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COVER IMAGE: Burdekin growers Ian and Helen Becke are using solar to ease the pain of skyrocketing power prices. Read more on page 12.

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A difficult year comes to a close

By Dan Galligan, CEO CANEGROWERS

As the season comes to an end, most in our industry are looking for some positive signs to bring us into the Christmas break. I found some at the recent Policy Council meeting.

From a weather perspective, almost every sugarcane district has faced difficulties in 2019. From fire recovery and flooding in the early part of the year, through to severe drought and/or chronically dry conditions throughout this harvest and planting season.

It has been tough going all round, but we've come through it as best we can.

This sense of rising to a challenge and resilience was evident when CANEGROWERS' Policy Council held its final meeting of 2019 in Brisbane last month.

As always, the meeting focussed on industry policy, with issues around transport, Great Barrier Reef, cane burning authorisation and workplace health and safety all considered.

Two important and critical presentations provided insight and optimism - one from the National Farmers' Federation (NFF) President **Fiona Simson** and the other from the CEO of the Primary Industry Education Foundation, **Ben Stockwin**.

The NFF has set in motion a national conversation around building Australia's agricultural sector into a \$100 billion industry by 2030. Part of its strategy is a new public communications campaign called 'telling our story'.

This campaign is a fresh approach and a long-term strategy to reinforce what are already strong foundations of community trust. Research evidence suggests the community maintains a high level of trust in farmers, but consumers also have lots of questions about what farmers do.

The NFF is tackling this issue head on and CANEGROWERS is proud to be working with it on this policy.

Equally important to our industry's future is a long-term plan by the Primary Industry Education Foundation to build capacity in the school curriculum to

recognise and teach agriculture and build agricultural resources for teachers to access.

However, these meetings aren't all about developing strategies to tackle the industry's big issues.

One of the most important aspects of the Policy Council is that it allows growers from across the industry to come together and share stories of challenges and successes, while also working on plans for the future.

CANEGROWERS provides wonderful and important opportunities for growers and their families to gather as a community.

This fellowship and sense of belonging reinforces our belief that together we will go further than we would if we travelled alone.

With this magazine you should find a bumper sticker with the message Growing Together - please display it proudly!

As the year draws to a close, I wish all growers, their families and all industry stakeholders a happy and safe Christmas with ample time to make happy memories together in the hope of good future and a good seasons in 2020. ■



"I wish all growers, their families and all industry stakeholders a happy and safe Christmas."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Global growers gather

The World Association of Beet and Cane Growers (WABCG), which comprises 36 farmer associations in 34 countries, has met in London and underlined the importance of innovation in this period of low sugar prices.

CANEGROWERS Chairman **Paul Schembri**, who is a Vice-President of WABCG, gave Australia's country update and reported he was confident of a decision in Australia's World Trade Organisation complaint against Indian sugar subsidies, by mid next year.

CANEGROWERS Head Economics **Warren Males** shared Australia's approach of growers and mills managing price risk independently. He said it was being closely monitored by the European industry.

In a statement, WABCG said innovation to fight the effects of price volatility on growers should be promoted and innovative contracts, facilitating cohesion between growers and factories, and mitigating risks for the production chain, should also be promoted.

WABCG has finalised a study on certification and segmentation to bring extra value to sugar beet and sugarcane. It said examples around the world showed that certification, when built by growers, could be a tool to spread good practices in the field.

WABCG is promoting innovation saying that in addition to sugar, ethanol, electricity or biogas production, cane and beet have exceptional diversification potential that should be promoted to mitigate the effect of low sugar prices and for environmental benefits.

It said innovation should be built by recognised, united, financially independent growers' associations, committed to supporting growers and allowing them to be heard and respected.

Also in Europe, the Global Sugar Alliance held a 20th anniversary meeting. **Justin Brown PSM**, Australian Ambassador to the European Union, NATO, Belgium and Luxembourg, reflected on how the strengthening and enforcement of trade rules have improved the world sugar market. He congratulated the Alliance on its contribution.

As well as reaffirming their support for the WTO case, Alliance members called on all WTO members to strengthen the Organisation's institutional structures to ensure India's compliance with its commitments. ■

STOP PRESS

CANE GROWERS TAKE OUT TOP REEF AWARDS

As this issue of *Australian Canegrower* went to print, the winners of the 2019 Queensland Farmers' Federation Reef Champion Awards were being announced, with cane growers once again winning some of the most prestigious titles.

Fishery Falls grower **Len Parisi** took home the marquee Prince of Wales Award for Environmental Leadership and Reef Sustainability, while Aloomba's **Rossi Family** was named winner of the Reef Nutrient Champion Award.

Len Parisi was recognised for his ongoing efforts to restore river and wetland ecosystems around his property, while also making significant changes to his nutrient management program and reducing run-off.

The Rossi Family was awarded for the innovative production and use of compost on their farm to reduce the need for inorganic nitrogen fertiliser.

Queensland Farmers' Federation (QFF) CEO **Dr Georgina Davis** congratulated the winners and finalists and highlighted the importance of acknowledging the efforts of farmers to safeguard the future of the Reef and coastal systems.

"The outstanding achievements of farmers, extension officers and community members nominated for these awards is testament to agriculture's commitment and achievements in improving water quality through practice change and innovation in Reef catchment areas," Dr Davis said.

We'll have a full report on the winners and finalists in the January 2020 issue of *Australian Canegrower*. ■

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Grower takes lead of QFF

CANEGROWERS Board member **Allan Dingle** has stepped up his representation of farmers a notch and taken on the presidency of the Queensland Farmers' Federation.

The Bundaberg sugarcane, soybeans and fodder grower has been a Director of QFF since 2014 and becomes president as **Stuart Armitage** steps down.

"Queensland's farmers have a lot to be proud of as they provide the highest quality produce for people at home in Australia and many more around the world," Mr Dingle said.

"I appreciate this opportunity to further represent my fellow farmers as QFF collaborates with industry, government and the community to overcome existing challenges and realise the opportunities for the future of the state's agriculture sector."

In a further change at the organisation representing Queensland's intensive, semi-intensive and irrigated agriculture industries, Dr **Georgina Davis** is taking over from **Travis Tobin** as Chief Executive Officer. Mr Tobin is moving to the Cattle Council.

Dr Davis brings 25 years of experience to the role.

"I look forward to supporting and striving for a better deal for Queensland's farmers and highlighting the exceptional quality of the food, fibre and foliage they produce and the amenity they provide," she said. ■

Pictured: New QFF CEO Dr Georgina Davis and CANEGROWERS Board member Allan Dingle.



SEASONS GREETINGS FROM CANEGROWERS

Throughout 2019 we've enjoyed keeping you up-to-date with all the latest sugarcane industry news and events. We hope you have enjoyed reading the magazine this year and we look forward to your continued support.

BIG changes are coming

From January 2020, *Australian Canegrower* will be published monthly instead of fortnightly. But don't worry, you won't be missing out on anything. In fact, the magazine will double in size, so you'll have the same amount of content, but the longer time between issues will enable us to deliver more quality contributed articles and more in-depth analysis of important industry issues.

Merry Christmas

From all the staff at CANEGROWERS, we wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year! To celebrate the Festive Season, this issue is packed full of exciting items from CANEGROWERS!

The **CANEGROWERS 2020 Calendar** will help you keep track of all your important events. Featured on the cover are three generations of the Rossi family from Aloomba, proudly CANEGROWERS members and Smartcane BMP accredited.



Never miss an important date with your **CANEGROWERS 2020 Pocket Diary** on hand. Capture and track all of your important rainfall data in 2020 with your **CANEGROWERS 2020 Rainfall Chart**. And this year we also have **CANEGROWERS Bumper Stickers** along with an exciting competition.

BUMPER STICKER PHOTO COMPETITION



Want to show your support for the sugarcane industry and be in with a chance to win a great prize? Slap a CANEGROWERS bumper sticker on your ute, harvester, haulout, whatever - take a snap of it on farm and email it to us to be in with a chance to win.

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For terms & conditions visit our website: www.canegrowers.com.au

CANEGROWERS REGIONAL ROUND-UP

Supplied by CANEGROWERS district offices

CAIRNS REGION

Weather still remains on the dry side, with some rain forecast in the near future. With both mills just finishing the 2019 crushing, we are awaiting final figures. Those growers supplying Mulgrave Mill commenced crushing on 20 June, while those supplying South Johnstone commenced on 21 June. Both mills finished in relatively close proximity with Mulgrave finishing on the 22 November. Preliminary figures indicate 1,159,432 tonnes went through the rollers at Mulgrave Mill.

TULLY

The crush has been completed and Tully growers, like everyone else, are hoping for rain. At the time of writing, just 2mm had been recorded for the month of November, which looked on track to break 2006 record for low November rainfall of 4.5 mm.

BURDEKIN

More than 50 members attended the Annual General Meeting of CANEGROWERS Burdekin on 20 November.

Marine Physicist Dr Peter Ridd was the guest speaker and addressed the reliability of the evidence demonstrating damage to the Great Barrier Reef and the need for better quality control in scientific research.

Matt Kealley, CANEGROWERS Member Engagement and Innovation Manager also addressed the meeting updating members on the activities being undertaken by CANEGROWERS and the district offices.

In addition, the members present had the opportunity to farewell General Manager Wayne Smith who had announced his retirement earlier this year and will be concluding his time with CANEGROWERS at Christmas, after 15 years.

Wayne acknowledged and thanked the Directors, members and staff with whom he had worked since beginning with CANEGROWERS in 2004. In recognition of his years of service to growers and the organisation Chairman Phil Marano presented Wayne with a suitably engraved memento of a mounted silver cane knife (pictured right).

INNISFAIL

South Johnstone Mill finished crushing for the 2019 season at 12.25am on 25 November. Final figures were not yet available for this report but it is likely that the official forecast estimate for tonnes to be crushed at the mill was less than the expected 1,247,000 tonnes. It is expected that the Seasonal Average CCS will finish just under 13.0. Overall, it's been a disappointing season, with the district yield under 70 tonnes per hectare.

No reasonable falls of rain have been experienced across the district since late October.

HERBERT RIVER

The Herbert River District completed the 2019 crush on Monday, 25 November, following a slow week at the mill due to the high fibre content and hot conditions. The mills surpassed the 4 million tonne mark at around 8am on Friday, 22 November. The last updated estimate from the mill was around 4.04 Million tonnes.

The mills crushed 183,207 tonnes in Week 22, with Victoria Mill crushing 123,821 tonnes and Macknade crushing 59,386 tonnes. The majority of groups finished on Saturday with around four groups who cut their last cane on Sunday, 24 November. The final milling train was out early Monday morning. The mills average CCS for all cane crushed for the final week was 14.72, bringing the season-to-date to 13.89. The variety Q208 accounted for 34.2% and Q200 for 19.2 % of cane crushed.



PROSERPINE

Proserpine Mill's season concluded at 6:30am on Saturday, 16 November. Just over 61,000 tonnes of cane was crushed in the final week, bringing the season total to 1,546,803 tonnes. Average CCS for the season was 14.14 units.

It was a difficult year for harvesting contractors and they are to be commended for their hard work and commitment to deliver the crop.

Growers are currently busy preparing the next crop in the expectation of some much-needed rain.

MACKAY

The anticipated finish dates for Mackay Sugar are 3 and 4 December.

Farleigh, Marian and Racecourse mills, have crushed a total of 4,656,996 tonnes (up to the week ended 24 November).

Individual totals for the week were:

- Farleigh – 65,059 tonnes
- Marian – 72,727 tonnes, and
- Racecourse – 52, 738 tonnes.

The total for the week was 190,524 tonnes with a CCS of 15.01 (year to date: 13.96).



L-R: Nick Behrens - QEAS, Jason Bartels - Bundaberg Regional Council, Sheila Charlesworth - BMRG, Dale Holliss - CANEGROWERS Bundaberg, Dean Cayley - CANEGROWERS Bundaberg Director, Robert Powell - Bundaberg Sugar Services Ltd.

PLANE CREEK

A fortnight later than last year but Plane Creek's 2019 cane crop has now been crushed, with Wilmar Sugar mill at Sarina recording the finishing time as 27 minutes past midnight on Monday 25 November.

The estimate of 1.27 million tonnes was achieved which is an improvement on last year's 1.142 million tonnes. The last week of the crush saw 65,000 tonnes of cane crushed with the weekly CCS at 15.52. The season average was a healthy 14.59, only slightly lower than last year's (14.71 units) and just above the original forecast for the season.

The highest CCS for the final week was from a rake of Q208 7R from the Yukan productivity area with a CCS of 17.8 units.

BUNDABERG

Bundaberg Sugar, CANEGROWERS Bundaberg and Bundaberg Sugar Services invited economist Nick Behrens to present a report he prepared for CANEGROWERS at our annual end of harvest lunch in November. The key finding of the report indicates that one dollar in economic activity in cane growing supports an additional \$6.40 elsewhere in the economy and that a vibrant sugarcane industry is crucial to the prosperity and growth of Bundaberg.

Sugarcane farming has a significant value-chain including mills, transport operators, ports, farming contractors, fertiliser, chemical and machinery retailers to name a few. It is the aggregation of all of these individual businesses that makes cane growing an essential industry in supporting approximately \$436m in economic activity, over 1,800 jobs and 1,700 businesses in Bundaberg.

The report indicates that for every \$100 dollars circulating in Bundaberg's \$4.1 billion economy sugarcane accounts for \$10.63 of that.

Finally the report highlighted that sugarcane had been a large part of many Bundaberg residents' lives and a major contributor to the city. Stakeholder consultation indicated that cane growing had been hugely important to the social fabric of the area.

MARYBOROUGH

Dry conditions continue for the district and enquiries about individual drought applications are starting to grow.

Crop insurance top-ups have also been popular as growers protect against the ongoing dry and potential for fires. Give Cameron a call to find out how inexpensive this cover is.

The productivity services tour to Tasmania in mid-January 2020 is now well supported, with over 30 growers booked. Yolande is ensuring your time will be well spent with a very full itinerary. Accommodation and food have been the latest focus and locals are keen to share information on what to see and do in the area. Sounds like it's going to be a great trip.

We would like to wish all members a Merry Christmas and a wet and rainy New Year to kick 2020 off well.

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Policy Update

Environment with Mick Quirk

Industry with Burn Ashburner

Economics with Warren Males

Imidacloprid chemicals under review

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) is reviewing a group of systemic insecticides known as neonicotinoids.

Imidacloprid, used in the sugarcane industry to control grubs, is one of seven active constituents in this group registered for use in Australia.

Based on possible risks to pollinators, aquatic invertebrates, birds and small mammals, the review will be environment-focussed.

The review will consider whether product labels carry adequate instructions to protect community and worker health.

It will also ensure that approved labels align with recently published APVMA guidelines for assessing risk to pollinators and managing spray drift.

The review is standard practice when the APVMA considers there is sufficient new scientific information to revisit a product to ensure the conditions of use are adequate to minimise risks for human health, the environment, animal or crop safety, and/or trade.

The first stage for the Imidacloprid group review seeks public comment on the scope and work plan. CANEGROWERS will work with SRA on an industry submission by the deadline of 3 February 2020.

The full review should be completed within two years. ■



Risks and regulations

I regularly deal with the bureaucrats who diligently draft regulations to cover every situation, so I risk falling into their trap of jargon and acronyms.

Recently I found that, despite articles over the past year about the National Agricultural Vehicle Exemption Notice and the Cane Burning Notification, many growers are unsure about them.

These are what used to be called class permits.

A Notice provides the minimum conditions under which a grower can carry out certain activities which would normally require an individual permit. It's designed to reduce how many permits a grower needs.

A good place to start is for growers to understand and comply with regulations that prevent them getting into serious difficulty. For example:

- When a fire gets of control and the grower doesn't have a permit or isn't able to comply with conditions of the Cane Burning Notification, they may not be covered by the commissioner's cover.
- When there is a serious road accident with an over-dimension farm vehicle without a permit or under the conditions of the Notice, the grower's public liability may not to cover them.

If a you are not sure if you can meet all the conditions of a Notice, seek advice or apply for a permit. This is particularly relevant to cane burning. It's all part of a risk assessment process for your farm. ■



WTO action gains support

The case taken by Australia, Brazil and Guatemala against India's sugar subsidies has made an important step forward, with the appointment of the World Trade Organisation Panel that will look into it.

In November, I participated in meetings in Geneva with the legal teams preparing the arguments Australia, Brazil and Guatemala will put to the Panel. There is a high level of collaboration and cooperation between the countries. Information is being shared and ideas exchanged as a strong case is developed.

The prospects for success are high. One senior trade official said the Australian Government only pursues cases it can win.

There is also wide interest in the case. Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, the European Union, Honduras, Indonesia, Japan, Panama, the Russian Federation, Thailand, and the United States will participate in the proceedings as third parties.

The sugar case and India's reaction to it is also expected to have significant implications for the wider WTO agricultural agenda. Growth in domestic market supports offered by the world's developing economies, principally India and China, is a major concern for Australia, the Cairns Group and the wider WTO.

Senior officials in the European Commission's directorates for Agriculture and Trade along with EU sugar refiner and producer group (CEFS and CIBE) representatives also emphasise the importance of a successful outcome. ■



BURDEKIN LEGUME AGRONOMY WORKSHOPS 2019

By Samantha Ryalls, SRA

Sugar Research Australia's Burdekin and Herbert Soil Health Team recently organised four Legume Agronomy workshops over three days. The workshops were held in four different regions of the Burdekin and the 185 participants had a chance to hear a range of perspectives on legumes and the sugarcane farming system.

The workshops featured speakers from Burdekin Productivity Services, Landmark, Pulse Australia and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries.

These industry experts presented the latest information on the successful establishment and management of legume rotation crops and answered questions from the audience to further explore how growers and advisors can use this information to successfully incorporate legume crops into the sugarcane farming system.

Topics included correct agronomic management of legume crops from local and industry agronomists, benefits of legume crops in the sugarcane farming system, production costs and economic benefits, tips for successful grain handling and storage and grower experiences.

At each event our host growers spoke about their personal experiences growing legumes and the benefits to their productivity and soil health. Special thanks to the host growers **Paul Willis, Willy Lucas, Cy Kovacich and Andrew Cross** for their generosity with time, allowing us to use their shed space and sharing their experiences.

Dr **Danielle Skocaj**, Soil Health Project leader from SRA gave an update on the soil health project in the Burdekin and Herbert regions. Dr Skocaj's project *Measuring soil health, setting benchmarks and supporting practice change in the sugar industry*.

The project is verifying and demonstrating the impact of different farming systems on soil health, productivity and profitability in the Herbert and Burdekin regions.

It is using local extension support from Herbert Cane Productivity Services Limited and Burdekin Productivity Services to assist growers seeking to



transition to different farming practices, giving them the confidence to identify soil constraints and adopt practices which will result in healthier soils.

For growers still considering their options, the project is also demonstrating different farming practices (such as managing the fallow and compaction) on commercial farms and undertaking soil, root and biomass sampling to validate practices on soil and plant health, productivity and profitability.

The SRA Soil Health Project of the Herbert and Burdekin regions is kindly supported by Herbert Cane Productivity Services Ltd, Burdekin Productivity Services, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Wilmar Sugar Australia, The University of Queensland and University of Southern Queensland.

You can read stories on grower experiences from the workshops in the upcoming edition of SRA's *CaneConnection* magazine, out in December. ■

Pictured: (L-R) Danielle Skocaj (SRA), Neil Halpin (DAF), Paul McIntosh (Pulse Australia), Brent Wilson (Landmark), Brock Dembowski (DAF), Caleb Connolly (DAF), Terry Granshaw (BPS).

Correction

In the 18 November issue of *Australian Canegrower* we ran this image alongside an SRA article on the use of imidacloprid. This was the incorrect image and was unrelated to the article. The image features Chris Lyne who is a participant in SRA's Next Crop leadership program. We apologise to our readers for any confusion.



QSL Direct now available in Mossman



By Bryce Wenham
QSL Executive Manager Supplier
Relations and Systems

Mossman growers are the latest to access the full range of QSL pricing and payment services, following the finalisation of our new supply agreement with Far Northern Milling Company Pty Ltd (FNM).

Under the new arrangements Mossman growers will be issued with a QSL Direct online account, which provides them with 24/7 access to a wide range of services, including:

- Nominating tonnes to QSL-managed pools
- Nominating tonnes to grower-managed pricing options and placing, editing and cancelling forward pricing orders
- Receiving payment statements and quarterly/annual reports
- Tracking sugar deliveries and estimated returns
- Running cash flow forecasts to help with budgeting
- Providing 'read-only' access to others, including partners and accountants
- Reading a range of market reports

Mossman growers will also be able to access their QSL Direct accounts on their phones and tablets via the QSL App, available free from the Apple and Google Play stores.

THE SIGN-UP PROCESS

In order to access the services outlined above, Mossman growers need to complete the **QSL Grower Pricing Agreement (GPA)**, available from their local QSL office.

Appointments to complete the GPA are essential and can be made by contacting QSL's FNQ Grower Relationship Officer Amanda Sheppard on 0418 264 393 or via email at Amanda.Sheppard@qsl.com.au.

While QSL growers have until the end of April to finalise their pricing choices for the 2020 Season, those Mossman growers keen to start forward pricing should complete their GPAs as soon as possible, as they cannot access their QSL Direct account or any QSL pricing or payment services until their GPA has been processed.

For further information regarding the sign-on process, QSL's pricing and payment options, or the QSL Direct platform, please visit QSL's Mossman office at 31B Front Street, Mossman, or call your local QSL representative:

- **Daniel Messina: 0429 660 238**
- **Amanda Sheppard: 0418 264 393**

DISCLAIMER:

This update contains information of a general or summary nature. Information about past performance is not an indication of future performance and nothing contained in this update should be relied upon as a representation as to future matters. Any forecasts of future performance are subject to uncertainties and subject to change. In addition, nothing in this update constitutes financial product or investment advice. Growers should seek their own financial advice and read the full Pricing Pool Terms available at www.qsl.com.au before participating in any QSL pricing pool or product.



SELLING STL SHARES TO QSL

LOOKING TO SELL YOUR SHARES IN SUGAR TERMINALS LIMITED (STL)?

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NEXT STEPS

If you are interested in selling your STL Shares to QSL, please contact your local Morgans office, or:

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- **MATTHEW CLARKE** – 07 3334 4520 / matthew.clarke@morgans.com.au

An offer document setting out relevant information is available in print or email form if you wish to consider selling your G-Class STL shares to QSL. This document is available from Morgans or from one of the QSL regional offices. Please note that QSL does not provide financial advice and growers will need to make their own assessment about this matter.

ENERGY EMANCIPATION

SOLAR SET TO SLASH BURDEKIN GROWER'S POWER COSTS

By Wayne Griffin

At a time when spiralling electricity costs are driving many irrigators to the brink, a chance read of an April 2018 *Australian Canegrower* edition inspired Burdekin grower Ian Becke to take his energy future into his own hands, with freedom from crippling power bills.

The 2018 article featured Mackay growers **Andrew and Melissa Deguara**, who, with the help of local solar irrigation specialist, **Ron Coomer**, were set to slash the farm's power bills by up to 50%.

Ian had been grappling with ways to manage his own spiralling electricity costs and was impressed by the story.

He decided to reach out to the Deguaras for advice on how to undertake a similar project on his own 575 hectare farm along the banks of the Burdekin River in the Leichhardt area, 30 minutes west of Home Hill.

"Power prices have been rising for years and that's a big problem for regional

areas where there's no competition - especially places like the Burdekin where everything is irrigated and we're relying on power-hungry pumps to get that water through the paddocks," Ian said.

"Farming is already an expensive business. When you consider all your inputs, the fertiliser, chemicals, water, fuel, the planting, harvesting, all the machinery and maintenance - there are a lot of costs involved.

"That's all part of farming, of course, and you understand that. But when you have electricity costs going up and up every year as well, it gets to a point when you start wondering if it's worthwhile."

Like many irrigators, electricity was one of Ian's biggest expenses, with his bill topping \$75,000 in 2018.

"I'm only a middling size grower, so the bigger farms are paying a lot more. Still, I knew I had to do something to get those costs down," he said.

"So, when I saw the article on the Deguaras I thought, that's something that might work here. Sun is the one





"It won't completely cover our electricity costs, but if all goes to plan, the cost-savings will be significant."

thing we've got plenty of and don't need to pay for."

Ian reached out to the *Australian Canegrower* team and was put in contact with Ron, an electrical engineer with Suncrop, and Andrew and Melissa Deguara.

"I spoke to Ron and he explained the ins and outs of the whole process, but I was still a bit unsure so I got in touch with the Deguaras and spoke to Melissa about their experience.

"She looked after the costing side of the business and is really switched on. She really gave me a lot of confidence in the whole project and that gave me nudge to go ahead with it."

With Ron's help, Ian set about designing and sourcing the most efficient and best value solar system to suit his budget, as well as getting all the appropriate approvals and paperwork in place.

Then, in February of this year, he installed a 30kw system on the family home, followed soon after by a second 30kw system on their neighbouring farm.

Continues on page 14 ►



Pictured: An article in the April 2018 issue of Australian Canegrower featuring Mackay growers Andrew and Melissa Deguara (above) was the inspiration behind Ian Becke's (left) decision to use solar to cut spiralling power costs on his Burdekin farm.



Ian and Helen Becke are confident their new solar network will significantly reduce the farm's power costs.

"It does pay, but you have to do it sensibly. If you don't do your research, and just get it off the guy with the big flashy signs, you'll probably never pay it off."

They are the first steps in what Ian hopes will eventually be a network of nine small-scale solar power generation sites.

When complete, the network will not only power his 13 irrigation pumps, but will also generate income by feeding power back into the grid, slashing his power bill by tens of thousands of dollars in the process.

"Look, it won't completely cover our electricity costs, but if all goes to plan the cost-savings will be significant," he said.

Of course, before the system can generate any cost-savings it must first pay for itself. However, thanks to the Australian Government's Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme that should happen sooner rather than later.

Under the scheme, households and small businesses that install a small scale renewable energy system will receive Small-scale Technology Certificates (STCs) which can be sold to help cover the cost of the system.

The number of STCs received depends on several factors, such as the system's expected power-generation capacity from the year installed until the scheme ends in 2030, and also its geographical location.

The STCs are usually bought on the open market by carbon-intensive industries,

such as coal fired power generation, to help offset emissions.

"We got around 650 STCs when we installed the first system and the last batch I sold I was getting around \$35 each," Ian said.

"So it goes a long way to covering the purchase and installation costs of the system, as long as you've gone about it the right way."

If there is one piece of advice Ian would give other growers thinking of going down the solar path, it's 'make sure you go about it the right way'.

"We did a lot of research and sourced top quality panels and inverters for a good price. We then installed it ourselves and got an electrician in to do all the wiring and replace the electricity meters.

"All up, we got the system installed and operational for about \$4,000. I'd been given quotes of up to \$25,000 for the same thing.

"So, it does pay, but you have to do it sensibly. If you don't do your research and just get it off the guy with the big flashy signs, you'll probably never pay it off.

"You need to shop around for your supplier and do as much work as possible yourself," he said. ■

New AmiTron® herbicide outperforms

Supplied by UPL Australia



A year on from its release, AmiTron® herbicide is proving to be the versatile option for controlling a wide range of weeds and providing long periods of efficacy, especially when rain has been limited and infrequent post-harvest.

Mark Ellwood, UPL Area Sales Manager, said that while AmiTron is a great fit for early application in ratoons and plant cane, it can also be used as a late spray for vines in advanced cane.

"AmiTron is a really versatile herbicide," Mark said. "It can be applied as a directed spray at out-of-hand or serve as a later high clearance application to control vines after canopy closure, eliminating the need to use a helicopter for vine spraying."

"Vines are problematic as they have large tough seeds and the vigour to germinate from depth and push through a trash blanket.

"AmiTron is unique in that it has the ability to move through the soil with pulses of irrigation or rainfall, allowing it to reach deeply embedded germinating vine seeds. And because it's UV stable, you can apply it without worrying about when you'll get follow-up rain."

AmiTron, active ingredient amicarbazone, was released in sugarcane last August, filling the void for a UV stable broadleaf herbicide. It provides both pre- and post-

emergent activity against a wide range of broadleaf weeds (particularly vines), grasses and some sedges.

Minimal rainfall is required for activation of AmiTron – as little as 2-5mm – and short or long-term residual efficacy can be achieved depending on the rate applied.

AmiTron is just as effective over a fresh green trash blanket as it is on bare soil, providing growers with flexibility for use on ratoon or plant cane.

With many cane regions experiencing dry starts in the past few seasons, AmiTron has found its mark as a UV stable broadleaf specialist in weed control programs, reducing risk for growers.

"We've had UV stable grass specialist products for a while in Australia," Mark said. "Now a UV stable product with really strong broadleaf and vine weed performance is available, which is ideal for tank mixes.

"Combining the two gives you longer periods of control of both grasses and broadleaf weeds."

Mark said that he's hearing confirmation of this in the field from growers who tried AmiTron for the first time last season.

"Growers are seeing long term residual control across the board with AmiTron, up to 14 weeks.

"I think what cane growers are finding the most impressive is the level of vine and broadleaf control from a UV stable herbicide. There really is nothing else on the market at the moment that can do this and be applied at any time," he said.

He added that "growers using AmiTron as a late application last season noticed far fewer vines when it came around to harvest time from just one spray at out-of-hand."

Cane growers who haven't tried the new herbicide this year can still use AmiTron later this season to control troublesome vines. A post-emergent spray of 1kg/ha can be applied in ratoons or plant cane after canopy closure for effective vine control.

For more information on AmiTron visit www.amitron.com.au ■

Advertising feature

Howard Dealer of the Year 2019

With a trading history that spans over 46 years in Queensland, NQAS POWERSHED is resoundingly committed as a family owned company in servicing and supporting local agricultural communities throughout Queensland and Northern NSW.

Founded in the small township of Home Hill, Queensland, NQAS POWERSHED is uniquely positioned with its group buying power to service the agricultural industry with 10 retail/warehouse locations across Queensland. NQAS has also developed into a world leader in the design, manufacture and supply of quality replacement parts to suit the CASE and John Deere cane harvester machines.

NQAS POWERSHED is an Authorised Howard Distributor and the largest Howard and Maschio machinery stockist in Queensland. The family company also aims to provide an unparalleled level of support to customers by stocking a large range of Howard replacement parts locally. This level of success, service and support has been recognized by the Power Farming Group (PFG) with NQAS POWERSHED being appointed **Howard Dealer of the Year** in June 2019.

"It's a win, win, win for our Customers, NQAS POWERSHED and Howard Australia. We constantly strive to improve customer satisfaction and have built a solid reputation for offering an extensive range of product which is of high quality and excellent value for money."



Bundaberg Branch Manager
Scott Anderson.

Both NQAS and the Howard brands have partnered for over 30 years via the local branch in Bundaberg. Today this unique relationship is stronger than ever with PFG Dealerships now in NQAS POWERSHED Mackay, Proserpine and Tully branches who supply a quality range of machinery from Maschio and Howard including Mulchers, Power Harrows, Folding and Fixed Rotary Hoes, Speed Tillers, Slashers, Roller Mowers and Air Seeders. NQAS POWERSHED is able to offer fantastic deals on machinery and tailored finance and payment plans to suit customer needs.



Territory Sales Representative
Michael Treloar

"When it comes to agricultural supplies, customers are working within an often-demanding industry and want value for money, quality as well as advice and local support they can depend on... and that is what NQAS POWERSHED offers."



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HS-EHD210S2	EHD 210	yes	2.10m	85-unlimited*	Included
HS-EHD240S2	EHD 240	yes	2.40m	100-unlimited*	Included

* HP rating unlimited at 540rpm PTO speed when friction clutch is correctly adjusted.

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HS-EHD210ES2	EHD 210E	Yes	2.10m	85-150	Included
HS-EHD300ES2	EHD 300E	Yes	2.97m	100-160	Included

SOIL TESTS FOR LAND PREP

By Kate Gowdie
Smartcane BMP Manager

Soil sampling and analysis are a major component in land preparation. Understanding the soil make-up provides you with an accurate starting point on which to base your ameliorant and nutrient requirements. There is a legislative requirement as of the 1 December 2019 for all persons carrying out sugarcane cultivation of land in the Great Barrier Reef catchment to undertake soil sampling as per section 6 of the Sugarcane Agricultural ERA Standards.

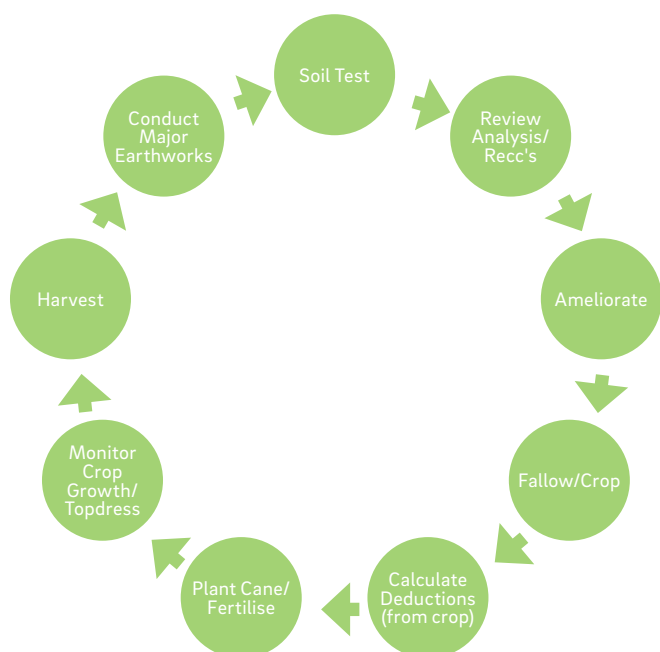
SC6

Soil testing and analysis must be carried out within the 12 months prior to fertiliser being applied to:

- a) a new plant cane crop; or*
- b) a new cane crop cycle if no fertiliser is applied to the plant crop, in accordance with the administering authority's latest version of 'Prescribed Methodology for Sugarcane Cultivation'.*

When to take a soil sample?

If you conduct significant earthworks, including laser levelling, samples should be collected at the completion of this process as the composition of the soil may be significantly altered.



How to take a soil sample?

Use correct materials and techniques, removing the top layer of green cane trash blanket before taking the core sample. Don't use galvanised tools as this may interfere with the sample results. Drill operated augers are a suitable option so long as the auger is not made of galvanised material.



Where to take a soil sample?

Ensure the samples are representative and taken from the correct depth. Avoid sites of recent fertiliser application, water logging or other anomalies (unless these areas are representative of the block). A soil sample that contains an overrepresentation of trash (burnt or green), mill mud or ash, fertiliser or other contaminants may lead to incorrect ameliorant/nutrient recommendations.



What to do with the sample and analysis?

Having taken care to collect your sample and avoiding contamination, it is just as important to handle the sample correctly to prevent further contamination and/or deterioration. Samples should be placed in clean, uncontaminated buckets or bags, kept out of direct sunlight, correctly labelled and packaged and sent for analysis as soon as possible after collection. Avoid sampling later in the week as mail may take longer to reach the laboratory.

Once you have received the analysis and/or recommendations, ensure the nutrient recommendations are compliant with Smartcane BMP and/or legislative requirements. Record your exact application rates.

If you grow sugarcane commercially in any part of the Great Barrier Reef catchment you must use the method of soil sampling and analysis for sugarcane properties regulated under the Environmental Protection Act 1994. The Fertcare soil testing guide is also recognised.

This method outlines the standard required to determine nitrogen and phosphorus requirements for sugarcane crops. To view the method in its entirety, please visit <https://bit.ly/33ff41w> ■

WORKING THROUGH TOUGH TIMES

Article excerpt provided by SuperFriend

Major events like relationship break-ups or the death of a loved one can be life-changing. However, if an entire community goes through a challenging period, such as the droughts and bushfires we're currently seeing, we need to work together as a community to lighten the load for each other.

Shared experience provides the opportunity for communities to come together in a way they may not do so otherwise. It is this connectedness that benefits our community and there are ways we can all encourage this connection, as a protective layer against the feeling of helplessness and despair.

If someone is doing it really tough – ask how you can help

Experiences that aren't within our control often leave people feeling powerless. Something that can help a friend, neighbour or member of your community to restore some sense of control in their life is to ask their permission for anything that you do. This will also allow them to direct you to the most effective way you could provide support. The act of giving support to someone else is also one of the proven ways to improve your own wellbeing.

Give yourself permission to feel how you feel

Feelings of loss and sadness – even if they are not your own – can challenge us personally, as it is natural to share the pain of others. These feelings are completely normal at any time, and even more so during difficult circumstances. Your experience will be as unique as you are and there is no right or wrong way to go through trying times. Give yourself permission to feel how you feel and remind yourself that it will get easier.

Know what to do when you're not feeling good

Not feeling good is your trigger to pick up the phone, text or go and visit someone you know. Even a short chat can bring us back to the present moment and away from feelings of worry. Everyone will have different coping mechanisms, so it's important to know what yours are. Often people find that doing something practical gets them out of their heads. Practising mindfulness using an app like Smiling Mind or Headspace can get you ready for those times you need to focus on the present rather than dwelling on the past or future.

Care for yourself

Sometimes it can be tough to help others. It can leave us feeling tired, sad or low. It's as important to care for yourself as it is to care for those around you. An important part of this is knowing what your limits are. We all have limits to our time, our energy and our skills. By knowing the limit of what you can do, and by not going beyond that limit, you can avoid doing damage to yourself and the other person.

Find support when you need it

The mental health sector has developed excellent resources which collate helpful information around how to cope with natural disasters. We would encourage anyone impacted by the bushfires to familiarise yourself with these materials if you have an opportunity to do so.



Disclaimer: This article has been prepared and issued by Sunsuper Pty Ltd ABN 88 010 720 840, AFSL No. 228975, the Trustee and issuer of the Sunsuper Superannuation Fund ABN 98 503 137 921. Sunsuper is not a mental health service or employee wellbeing consultant and does not provide clinical advice or professional services. We've put this information together as general information only and as such it doesn't take into account your organisation's objectives, situation or needs, or those of your employees. You should get professional advice before relying on this information.

What happens to *drumMUSTER* containers?

Before *drumMUSTER* began, landholders had few available options to dispose of their agricultural and veterinary chemical containers in ethical and environmentally sound ways.

Supplied by Agsafe Ltd

Burying, burning, dumping drums or sending them to landfill were considered by many to be the only ways to manage farm waste.

In the late 1990's the agvet chemical industry along with farmers and local government decided it was time to make some changes and give farmers more options for disposal.

The first collection took place in May, 1999 in Gunnedah, NSW, where landholders surrendered 5,500 containers. These were then processed for recycling and the plastic reused in manufacturing projects.

The idea soon caught on. Today 120 agvet chemical manufacturers participate in the program and display the *drumMUSTER* logo on product labels.

DrumMUSTER's national program manager, **Frank Wimpler**, said Australian landholders demonstrated their commitment to better land management practices through their increasing use of waste management programs.

"Both the *drumMUSTER* and ChemClear programs are a targeted approach to reducing environmental contamination by diverting chemicals and drums from landfill and being burnt," Frank said.

"Plus, the programs enhance food safety by offering an end-of-life pathway for both unused chemicals and their containers.

"They're an effective alternative to the unlawful burying of chemicals and plastics, reducing the risk of water contamination."

When users purchase products, they become part of the agvet product stewardship chain of custody.

The *drumMUSTER* logo indicates the user can deliver the empty, clean containers to one of 814 national collection sites free of charge, as they have already paid a four-cent levy per L/kg towards the recycling of the container.

On delivery, containers are inspected to ensure they meet the cleanliness standard.

Collection agencies, which include local government transfer stations and community groups, take responsibility for collected containers, which are stored in a dedicated, secure facility.

Recycling processors retrieve the containers, which are either chipped onsite or baled then transported to a recycling depot for processing.

Processors place *drumMUSTER* containers through shredders, then the granules are washed and heated up to 250 degrees.

Once the plastic mass reaches molten stage, it is cooled, then heat-extruded to make small pellets, which are packed in bales ready for transport to a remanufacturing plant.

Recycled plastic remanufacturers create useful products such as wheelie bins, cable covers, public furniture, road markers, construction materials and garden equipment. ■

Empty drumMUSTER containers are shredded, washed and melted to create a quality plastic product ready for the next stage of the recycling process: remanufacture.



Give yourselves a big thumbs up Queensland!

Since 2008 Queensland cane farmers have doubled the intake of eligible agvet containers being collected through the **drumMUSTER** program for recycling.

**Remember, every
container counts!**



Rinse them out Round them up Run them in



Find a drumMUSTER location near you



Visit the drumMUSTER website

to find the nearest collection site to you. You can also contact Queensland Regional Consultant Colin Hoey on 0428 964 576. Remember, every container counts.



drummuster.org.au



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Sugarcane – for food and its packaging

In a previous article, I outlined how the bioeconomy can create new diversification opportunities for Queensland's sugarcane industry. As those of us working in the industry know, sugarcane produces more than just sugar. Its uses can go beyond electricity and biofuels.

Sugarcane produces naturally simple compounds that lend themselves to high-tech processing. These compounds can be made into many products, including packaging, pharmaceuticals, and bioplastics.

Recently, I received an email from former Queensland Chief Scientist, **Geoff Garrett**, which highlighted the opportunities available to our industry. Geoff sent me a picture of a plastic milk bottle that he'd found at a supermarket in South Africa.

The bottle proudly stated that it was made from 30% plant-based material and was 100% recyclable - it was made from Brazilian sugarcane.

The label says that sugarcane is a renewable raw material that reduces the company's dependence on oil-based alternatives and has a negative carbon footprint.

With consumers around the world becoming more aware of how their food is produced and the damage that plastic packaging has on the environment, it's not surprising that manufacturers are looking to reduce plastic use and find

options for cost effective sustainable alternatives – with sugarcane being one of those options.

Cups, plates, cutlery and tableware are now being made from sugarcane bagasse pulp. Sugarcane packaging could easily provide a natural, biodegradable and compostable replacement for single-use plastic containers, such as those your take-away meal comes in.

Bioplastics are another option. These are plastics made by extracting sugar from plants like sugarcane and converting it into polylactic acids (PLA). PLA plastic is commonly used in food packaging, such as plastic bottles, utensils and textiles.

Coca-Cola is heading down this route with its PlantBottle made from plastic derived from sugarcane. It first debuted in 2009 and contained 30% plant-based plastic. Today's version is made from 100%.

The company has a goal of replacing all of its plastic bottles with PlantBottles by 2020 and has distributed more than 35 billion bottles in nearly 40 countries.

In November 2019, Tetra Pak, one of the world's largest food processing and packaging companies, became the first to responsibly source plant-based polymers using the Bonsucro standards for sustainable sugarcane.

"We've seen a growing trend of consumers wanting to do more for the planet, and they look to brands to help," said **Mario Abreu**, Tetra Pak's Vice President for Sustainability.

"Today 91% of consumers look for environmental logos when shopping, and Bonsucro's Chain of Custody Certification can be used to communicate credible information to consumers, thereby helping our customers differentiate their products.

"Our plant-based polymers are fully traceable to their sugarcane origin. We see plant-based materials as playing a key role in achieving a low-carbon circular economy. In the future all polymers we use will either be made from plant-based materials or from post-consumption recycled food grades."

Tetra Pak's recently launched Planet Positive initiative urges industry stakeholders to take a broader view of sustainability and evolve the concept of a circular economy to a low-carbon circular economy, going beyond recycling and reuse to include the carbon impact of raw materials and manufacturing.

The use of plant-based materials significantly reduces greenhouse gas emissions, while supporting economic growth that is decoupled from fossil, finite sources.

CANEGROWERS has been working with Bonsucro, Czarnikow Vive and ProTerra on sustainably sourced sugar using Smartcane BMP as the foundation to show our environmental credentials.

CANEGROWERS' Sustainable Sugar Project is investigating how to use blockchain technology to show sugar buyers the provenance of sugarcane, and to test the possibility of premium payments for fully traceable sugar.

As sugarcane is accredited under Smartcane BMP, it's fair to say that other products made from sugarcane, such as electricity and ethanol, are also sustainably produced.

Using Queensland sugarcane to make packaging products such as bioplastic bottles and food containers provides an excellent opportunity to showcase our sustainability credentials and offer diversification for growers and the industry. ■



Matt Kealley
CANEGROWERS Senior
Manager - Membership
Engagement & Innovation

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



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Coil tyne plant cane hiller/tool bar implement. HR 120 inch Howard rotary hoe. Drawbar type baglifter. Hi-ab 8m one tonne crane with PTO pump and reservoir. POA. Ph Jamie: 0427089009.

2017 CH 570 for sale at end of crushing. Well maintained, full service history available. Ph Brian: 0427667964.

4T HBM Side Tipper, Good Condition. Ph: 0428100564.

Second hand loader tyres – 20.5/25 16 ply. Mulgrave area. Ph: 0407160673.

Mackay-Proserpine

94 Toft 7000 Trackie with M11 Engine \$50,000 + GST. 2x 9T Elevator Bins with Tractors \$60,000 + GST per unit; Option to cut approx 20,000 Ton of Cane and lease approx 200 acres. Please email Jfarming@bigpond.com for more details.

2010-8800 case harvester. 2-14 ton mclean single elevator bins coupled to JD 7920 & 7720. 2-newton 10 ton elev tippers coupled to JD 7710s and 1987 hino 9 ton single axel service truck wih hiab. Ph: 0428180492.

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

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

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

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

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

2015 Case Track Harvester 8800, Trimble GPS, shedder topper, hyd. adj. fronts 1.5m to 1.85m. Balance valve fitted front suspension;

iFit engineering chopper drums; Glenella Engineering taper locks on chopper gears; Blackey Bisalloy elevator floors; greasing system; Tungsten on front shoes; floating side walls & base cutter discs. Track transporter; 2x6t side tippers; V10 Mercedes motor; Robot running gear. All GC. Ph: 0427617807.

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

Howard AH Rotary Hoes fully reconditioned - 1x 100", 1x 90", 1x 80". Howard AR Rotary Hoes fully reconditioned - 2x 80". Also

available S/H AR Howard 90". Parts available for Howard AR & AH Rotary Hoes from \$50 to \$500. Ph: 0749595885 or 0407643441.

Chisel plough (Graham Plow Yeomans) 3350 wide or 11' 2230 deep or 7'6", 11 legs (+4 spare legs) with leaf harrows \$3850. Ph: 0749595883 or 0407643441.

FORD TW-25 4WD, 160hp, Genuine 4,477 hrs., 16.9-28 Fronts, Rear Dual (near new 20.8-38 inside & 18.4-38 Outside @ 90%) \$25,000 Inc., Heaps of life still left in this old girl. Ph: 0428236165.

Rainfall Report

Brought to you by Sunsuper

Location	Recorded rainfall (mm)			Average rainfall (mm)
	7 days to 9am		Year to date	January–November
	18.11.19	25.11.19		
Mossman	0	0	2493	2022
Mareeba AP	0	0	637	806
Cairns	0	0	1968	1821
Mt Sophia	0	0	2864	3069
Babinda	0	0	2723	3933
Innisfail	0	1	2991	3290
Tully	0	0	2264	3814
Cardwell	0	0.4	1944	1922
Lucinda	0	0	2266	1925
Ingham	0	0	2662	1835
Abergowrie	0	0	1911	1632
Townsville	0	1	1759	992
Ayr DPI	0	0	953	825
Proserpine	0	0	1439	1211
Mirani	0	0	1431	1333
Mackay	0	0	1070	1382
Sarina (Plane Ck)	0	0	1398	1531
Bundaberg	0.8	0	307	885
Childers South	0	0	307	769
Maryborough	2	0	515	1026
Tewantin	12	0	1000	1542
Eumundi	20	0	544	1504
Nambour	12	1	991	1516
Woongoolba	0	0	613	1202
Murwillumbah	0	0	532	1413
Ballina	0	0	870	1632
Woodburn	0	0	261	1250



dream with
your eyes open

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

Bundaberg–Rocky Point

Self driven small crop planter. 2x Returning disks. Heavy duty trailer with water tank. 1 ton Fertiliser bin with trash incorp. 1 ton Galvanised fertiliser bin with rakes. 3 Tyne ripper. Bundaberg area. Ph: 0458598445.

P&H trash incorporator fertiliser box, plastic bin, stainless steel worm \$10,000 + GST. 100" heavy duty powered rotary hoe \$6,000 + GST. Ph: 0417 617 084.

2014 180 Case Ouma & 14 ton Corridinni Bin. New Holland TVT 155 & 14 ton Carta Bin. 1x 140 CASE Puma with trimble GPS & base station. 1x 1.5 ton fertilizer side dress box. 1x 2 ton bag lifter, 1x Scarifier & 1x Back Blade. 2x Avoca 4 inch irrigators & hoses. 1x 4 furrows square plough Hodge. Ph: 0428937164.

David Brown 990 with loader \$10,000. International 766 \$6,000. Massey Ferguson 1085 \$3,000. Whole stick planter and Whole stick cutter, \$1500 for both. All prices excl. GST. Ph: 0419577110.

Old grey bonel 3 furrow disc plow. Criton Mark 2 Harvester with 135 Massey Ferguson Tractor attached. 2x 6000 Austoft Harvester Elevator Sleys and 1 Ram. Quantity of elevator flights to suit Austoft Cane Harvesters 4000 & 6000. Hydraulic Wheel Motor to fit Austoft

Cane Harvesters 4000 & 6000, as new condition. Quantity of commercial pumps and motors to suit Austoft Cane Harvester 4000, 6000 & Mark 1. Diff and Episicals to suit Austoft Harvester Mark 1 and Mark 2. Dyna Power motors and pumps. Quantity of 5 inch irrigation pipes. Topper to suit Austoft Harvesters 6000 & 7000. Ph: 0427598333.

Wanted

3PL Trash Rake 10-14ft. Burdekin area, will travel. Ph: 0409489906.

125/350 Hard Hose Irrigator. Ph Steve: 0419705530.

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

STL shares wanted. Ph: 0419717006.

Positions Vacant

Murray Harvesting seeks experienced Harvester Operator for 2020 Season & beyond, January start. Full package of benefits on offer. Contract is 120,000 tonnes. Good farm layout, high productivity, excellent machinery & resources. Please send resume to accounts@doreandco.com.au or phone Brian Dore on 0427667964 to arrange an interview.

Property

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

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

Cane farm Tarakan Road ABERGOWRIE 270 acres freehold Genuine enquiries pls. Ph: 07 4777 4633 or 0408608664.

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

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Mark and Andrew, Burdekin



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