIP) has worked to fill this gap to provide the best result for growers from Reef programs.

The WITSIP Management group has been successful in managing a process that is based around proven research and adding local extension value to complete and facilitate the outcomes through site specific nutrient plans.

The SRA Board visit will offer an opportunity for SRA to define its role, considering the serious amount of funding that the State and Federal governments have committed to the Wet Tropics.

The Tully Show celebrated 80 years of cane displays, recognising the importance of cane growing in the district.

Congratulations to all growers who entered and also to the TCPSL, SRA and TSL staff for their time and efforts in

collecting, presenting and judging the exhibits.

Yet again the Tully Show has met the challenge for best cane display in Queensland and Australia.

The additions of the school colouring-in and essay competition, reflecting on cane growing in the Tully District, make the display a focus for locals and visitors.

Once again, the Zamora cane juice stand was popular with visitors, who enjoyed talking sugarcane with Ray, Debbie and their team.

The presence of Cane Changer team members, **John Pickering** and **Jinny Hong** complemented this year's cane display.

## Herbert River

The harvest and crushing is surging ahead with a remarkably good combined performance from the harvesting sector and the mills for the first eight weeks of the season.

The harvest is now well past 30% of the recently upgraded official estimate of 4.9 million tonnes of cane, which compares with some 15% of the 2016 season crop at a comparable time last year.

CCS is also more than one full unit better than at the same time a year ago.

Planting activity is also pushing ahead now that a better window of opportunity has opened for the Herbert's wet belt to the north and west of Ingham.

An SRA-led Harvest Optimisation trial is being planned for the Herbert, under which a concerted collaborative effort is to be put into supplying Macknade Mill for a full week with harvesters that have agreed to a set of protocols that will ensure minimal cane loss.

The aim is to obtain data on how cane and sugar recovery behave in this scenario as a basis for further discussion between the industry parties as to appropriate future behaviour for the harvest.

## Plane Creek

Another good crushing week at Plane Creek resulted in weekly throughput of 61,851 tonnes, bringing the season to date total to 383,712 tonnes.

Cooler weather nudged CCS up to 13.33 for the week ending 5 August, while the mill average season to date is 12.64 units.

The highest CCS recorded for the week was 16.50 units from a rake of Q208 in the Dawlish Productivity District.

Bin weights were down slightly on the previous week and weather conditions remain favourable for harvesting.

## Burdekin

The Burdekin's estimate has been revised down slightly from 8.4 million tonnes to 8.3 million tonnes of cane.

Week 8 (ending 5 August) saw good throughput figures, with Burdekin mills crushing a total of 409,094 tonnes of cane. This is the best weekly total since August 2015 and is a particularly good result given Kalamia had an extended scheduled stop on Tuesday, 1 August.

Inkerman's weekly throughput of 93,067 tonnes was also the best since August 2015, while Pioneer achieved its highest weekly total this year.

The Burdekin mills have now crushed a total of 2,605,188 tonnes of cane, which represents about 31% of the total crop.

Average weekly CCS levels are tracking at 14.23 units. That's a quarter of a unit up on the previous week and is the first time this season that the weekly average has topped 14 units. However, it is still 0.3 units below normal levels.

The region's best performing variety in Week 8 was Q183 with 19% of supply and 14.69 CCS.

Q240 was the variety most supplied at 40% and 14.31 CCS.

## Mackay

Cooler temperatures pushed Mackay Sugar mills PRS to 13.40 for the week ending 6 August.

All three mills processed a total of 229,554 tonnes (Farleigh 69,405 tonnes, Marian 96,168 tonnes and Racecourse 63,981 tonnes) in the week, bringing the season to date combined total to 1,625,630 tonnes.

PRS mill average season to date is 11.76. Last week's tonnages brought the harvest up to over the 30% mark (32.26%). Significant lost time was experienced at Farleigh Mill due to a factory black-out.



## Proserpine

The Proserpine crop estimate has been increased to 1.6 million tonnes.

This equates to a 230,000 tonne (or 16%) increase on the pre-season forecast of 1.37 million tonnes and is good news for the district following the devastation caused by Tropical Cyclone Debbie in late March.

Overcast conditions and light rain was experienced at the end of the Week 5, however, this has not adversely affected supply.

As at the end of the Week 5 (5 Aug) the mill had crushed 381,542 tonnes, which is 23.5% of the revised estimate.

Throughput remains slightly ahead of budget, although a frequent number of short stoppages is hindering overall performance.

CCS continues to climb slowly and currently sits at 12.64 for the season to date.

The best performing variety for the week continues to be kQ228 with an average CCS of 13.92, while Q240 remains the highest supplied variety making up 25% of weekly throughput.

Average bin weights are also improving.

Continues page 8 ►

## CANEGROWERS Regional round-up

### Bundaberg

The introduction of six-day mode at Bingera has had minimal impact and the mill is performing very well. Bingera estimates have fallen slightly, with the crop cutting about 98% of the original estimate.

Millaquin has had some stop-start issues over the past month and has lost an unacceptable amount of time. An estimated five days of crushing time has been lost for the season to date. Some weeks have seen just 80% availability at the mill.

The estimate at Millaquin is increasing, with the crop cutting just over 101%. CCS at both mills continues to increase.

Millaquin is averaging 13.74 and Bingera is 13.56. We are monitoring the base CCS and will adjust as necessary.

### Maryborough

The season is finally underway, although the first weekend was marred by breakdowns at the mill.

As at 4 August, a total of 27,477 tonnes had been crushed, which accounts for 5% of the current crop estimate. CCS is currently holding at 13.26 units for the week.

The area received some welcome rain on the night of 6 August and the opportunity for a maintenance day was taken.

### Isis

Ideal harvest conditions have continued in the district, with harvest contractors supplying 62,778 tonnes of cane for crushing in Week 5. This was another strong performance given that the mill undertook scheduled maintenance for 15 hours during the week. Week 6 saw a total of 72,575 tonnes crushed, with an average CCS of 13.62 units.

Rainfall received on Sunday 6 August varied in the Isis Cane Supply Area with 24mm recorded in Childers.

This welcome rainfall will provide benefit to the standing crop and assist with land preparation in readiness for Spring planting.

The Isis Mill has now processed 363,154 tonnes of cane in the season to date. CCS continues to rise and the varieties KQ228 and Q240 continue to be supplied in large quantities.

The Childers community was alive with visitors over the last weekend in July, when thousands of people flocked to the region to enjoy the activities associated with the annual Childers Festival.

Isis Mill once again supported the weekend, with arrangements in place to restrict rail activities through the town to ensure the safety of patrons and provided strong support and involvement in the cane fire tours held on Thursday and Friday nights.

### Rocky Point

As at the end of Week 5, Rocky Point Mill crushed 86,980 tonnes at a season average CCS of 12.26.

Unfortunately, stopped on 31 July due to a breakdown at the co-generation plant, which is not expected to be rectified until 8 August.

Harvesting weather has been ideal. Unfortunately, due to the breakdown, growers are unable to take advantage of it.

This is very disappointing to growers after last years' experience.

## Money Matters

with AustSafe Super

### THE ART OF SETTING A BUDGET... AND STICKING TO IT

Setting up a budget is no small task. But with the right tools and know how, it can be easy.

#### Understand your financial situation

Before you start a budget, you first need to understand your financial situation. Begin a money diary and record your income and expenses for a month. Don't forget to cater for annual expenses.

Be warned the results of this exercise can be confronting, but knowing your true financial situation is the first step towards taking control of your money.

#### Plan ahead

Look at any additional expenses that might be coming up in the year ahead, like a holiday, and start a regular savings plan.

Calculate how much each of these one-off expenses will cost then plan how you can pay for them without resorting to obtaining finance.

#### Identify savings

Go through these figures carefully and identify where you can save money and implement more responsible financial management. For example:

- Pay down debt
- Research utility providers to see if there is a better deal available
- Minimise expenditure on eating out by preparing more meals at home

Once you have been through this trimming process, you can set your monthly budget. Review your progress each month. Seeing it in on paper and watching your savings grow will help you stick to the budget.

At AustSafe Super, we understand the importance of wise money management, not just to save for your retirement but to live a better life. Learn the basics using our online learning modules at [austsafe.com.au/MoneyTree](http://austsafe.com.au/MoneyTree).

*AustSafe Super is the industry super fund for rural and regional Australia, and has been committed to looking after members' super throughout their working life, and into retirement for over 25 years.* ■

For more information, please visit [austsafe.com.au](http://austsafe.com.au)





**Matt Kealley**

CANEGROWERS Manager -  
Environment & Sustainability

## WATER SENSE – Irrigation and drainage management in Smartcane BMP

Imagine being able to remotely sense the water needs of your crop, have the ability to strategically manage your water use efficiency, and be able to adapt on-farm practices based on precision agriculture, sensors and connected technology.

Drainage options, irrigation requirements and on-farm practices vary by farm and region. They depend on local climate, water availability and the application methods used.

Irrigation is vital for crop production and, except for the Wet Tropics, all Queensland cane-growing regions rely on supplementary irrigation to some extent.

While moisture stress can be a major factor limiting sugarcane production, the opposite situation, waterlogging – usually caused by poor drainage – can also have a significant impact on production.

Managing these issues can be a challenge. After all, we can't control the weather.

We can, however, work with the latest information and technology to minimise the risk to the environment and maximise production and profit from our irrigation.

Smartcane BMP has a series of best management practices that focus on the irrigation and drainage aspects of farming.

Contained in the program's Irrigation and Drainage Management module, these practices aim to ensure sufficient water for crop growth while minimising the amount of excess water that is lost as either run-off or deep drainage.

Knowing the soil's moisture holding capacity, calculating how much water to apply and when, and recording this information are all good practices.

The appropriate design and performance of surface drainage and, where appropriate, the installation of effective sub-surface drainage and water capture systems such as sediment traps and

recycling pits, can reduce waterlogging, erosion and water quality issues.

Farm layout and redesign solutions aren't quick or cheap fixes, so knowing the soil, drainage patterns and underlying topography is important when managing low and high yielding areas.

### What are the opportunities?

Knowing your soil is vital.

Precision agriculture (PA) and remote sensing technology offer many options for growers wanting to better understand their farm's irrigation and drainage needs. These include yield mapping, EM and EC mapping, strategic soil sampling and multi-spectral crop imagery

Soil and crop sensors, which can be as simple as a GDot, provide real time information back to the grower. 4G networks for high-speed internet can help connect sensors to windows-based software and smartphone apps.

Variable-rate irrigation (VRI) technology offers growers the ability to change the rate of water application on the block according to crop needs. Commercial centre pivot manufacturers are also starting to offer VRI systems in new equipment or as a retro-fit.

### Further support

Precision agriculture applies to irrigation as well as ground work.

To take advantage of it, start by benchmarking your farm in Smartcane BMP and then speak to your trusted advisor about your ideas.

Extension, training, innovation and grants are all available through industry and government programs. ■

"Precision agriculture and remote sensing technology offer many options for growers wanting to better understand their farm's irrigation and drainage needs."



# Collaborative research to **MAXIMISE PROFIT FROM NITROGEN**

Efficient use of nitrogen opens doors to greater productivity, increased profit and reduced environmental impact, but what is the best way forward for particular farm systems?

This is the key focus of the national *More Profit from Nitrogen Program* (MPfN), a four year partnership between Australia's major intensive users of nitrogenous fertilisers: cotton, dairy, sugar and horticulture, led by the Cotton and Research Development Corporation (CRDC).

Supported by \$5.8 million from the Australian Government's Department of Agriculture and Water Resources Rural R&D for Profit programme, MPfN is in its first year of delivering findings from 10 research projects.

MPfN has been designed to engage with producers, with over 31 trial sites established to undertake research, and demonstrate tested practices and host field days for farmer input.

Program research is being undertaken under three focus areas for improving productivity and profitability through N use. These are:

- *Greater knowledge and understanding of the interplay of soil, weather, climatic and farm management factors to optimise N formulation, rate and timing in relation to irrigation practices;*
- *Greater knowledge and understanding of the contribution (quantifying rate and timing) of N mineralisation to a crop or pasture's nitrogen budget; and*
- *Greater knowledge and understanding of how enhanced efficiency fertiliser (EEF) formulations can better match a crop or pasture's specific N requirements by developing new ones and optimising existing ones.*

For cane growers, SRA has supported three projects under the MPfN Program.

**1.** The Queensland Government's Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) is investigating novel formulations and management techniques to optimise N application for cane crop requirements.

Using cutting edge plant accelerator studies, laboratory micro-dialysis and rainfall simulation techniques, it is looking to develop new formulations to better



match N release to crop uptake demands throughout seasons by controlling nitrogen transformations and solubility and combating N 'leakiness' to the environment via improved, more targeted N formulations.

**The set of requirements for nitrogen supply to sugar production are very specific, and we hope to tailor technologies to match those – without introducing chemical or micro-plastic residue issues.**

Trial and demonstration sites will be established in the second and third years in the Herbert/ Wet Tropics and Burdekin catchments.

Describing his team's objectives, **Dr Matt Redding** (Project Research Leader) said, "The key is to formulate products more suited to tropical conditions where high temperatures and intense rainfall tend to decrease the effectiveness of existing technologies.

"The set of requirements for nitrogen supply to sugar production is very specific, and we hope to tailor technologies to match those – without introducing chemical or micro-plastic residue issues."

**2.** Similarly, the Queensland Government's Department of Science, Information, Technology and Innovation (DSITI) project, Smart Blending of enhanced efficiency fertilisers (EEF) to maximise sugarcane profitability is concentrating on fertiliser formulations to better match N release to the N uptake dynamics of cane.

This research is investigating optimal blending ratios of existing polymer coated urea (PCU) with conventional urea under various soil and seasonal conditions.

While the use of EEFs is currently seen as too expensive by many growers, the project will evaluate the production and profitability gains to be made from blending rather than single product application.

DSITI's Project Research Leader, **Dr Weijin Wang**, said, "The need to select the most suitable products and optimal blending ratios for a specific farm will be addressed through the development of a decision support tool by the project. ►

"Having findings from research sites in Innisfail, Tully, Ingham, Mackay and Bundaberg, and contributions from the other sugar projects involved in MPfN, we are gaining a better understanding of the common and differing soil and weather factors across regions which need to be reflected in the decision making.

"We are analysing the N dynamics within the plant root zone down to a depth of 1.2 metres and in plant biomass throughout various stages of plant growth."

3. Finally, the NSW Department of Primary Industries is concentrating its work on seeking to reduce the cost of more expensive EEF applications by helping farmers make more informed precision decisions.

The project leader, Dr Lukas Van Zweiten, said, "If we can better determine when and how much N is supplied from organic matter through mineralisation throughout the soil profile, we can better match current application rates of PCUs so that N is available to the plant in the right form at the right times, making it more cost effective."

Soil sampling undertaken across 30 sites is informing the development of new technologies to rapidly predict soil mineralisation and 15 N stable isotope technology is being used on three core research sites, located on commercial farms in the Tweed, Richmond and Clarence catchments, to assess the contributions of fertiliser N, versus soil present N, to crop uptake.

"Research outcomes will include development of a simple model for farmers that can predict the economic returns of using an EEF product based upon current pricing," Dr Van Zweiten said.

The results of all three MPfN research projects will be incorporated into the industry SIX EASY STEPS guidelines and will contribute to the development of a decision support model.

More information on the sugar projects is on the new SRA website [www.sugarresearch.com.au/research-portfolio](http://www.sugarresearch.com.au/research-portfolio) under Key Focus Area 2. ■

*Photo: Soil sampling at DSITI's trial sites is undertaken to 120cm requiring deep soil coring. Biomass samples are being used to assess yield results in relation to trialled N strategies.*



## A long way from home...

These University of Wyoming students and their teacher Thomas Folke were recently given an overview of the Australian sugarcane industry by CANEGROWERS and Rocky Point Mulching's Shaun Fischer (pictured in the orange shirt).

Their US state is known for cattle ranches and broadacre grain farms, so

our subtropical and tropical production systems raised a lot of questions as did our industry's export focus, Australia's lack of farmer support mechanisms and awareness of global market needs.

The group's program theme was 'Australia's export led agricultural economy' and students were grateful for their sugarcane experience.



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## QSL Grower Rep Member elections underway

Voting is now underway in the  
**2017 QSL Grower Representative Member elections**  
in the following regions:

- Northern – South Johnstone Mill
- Burdekin – Invicta, Pioneer, Kalamia and Inkerman mills
- Southern – Bingera and Millaquin mills

In all other milling areas, QSL received the same number of nominations as positions available, and so no elections are required.

The full list of nominations is on the adjacent page.

Ballot papers for growers in the Northern, Burdekin and Southern regions are available from your local QSL office, CANEGROWERS, mill or online at [www.qsl.com.au/who-we-are/corporate-structure/qsl-members](http://www.qsl.com.au/who-we-are/corporate-structure/qsl-members).

**Voting closes at 5pm** (Queensland time) on **Friday 18 August 2017**.

The following **Frequently Asked Questions** cover the most common queries about the process.

For further information, please don't hesitate to contact your local QSL Grower Services Team member:

- **Far North Queensland:**  
Daniel Messina – Ph. 0429 660 238  
[daniel.messina@qsl.com.au](mailto:daniel.messina@qsl.com.au)
- **North Queensland:**  
Carla Keith – Ph. 0409 372 305  
[carla.keith@qsl.com.au](mailto:carla.keith@qsl.com.au)
- **Herbert River:**  
Jonathan Pavetto – Ph. 0428 664 057  
[jonathan.pavetto@qsl.com.au](mailto:jonathan.pavetto@qsl.com.au)
- **Burdekin:**  
Rebecca Love – Ph. 0429 054 330  
[rebecca.love@qsl.com.au](mailto:rebecca.love@qsl.com.au)
- **Proserpine and Plane Creek:**  
Emma Sammon – Ph. 0418 978 120  
[emma.sammon@qsl.com.au](mailto:emma.sammon@qsl.com.au)
- **Central and Southern Districts:**  
Cathy Kelly – Ph. 0409 285 074  
[cathy.kelly@qsl.com.au](mailto:cathy.kelly@qsl.com.au)

### THE VOTING PROCESS

*Which areas have received more nominations than positions vacant and now proceed to a voting process?*

We have received more nominations than positions available in the Burdekin (Kalamia, Invicta, Pioneer and Inkerman), Northern (South Johnstone) and Southern (Bingera and Millaquin) regions. This means we are now required to conduct elections in these regions. In other regions, we have received the same number of nominations equal to the number of positions available.

*Who can vote?*

To vote for a grower representative member for your mill area, you must be a sugarcane grower who supplies sugarcane under contract to a mill in your mill area.

*When do votes have to be submitted by?*

Signed voting papers must be lodged with QSL by no later than 5pm (Queensland time) on Friday 18 August 2017.

*What if I live in one mill area but supply sugar cane under contract to a mill in a different mill area?*

You must vote for a representative for the mill area in which the mill that you have a cane supply agreement is situated. For example, if you have a contract to supply sugarcane to one or more of the mills in the Southern Region (Bingera and Millaquin mills), then you can only vote for the grower representative nominees for the Southern Area.

*If I own more than one farm, how many votes do I get?*

You have one vote only. Every sugarcane grower who supplies sugarcane under contract to a mill in your area has only one vote. It does not matter how many farms you own.

*If both my husband/wife and I own a farm, do we each get a vote?*

Yes, you each get a vote. One vote per grower.

*I have several ABNs, do I get a vote for each?*

No, you only get one vote.

*If I have more than one cane supply agreement, do I get more than one vote?*

No, you only get one vote.

*How are votes counted?*

The votes will be reviewed and counted in the presence of an independent scrutineer.

*When will the QSL Grower Representative Members be appointed?*

Once the elections have closed (5pm Queensland time on Friday 18 August 2017) and the votes have been counted, an announcement will be made in late August declaring the election of all QSL Grower Representative Members.

QSL is working towards having all Members appointed prior to the QSL Annual General Meeting due to be held on 24 October 2017. ■

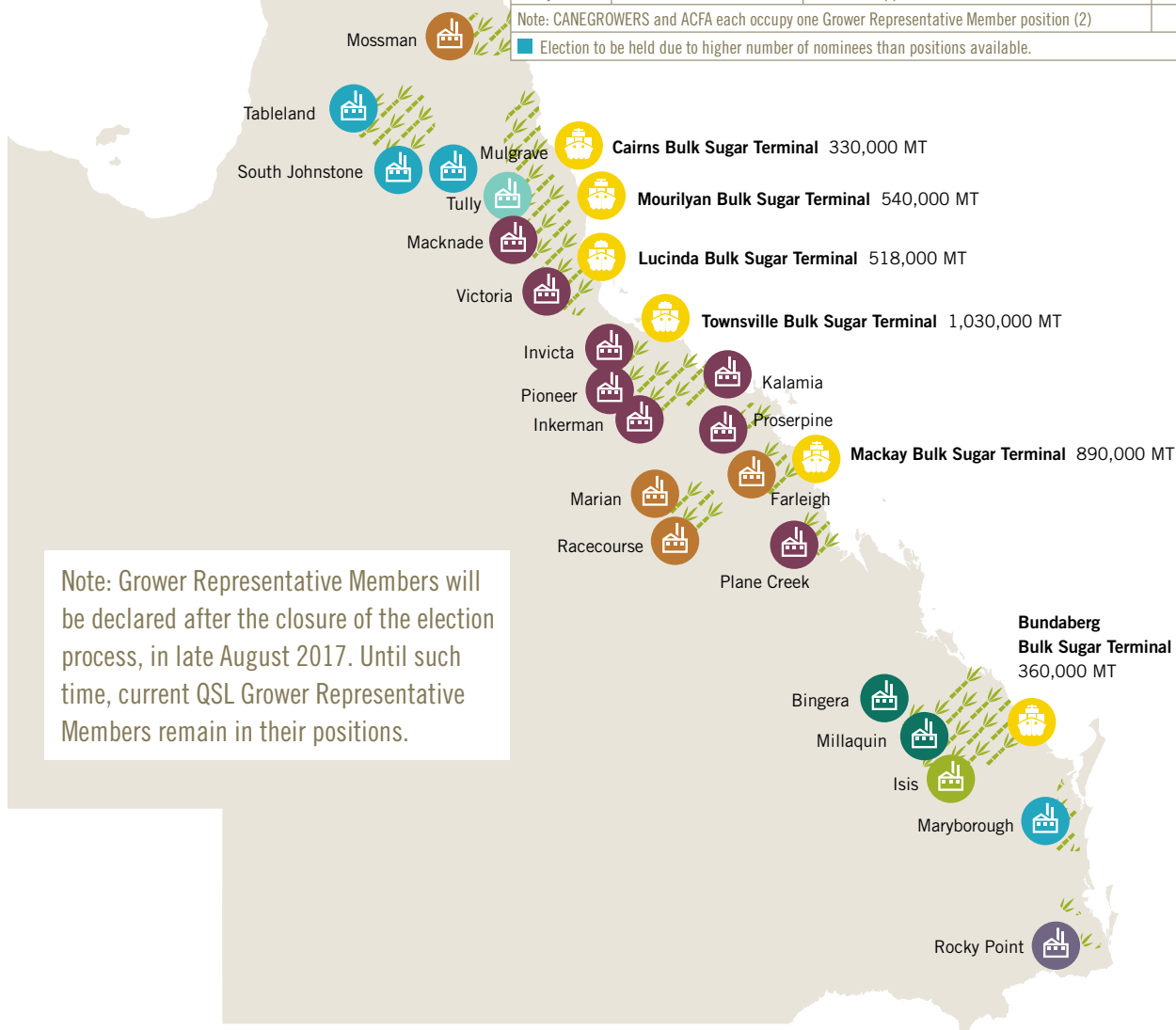
# Grower Member Nominations Received



## QSL MILL MEMBERS

- Mills owned by Mackay Sugar Ltd
- Mills owned by MSF Sugar
- Mills owned by Wilmar
- Mills owned by Isis Central Sugar Mill
- Mills owned by Bundaberg Sugar
- Mills owned by COFCO
- Mills owned by WH Heck and Sons
- Sugarcane areas

Region	Mill Area	Grower Nominations Received	Grower Member positions available (23)
Mossman	Mossman Mill	Gerard Puglisi	1
Tableland	Tableland Mill	Nirmal Chohan	1
Mulgrave	Mulgrave Mill	Jeffrey Day	1
Northern	South Johnstone Mill	<i>Vote to be held: Sam Spina and Barry Stubbs</i>	1
Tully	Tully Mill	Thomas Harney	1
Herbert River	Victoria and Macknade mills	Vincent Russo Michael Pisano	2
Burdekin	Kalamia, Invicta, Pioneer and Inkerman mills	<i>Vote to be held: Shane McNee, Mark Vass, Owen Menkens, Frank Mugica, Sibby Torrisi, Denis Pozzebon, Julie Artiach, Russell Jordan and Roger Piva</i>	4
Proserpine	Proserpine Mill	Mark Blair	1
Central	Farleigh, Marian and Racecourse mills	Frank Perna Anthony Ross Gregory Plath	3
Plane Creek	Plane Creek Mill	Kevin Borg	1
Southern	Bingera and Millaquin mills	<i>Vote to be held: Kelvin Griffin, Allan Dingle and Michael Cavallaro</i>	2
Isis	Isis Mill	Joe Russo	1
Maryborough	Maryborough Mill	Jeffrey Atkinson	1
Rocky Point	Rock Point Mill	Richard Skopp	1
Note: CANEGROWERS and ACFA each occupy one Grower Representative Member position (2)			2
■ Election to be held due to higher number of nominees than positions available.			



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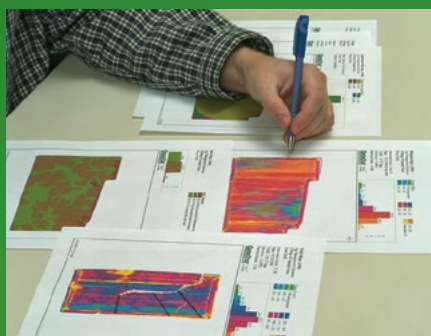
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**JOHN DEERE**

# AUTOMATION DELIVERING EFFICIENCY GAINS IN THE BURDEKIN

By Brad Pfeffer, Sugar Research Australia

Burdekin grower Aaron Linton had already seen the benefits of automated irrigation from the work he did installing a drip system at his Leichhardt farm. So when an opportunity arose to expand the automation to his furrow irrigation, he jumped at it.

This opportunity came about through an SRA-funded project, led by the University of Southern Queensland and the National Centre for Engineering in Agriculture, with input from AgriTech Solutions and Burdekin Productivity Services (BPS).

Through the project, Aaron automated 11 irrigation sets over 53 hectares, with water delivered via pump direct from the river. The drip on the rest of the farm was already automated.

The property is 35km from Aaron's home and with a young family and a hire business on the go, the benefits of the automation were immediate.

"Even if I save three trips per week, this equates to 11,000 km per year. In reality

I was saving a lot more than that without even fully realising it," Aaron said.

"That equates to about 110 hours, or a whole month of work for someone in a government job, so that is a lot of time that I can spend on other businesses, my family, my own time, or being able to sleep at night."

Aaron also expects productivity improvements through yield, which he will only be able to quantify after using the automation for a few more years.

Rather than irrigating less, Aaron has learnt that he was often applying insufficient water for his cane at peak times, which he is rectifying through pulse irrigation.



This involves irrigating one poor soaking set for an hour, changing to a second set for an hour, changing to a third set with better soakage for four hours, and then switching back to the first blocks for another hour each. This appears to be improving the wetting and infiltration on these blocks.

"Without the automation you just could not physically do it. Even if you lived on site, it would be a huge job," he said.

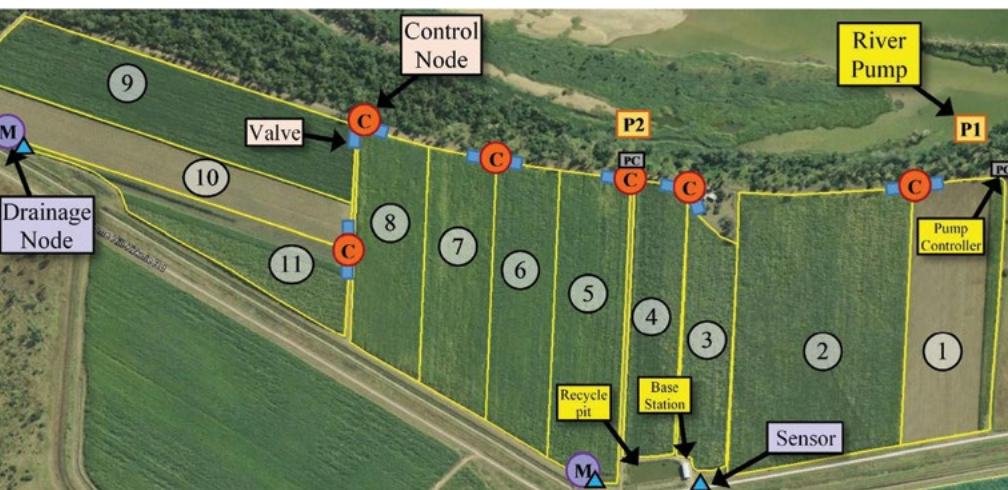
Aaron is also able to take advantage of specific cheaper irrigation tariffs, something he said was increasingly important as electricity prices continued to increase year-on-year.

He was previously on a day/night tariff (tariff 65), whereas now he has switched to a weekend tariff (tariff 62) to use the cheaper off-peak hours.

"That, of course, means irrigating all weekend, but with a young family that just wasn't possible before. Now I use the iPad to set up the program and off it goes.

"If there is problem, it emails me and I can be anywhere, so long as I have internet reception."

To establish the automation, pump controllers have been installed on both pumps and there are 11 actuators which are controlled by six actuator control radios.





***"Without the automation you just could not physically do it. Even if you lived on site, it would be a huge job."***

*Pictured: (top) Steve Attard with AgriTech solutions discusses the automation work undertaken by Aaron Linton; (above) Burdekin cane grower Aaron Linton; (right) The whole farm is now automated and irrigation can be remotely operated, able to be checked by computer or smartphone. For Aaron who lives 35km from the farm, this means a big saving in time and fuel because he doesn't have to travel as much; (left) Linton map: The layout of the 53 hectares and 11 automated irrigation sets. 42ha on the other side of the road are under automated drip.*

The layout of the fields and drainage network allows the system to monitor the runoff from all eleven blocks with three drain sensors.

Pressure transducers have been installed in the pipelines from the pumps to monitor the height of water and to provide a fail-safe should something go wrong.

For example, if a valve fails to open and the pressure increases above a calibrated limit, the system will either shut down or will send Aaron an alert.

Aaron was also interested in monitoring flows, therefore the existing mechanical water meters were replaced with electronic meters that are able to log water usage and be compatible with the WiSA software.

"I've gone weeks without going to the farm now in peak irrigation season when I haven't had to do any other work there. All the sensors and equipment are showing me that there are no problems. I've just let it run its course and everything's been perfect, every time."

He encourages anyone interested in automation to calculate and value their own time. Through the project, the assumptions were for a 3.5-year payback period for Aaron, not including yield improvements.

"It does seem expensive when you are going to install it but the benefits are worth it," he said.

"Even if you are considering electricity and if you miss the changeover for a tariff, the cost can switch from say 17 cents to 48 cents, and those mistakes can add up quickly.

"Even for farms that are gravity-fed from the SunWater schemes, water is generally \$50 to \$60 per megalitre, so the cost of over-irrigating can add up.

"And that's before you get to the crop benefits of getting water on when it is needed, or avoiding water logging."

Visit <https://sugarresearch.com.au/sra-information/media/> to see the CaneClip of Aaron's experience. ■



# Nutrient management with irrigation

Supplied by Lindsay Corp NZ

Precision agriculture technologies continue to push the limits and allow cane growers to sustainably manage natural resources and reduce negative environmental impacts.

Lindsay Corporation, the manufacturers of Growsmart® Precision VRI (Variable Rate Irrigation), have recently released new nutrient management tools, giving growers advanced control and reporting capabilities when applying nutrients through their Precision VRI system.

The exciting new features enable growers to create irrigation plans to apply fertigation and/or chemigation to specific areas under an irrigator with Precision VRI technology.

The intelligent system will automatically switch to a specified plan when fertigation or chemigation is being injected into the irrigation water line.

This enables growers to target resources to maximise sugarcane growth, ensuring efficient use of inputs such as water, fertigation and chemigation, yet preventing leaching and run-off.

The Precision VRI technology individually pulses sprinklers on and off, while also controlling the irrigator speed to modify the application depth along the length of the irrigator.



Control of the irrigator speed and individual valves allows the amount of water and nutrients applied to each area to be carefully regulated, optimising application efficiencies.

As well as varying irrigation and nutrient application according to spatial variations in soil characteristics, Precision VRI can also be used to avoid irrigating over buildings, tracks, roads and non-productive areas.

Buffered avoidance zones can be placed around environmentally sensitive areas and waterways, which may be particularly important for growers choosing to fertigate or chemigate.

Lindsay understands the expectations placed on cane growers to demonstrate to the community, to government and to their neighbours that they can manage natural resources responsibly.

Proof-of-placement reports, analysing individual nutrients applied, help growers to justify responsible nutrient application.

Growers can produce reports covering various time periods - from a 24-hours right up to an entire irrigation season. This can also be helpful for future decision-making.

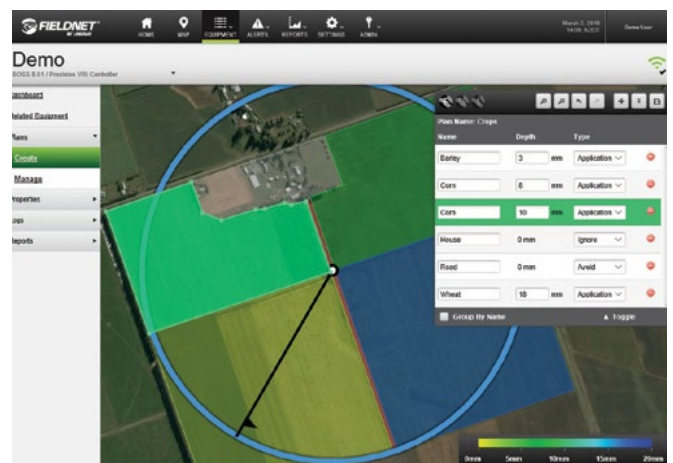
Growsmart Precision VRI is compatible with centre pivots, laterals, pivoting laterals and reverse pivoting laterals. It can be installed on new irrigation systems or as an add-on to existing systems.

For more information, contact your local Growsmart by Lindsay dealer or visit [www.growsmartvri.com](http://www.growsmartvri.com) for more information.

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# BALANCING ACT

## Managing weeds and water quality outcomes

Pesticides, and especially herbicides, have been a key culprit in the Queensland sugarcane industry's water quality management dilemma.

Specifically highlighted in the Reef Plan and subject to varying levels of government regulation, pesticide management is understandably a core component of the industry's best management practice program, Smartcane BMP.

But how much do we really know about the impact herbicides have on the environment?

Organisations including James Cook University, the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF), Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation (DSITI), Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM), Sugar Research Australia and others, are collaborating to increase our understanding and knowledge of how commonly-used herbicides move off paddocks, their persistence and the concentrations found in the environment.

Many uncertainties still exist.

There is still a lot of research to be done to understand what the presence of

herbicides, and the concentrations of those herbicides, really mean for the health of our waterways and the Great Barrier Reef.

While water quality guidelines are available for some products, such as diuron and atrazine, a lack of guidelines for many others commonly used by the sugar industry, and found in the environment, has made assessing their environmental risks difficult.

This in turn has made making clear management recommendations back to growers challenging for researchers and agronomists.

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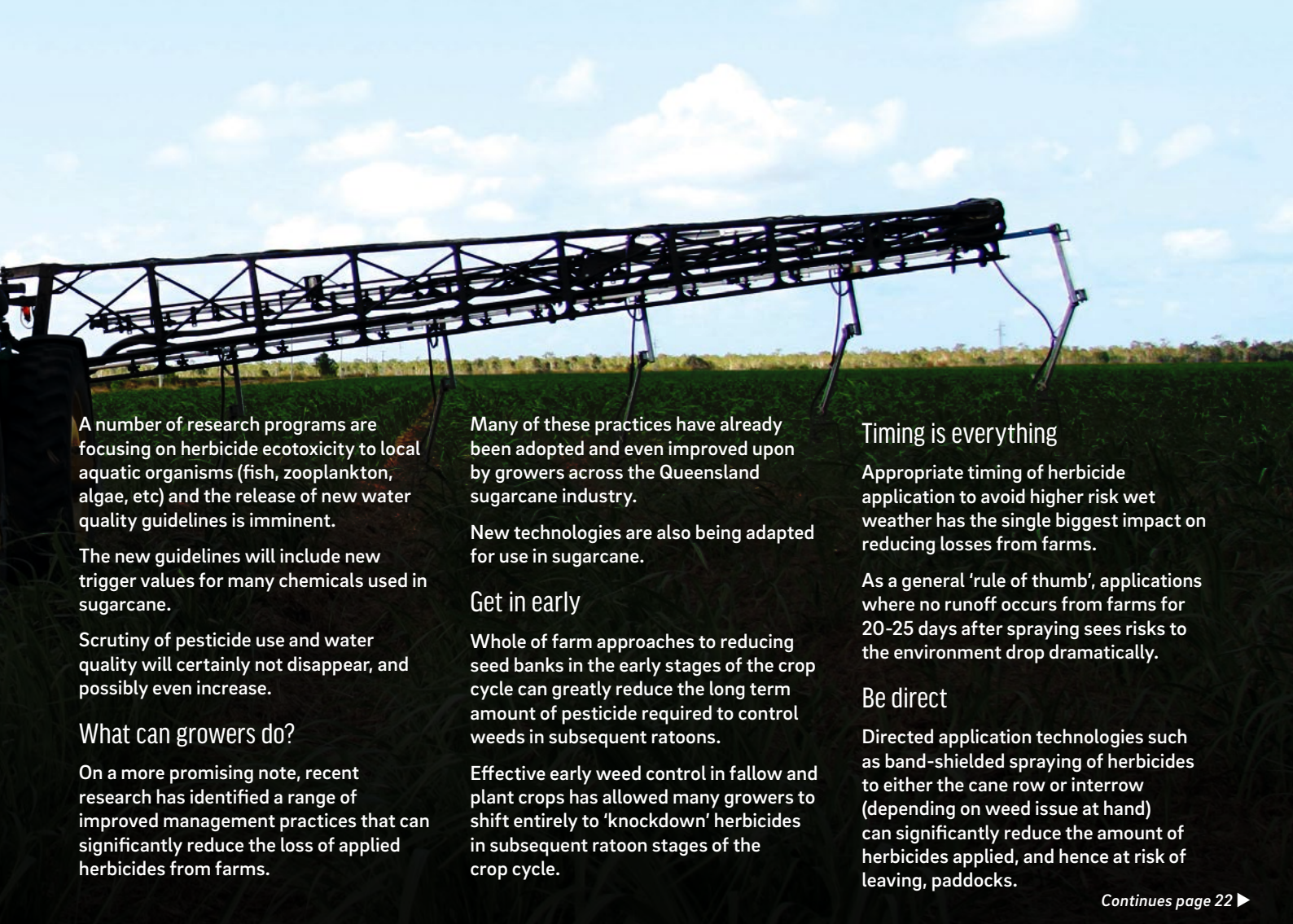
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A number of research programs are focusing on herbicide ecotoxicity to local aquatic organisms (fish, zooplankton, algae, etc) and the release of new water quality guidelines is imminent.

The new guidelines will include new trigger values for many chemicals used in sugarcane.

Scrutiny of pesticide use and water quality will certainly not disappear, and possibly even increase.

### What can growers do?

On a more promising note, recent research has identified a range of improved management practices that can significantly reduce the loss of applied herbicides from farms.

Many of these practices have already been adopted and even improved upon by growers across the Queensland sugarcane industry.

New technologies are also being adapted for use in sugarcane.

### Get in early

Whole of farm approaches to reducing seed banks in the early stages of the crop cycle can greatly reduce the long term amount of pesticide required to control weeds in subsequent ratoons.

Effective early weed control in fallow and plant crops has allowed many growers to shift entirely to 'knockdown' herbicides in subsequent ratoon stages of the crop cycle.

### Timing is everything

Appropriate timing of herbicide application to avoid higher risk wet weather has the single biggest impact on reducing losses from farms.

As a general 'rule of thumb', applications where no runoff occurs from farms for 20-25 days after spraying sees risks to the environment drop dramatically.

### Be direct

Directed application technologies such as band-shielded spraying of herbicides to either the cane row or interrow (depending on weed issue at hand) can significantly reduce the amount of herbicides applied, and hence at risk of leaving, paddocks.

*Continues page 22 ►*

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◀ Continued from page 21.

These do tend to be practices most applicable to specific weed problems, and considerable effort and technical support may be required to get best value for money out of this equipment

### Go high-tech

Some innovative cane farmers and their agronomists are beginning to use weed mapping and GPS variable rate controller technology to apply variable rates of herbicide across paddocks, depending on specific weed location and weed pressure.

Others are beginning to develop uses for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) in mapping outbreaks of weeds like vines and to apply aerial spot sprays to specific outbreaks.

### Use your senses

Research is currently in progress to develop sensor systems that can differentiate weeds from cane, allowing for the potential development of automated spraying systems in the row as well as in the interrow.

Some of these technologies still require significant development to become mainstream, but the pace of innovation is increasing year to year.

### Challenges ahead

While growers have clearly made significant progress in improving many aspects of herbicide management, a number of weed control issues also pose major ongoing challenges for the industry.

Later finishes to harvesting seasons that sometimes extend well into December are becoming more commonplace.

This is a time of major weed pressure in new or recently harvested crops, and late season applications of residual herbicides is desirable due to grower fears of not being able to get back onto paddocks after rain and therefore losing productivity to weeds.

In what is becoming an increasingly complex chemical management environment, one of the biggest challenges facing the industry is ongoing technical support and advice on the specific agronomic and environmental practicalities of improved herbicides management practices.

Increased grower access to farm consultancy, and ongoing engagement and dialogue between growers, advisors and researchers is going to be critical in working through the issues and solutions.

*Article supplied by: Dr Aaron Davis (Principal Research Officer, Centre for Tropical Water & Aquatic Ecosystem Research, James Cook University), Emilie Fillols (Weed Agronomist, SRA), Bellinda Billing (Principal Researcher - Water Quality, SRA) and Phil Ross (Adoption Officer, SRA)*

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Next deadline is **21 August 2017**.

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## Classifieds

### Mossman-Tully

7 Tyne Lely Ripper & Roller Drawbar. \$11,000. Ph. 0427327977

3 x JCB 2135 with 6 Tonne HBM Tipplers, Good Condition, \$44,000 each inc GST. Can Separate. Ph. 0437 932 489 or 0427 337 601  
STL shares for sale. Make an offer. Ph. 4055 4065

### Herbert River-Burdekin

4/5 Kelly Lewis pump, 25HP electric motor VGC on solid frame \$1,000. Ph. 0417 798 541  
6" Ornel turbine pump 25HP elec. motor \$1,500. Ph. 0417 798 541

60LB Rail in GC, 1km available; cement sleepers are available if needed. Suitable for shed or strainer posts etc. Ph. 0428 761 549  
Harmonic Balancer to suit Ford 5000 1976 Model. GC \$200 plus GST. Ph. 0407 154 250

### Mackay-Proserpine

1 x 14.9-24 8ply Starmaxx; 80% tread; \$380 GST inc. 2 x 14.9-38 Starmaxx radials on rims & centres to fit Case; \$4,500 GST inc. Ph. 0488 598 447

Drop-deck with ramps to move harvesters & tractors; 20 & 40ft container pins. Ph. Shane 0428 007 955 or Mick 0438 167545

DitchWitch R100 trenching machine with back hoe attachment. F10 Volvo 10-tonne tipper with tagalong trailer used to transport trencher. Ph. 4959 2260

12T self-propelled 6x6 elev infielder VGC. 6t side/tipper on Leyland tandem GC. Don Mizzi 741 model on Fiat 750 special turbo plus MF102 half-tracks to suit. Mason 9550 4-row precision vacuum seed planter GC. 0438 606 578 (Mackay)

Sprayrite Tempo 1200 Spray Tank, Brand New, 1200L Capacity UV resistant tank, 170LPM PTO driven Pump feeding a 5 section electric controlled spray controller, Heavy Duty 3point Linkage carry frame, \$22,000 Inc. ono. Ph. 0428 236 165

### Bundaberg-Rocky Point

Austoft Powerhaul 9-tonne highlift, good condition. Ph. 0418 711 411

J I Case 1194 tractor similar to David Brown 885 2 Post ROPS 49 hp 2 Speed PTO 12 Forward & 4 Reverse Power Steering 3 Point Linkage & Drawbar approx 3000hrs, rear tyres 90% Some panels need repainting \$7500. Ph. 0148 874 615

Massey 205 Harvester hydraulic drive as is, hydraulics in good condition. V8 Perkins engine. Ph. 41593323 after 6pm

Quinco Fertiliser Distributor - discs, coulter, rippers rollers stainless steel drive \$8,500+GST. Ph 0403 598 345.

Trailco irrigator T450, no hose \$7,500; Southern Cross irrigator 200, \$7,500 inc gst; 4 Tyne Ripper \$2,500 inc gst; Kubota Inter-row tractor with spray tank \$6,750. All prices ono. Ph. 0419 577 110

## Rainfall Report

brought to you by AustSafe Super

Location	Recorded rainfall (mm)			Average rainfall (mm)
	7 days to 9am		Year to date	January–August
	31.07.17	07.08.17		
Mossman	0	0	1624	1795
Mareeba AP	2	0.4	597	731
Cairns	4	0.4	1321	1655
Mt Sophia	11	5	2489	2725
Babinda	0	0	1250	3517
Innisfail	17	14	2591	2967
Tully	11	5	1861	3433
Cardwell	0.6	2	1363	1716
Lucinda	1	5	1469	1753
Ingham	0.1	3	1174	1631
Abergowrie	0	2	789	1488
Townsville	0	4	643	898
Ayr DPI	0	0.6	770	743
Proserpine	0	2	1265	1077
Mirani	0	0	1101	1183
Mackay	0	3	1832	1240
Sarina (Plane Ck)	0	0	2433	1344
Bundaberg	0	0	456	686
Childers South	0.4	21	629	585
Maryborough	0.2	6	425	822
Tewantin	0	0.6	888	1270
Eumundi	0	3	756	1231
Nambour	0.2	2	675	1222
Woongoolba	0	8	707	960
Murwillumbah	0	0	1217	1154
Ballina	0	0	1379	1350
Woodburn	0	0	1349	1035

### JOHNNY FARMING COMPANY

#### New Hydraulic Heavy Duty

#### OFFSETS

3 metre width, 28 discs,  
All bath bearings  
\$11,000 plus GST (\$12,100 incl GST)  
Other size offsets available are 1.8m, 2.2m,  
2.5m, 3m & 3.4metres.  
3 point linkage offsets available also



#### New Heavy Duty SLASHERS

2.1 metres width \$3,300 incl GST  
Other sizes available are 1.2m, 1.5m & 1.8m

**Johnny Farming Company**  
Phone (07) 4952 2577 or 0412 535 887 (John)  
or 0407 638 674 (Andrew)  
133 Schmidtke Road Mackay Qld 4740



**AustSafe  
Super**



The industry super  
fund for rural and  
regional Australia.

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](http://www.bom.gov.au). Weather report provided by the Bureau of Meteorology's Commercial Weather Services Unit.

Howard Rotary Hoe, AH80 \$5,500 inc gst;  
David Brown with 5ft slasher and loader,  
\$10,000 inc gst; International 856 with  
loader \$8,750 inc gst; Bag Lifter \$950;  
International 766 Tractor \$7,750 inc gst;  
All prices ono. Ph. 0419 577 110

## WESTCOTT ENGINEERING

### HARVESTER BLADE RESHARPENING

*We offer pickup and delivery  
for large quantities.*

\* Various sized resharpened harvester blades for sale \*

### Tungsten Hardfacing

- EXCAVATOR TEETH
- BUCKET TEETH
- RIPPER POINTS
- BASECUTTER BLADES
- BASECUTTER DISKS  
(BUILT-UP, REPAIRED AND HARD FACED)
- HARVESTER SHOES  
(BUILT-UP, REPAIRED AND HARD FACED)
- FAN HARD FACING & BALANCING

**Phone Brendon 0428 220 789**  
20 Westcott Rd, Homebush, QLD 4737

LAZER BUCKET 8' new, extra heavy duty  
\$31,900. Ph. 0432346549  
MULTI-PLYER 3-point linkage, new \$14,960.  
Ph. 0432346549

### New South Wales

John Deere 1730 Maxemerge plus planter  
9 15" Rows, transport trailer & spares.  
Ph. 0419433608

### Wanted

STL shares wanted. Genuine grower.  
Pay market price. Let's keep STL shares  
in the hands of non-miller growers.  
Ph. 0419717006 or 0408448227

Single bin Muddy trailer Ph. 0417074965

Trailco TP40 Poly Reel irrigator or similar.  
Ph. 0429 600 211

Wanted 1x 125x80-400 centrifugal pump.  
Ph. 0412 781 196

Wanted to Buy: Irrigation Motor & 4" Pump  
Air cool 40 to 60HP. Ph. 07 49596197

Good print copy of "They're all Half  
Crazy", please check your bookshelf.  
Ph 0438 787 445

CANE WANTED for 2017 and subsequent  
seasons. Tully area. Shawn Ph. 0418782815

Tractor tyres – BUY & SELL. All sizes.  
Ph. 0418775698

5" aluminium irrigation pipes with Ajax  
couplings. 4" irrigation pipes with Southern  
Cross couplings – with or without sprinklers.  
Also wanted a quantity of sprinklers, and 4"  
Southern Cross couplings. Ph. 0407 595 218

### Positions Vacant

Position available for an Infielder Operator in  
Burdekin area. Ph. 0418 778 411

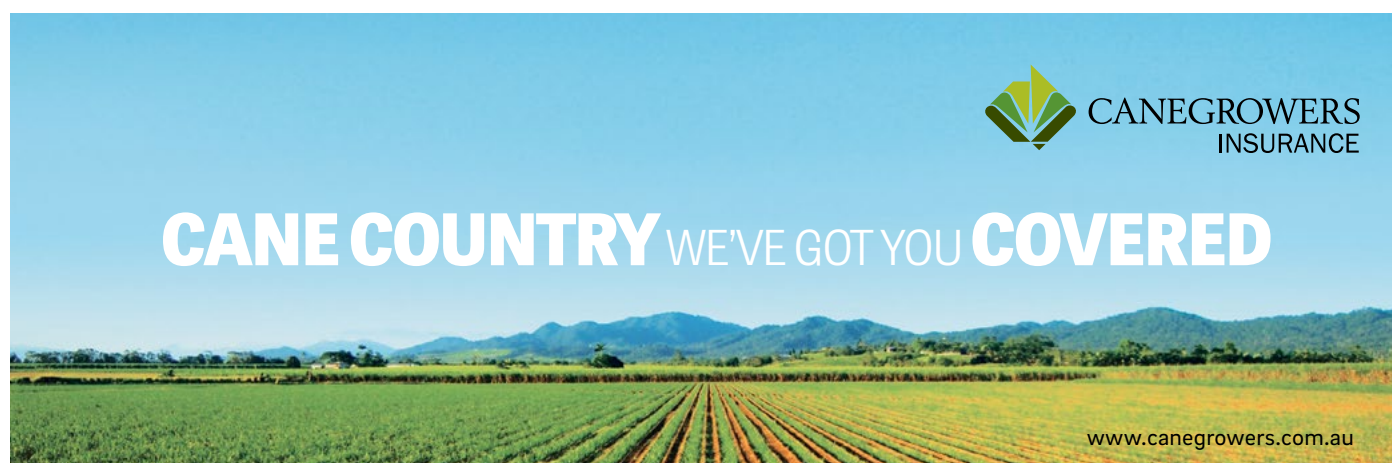
Experienced person in all aspects of cane  
growing, fully irrigated farm, 4-bedroom  
house, close to town, Mirani area.  
Ph. 0419654457 or 0749389100


### Property

ABERGOWRIE: Cane farm on Tarakan Rd,  
270 acres freehold. Genuine enquiries please  
phone 47774633 or 0408608664

Wanted to buy a cane farm in Marian  
Mirani or 30mins from Mackay area 85ha+.  
0407 629 940

INGHAM: Cane Farm for sale. Hawkins  
Creek. Total area 48.3ha. CPA 46.6ha. Shed,  
electricity & water. Genuine enquiries Ph.  
0407 635 175





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INSURANCE**

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brokers have access to a range  
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As a membership service,  
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CANEGROWERS Insurance  
brokers will visit you on farm to  
talk over your insurance needs.

### Help to lodge claims

If something goes wrong and  
you need to report a claim, we  
are here to assist you during the  
claims process.

**Contact your local CANEGROWERS Office to discover how WE CAN HELP YOU!**



# DOING THE SAME THING EVERY DAY FOR 175 YEARS. THAT'S INNOVATION.

Since 1842, we've been in an endless cycle of innovation. Fuelled by a desire to help you squeeze every ounce of productivity out of every hectare you farm. After every breakthrough — from the first Farmall® to our new Early Riser® planters — we've gotten up every day since with a mission to make them better. More efficient. And more productive for you.

Which is why, for the next 175 years, we intend to continue doing the same thing every day.



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THE HEART OF FARMING BEATS RED

