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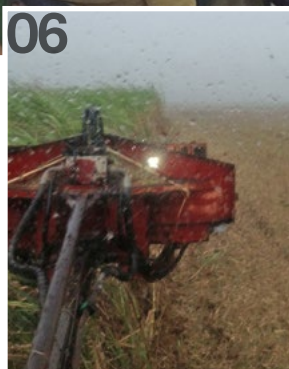
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Editor : Wayne Griffin

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Level 6, 100 Edward Street, Brisbane,
Queensland Australia
ABN 94 089 992 969
Postal Address: GPO Box 1032, Brisbane,
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone: 07 3864 6444; Fax: 07 3864 6429
Email: info@CANEGROWERS.com.au
Website: www.CANEGROWERS.com.au
CANEGROWERS/Members Card Hotline 1800 177 159

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The future's so bright I gotta wear shades!

By Dan Galligan, CEO CANEGROWERS

That song quote might be true if this rain would clear up! Across the industry we are hoping the harvest and crush can soon get some momentum behind it and what looks dangerously like a series of wet weather systems breaks up to leave us with a clear run through the rest of the year.

The reality is that it's the weather that dictates much of our success in agriculture. We strive to plan for as much as possible - we manage risk, secure supply chains, lock in prices and build an efficient and sustainable farming system. But in the end, as it has always been, it will be the weather that often means the difference between a bumper profit or a significant loss. Most of us survive somewhere in between.

Managing the weather is all about how well we can forecast events. And the skills and abilities of our members to do this needs to be equally matched by us, in your industry organisation.

The future, predicting and planning for it, seems to be always on our radar, but I assure you that this is the case now more than ever.

It is a personal disappointment to me that many of my urban and country-based friends and colleagues see a very bleak future for agriculture and the cane industry.

I passionately disagree!

We could fill this magazine with the challenges that are difficult to manage.

In the paddock and the labs we are dealing with the negative impacts on yield from YCS and declining soil health. As an industry, every day we seem to be defending our credentials on environmental sustainability or nutritional balance. Meanwhile the really hot topic of contractual security for cane supply, choice for growers in marketing channels, sustainable and fair storage and handling arrangements, all sit up in the air. Balls to be juggled, futures to be assessed and arranged, strategies to be developed. Dealing with these challenges requires new thinking and new tactics.

Our traditional power base remains significant, but it has changed. ABARES reports that for the first half of the 20th century agriculture made up around a quarter of the economy and 80% of exports. However, since the 1980s agriculture has accounted for just 2-3% of gross domestic product and 60% of exports.

We operate in a different economy to the one that existed in 1986 when American

band Timbuk 3 wrote the song that the title of this column references.

I take the advice of some other, slightly older, but infinitely wiser heads who say that this indeed is an unprecedented time for uncertainty.

So, is my belief that we will work through it all completely unwarranted?

Call me naïve, but I don't think it is. We just need to accept the changing landscape we live in and apply our significant skills, resources and an increased capacity for collaborative efforts to meet these challenges.

We have, in my view, significant advantages. We have a commodity that continues to be in demand by the consumer. Our industry is built on family farms that operate in a landscape that garners attention. Rather than a risk I see this as an advantage. The coastal strip of Queensland is a beautiful place to live, work and raise a family. It provides tremendous opportunities for careers both on and off farm.

Evidence of the past resilience of farming families prove, in my view, the strength of our industry.

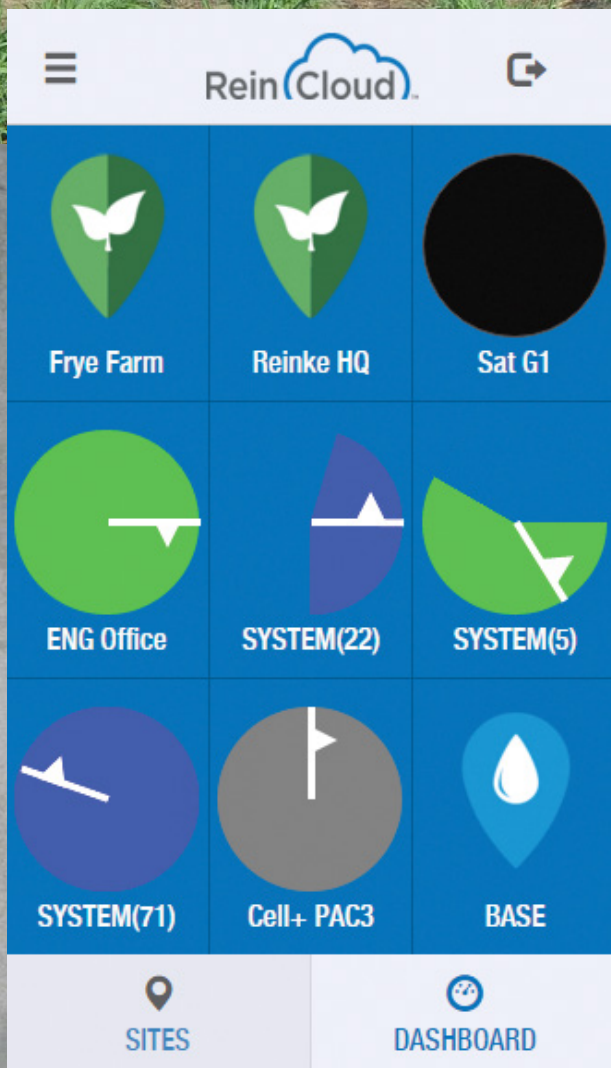
CANEGROWERS is adapting to the changing circumstances around us. We want to predict and plan for the future, while being informed, not constrained, by the past.

Albert Einstein nailed it when he said, "We cannot solve our problems with the same level of thinking that created them". ■



"We cannot solve our problems with the same level of thinking that created them."

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NEWS IN BRIEF

GROWERS STAND UNITED ON CSAs

Growers supplying the Wilmar-owned mills are vowing to stay united as CANEGROWERS and other bargaining groups continue negotiations towards new Cane Supply Agreements.

New CSAs are needed for the 2017 season and beyond for growers in the Plane Creek, Proserpine, Burdekin and Herbert River districts.

The new CSAs must comply with the pro-competition and pro-choice amendments to the *Sugar Industry Act* passed by the Queensland Parliament in December 2015.

CANEGROWERS Chairman **Paul Schembri** said it was by maintaining a solid and united stance that the legislation was passed.

"Now we must stay united to see it implemented," he has told growers.

Growers are keen to see a swift resolution to the negotiations but are unhappy with early draft CSAs put forward by Wilmar.

At issue is ensuring that all sugar marketing entities are able to competitively offer their services to growers and millers alike. (see the adjacent letter from CANEGROWERS Mackay CEO Kerry Latter)

CANEGROWERS is not being deterred by unsubstantiated claims in the media that the legislation, in the six months it has been in operation and while it is yet to be fully implemented, is costing the industry money.

CANEGROWERS is preparing a submission to a draft Productivity Commission report which criticised the December amendments as re-regulation.

"This legislation is pro-competition," CANEGROWERS CEO **Dan Galligan** said. "It ensures growers will have a choice when determining the marketing path for the sugar in which they have a clear and recognised economic interest."

The alternative to the legislation was growers being forced into mill-owned sugar marketing monopolies.

"A competitive market will ensure farmers can make pricing and marketing choices which give their businesses, and regional Queensland economies, the best opportunity to prosper," Mr Galligan said. ■

FARMERS RALLY IN NORTH QLD

Cane growers joined a Townsville rally recently calling for fair laws for farmers.

The rally was organised by broadacre lobby group AgForce to protest against proposed land management laws. It was part of a wider campaign which you can read about on their website: www.fairlawsforfarmers.com

AgForce North Queensland President **Russell Lethbridge** said the protest rally was aimed at spreading the message that the Palaszczuk Government's proposed vegetation management laws would drive up food prices, shut down regional development and cost jobs.

"If the State Government is serious about 'developing the north', why is it introducing laws that restrict high value agriculture opportunities in the north?" he said. "Farmers just want a fair go. They just want to be able to grow their businesses and produce more food."

The rally of around 150 farmers marched on the local office of North Queensland Minister **Coralee O'Rourke**. Cane growers from the Burdekin and Herbert River districts (pictured right) carried ARC UP placards urging the State Government to rein in electricity charges for irrigators. ■

WILMAR FRUSTRATES CHOICE

Wilmar is claiming it is complying with the amended *Sugar Industry Act* but it is putting contracts on the table that are designed to frustrate real competitive choice and treating cane growers like fools.

The convention in the Queensland industry is that sugar title transfers at the sugar terminal which is known as Free in Store or FIS. Wilmar's proposed model is that title transfers at the ship loading point which is known as Free On Board or FOB.

The average gap between FIS and FOB is 146 days. The problem for the industry-owned and not-for-profit Queensland Sugar Limited, or any other marketer that wants to offer its services, is that they need title early in order to borrow funds to pay growers.

FOB for QSL, or other non-Wilmar marketers, means further lines of credit and interest costs which have to be passed back to growers.

This has the effect of making non-Wilmar marketers largely uncompetitive. This is not consistent with the spirit of the Act.

Wilmar's proposed sales agreement is based on a raw sugar sale to an international refinery.

The On Supply Agreement for QSL is different. QSL's on supply agreement is a sales agreement to a Grower Economic Interest marketing entity that facilitates grower choice in marketing. That includes a suite of services including pricing, marketing, financing advance payments and logistics.

We do not believe that Wilmar's draft Cane Supply Agreement for farmers gives alternative marketers the scope to operate on a free and competitive basis.

Kerry Latter, CANEGROWERS Mackay



MORE UNSEASONABLE RAIN POSSIBLE

The death throes of El Nino are the reason for coastal Queensland's winter rainfall.

The Bureau of Meteorology says historically the breakdown of strong El Nino weather events mean heavy rain in the middle of the year in eastern Australia.

The Rainfall Summary on page 23 gives a district by district summary of the rainfall totals.

Sugarcane harvesting has been disrupted in most districts and the rain may not have gone yet.

In his weather summary for the sugar industry, Professor Roger Stone of the

University of Southern Queensland says the SOI phases show 30%-50% probability of exceeding the median rainfall July to September.

He says this is because the central equatorial Pacific Ocean is remaining warm and a La Nina has not (quite yet) fully developed. ■



West Hill(Plane Creek district) during the wet weather. Photo by Kate Dukes

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CANEGROWERS Regional round-up

By CANEGROWERS district offices

Mossman & Tableland

To Week 6 Mossman Mill has crushed a total of 172,180 tonnes of cane for a mill average of 10.58 CCS.

Mossman growers supplied 122,809 tonnes of cane for a Pool average of 9.86 CCS and Tableland growers supplied 49,371 tonnes of cane for a Pool average of 12.36 CCS.

Week 6 saw 44,064 tonnes of cane processed through the mill, with an average crush rate of 320 t/hr.

Further rain has been forecast and looks certain to cause major disruptions to the harvest.

The Mareeba Rodeo Cane Competition was held Friday 15 July. The winners were:

Six Sticks of One Variety – 1st, Maisel Farming, 2nd: N & G Ravanello, 3rd Rankine Farms

Three Sticks of Three Varieties – 1st Maisel Farming, 2nd: Rankine Farms

Six Heaviest Sticks – 1st Maisel Farming, 2nd N & G Ravanello

Cairns Region

Wet weather has continued to impact on the 2016 crush, with limited cooler weather being experienced. More lodged cane is being seen with the impacts of suckering more concerning to a struggling CCS. Harvesting and planting have been held up across both zones. At the time of print, contracts for supply to both Mulgrave and South Johnstone mills are close to completion.



Cane competition judge
Drewe Burgess

Herbert River

After withdrawing the first Draft Cane Supply Agreement (CSA), Wilmar sent a replacement draft on 18 July. The original Draft CSA contained particularly aggressive changes to the field operational aspects of the CSA, whereas the replacement looks more like the current Collective three-year CSA.

However, it still contains several barbs that will not sit well with the growing and harvesting sector.

The local negotiating team spent considerable time studying the documents from Wilmar and identifying areas where expert review and advice is needed.

Innisfail

Significant rainfall across the district caused a major interruption to the harvest. Up to 22 July, six days crushing time had been lost due to wet weather.

CCS was not good prior to the rain and is likely to suffer further or a least delay any improvement. With a unit of CCS current valued at over \$4.50, the low CCS will impact on the overall value of cane supplied by growers.

The planting program for 2016 has also been significantly affected. It will be weeks before many paddocks are made ready for planting.

A further five local growers have now received Smartcane BMP accreditation. Smartcane BMP project director, Michael Quick attended a recent meeting of growers and handed out the certificates.

Burdekin

More than 100 growers attended an urgent meeting called by CANEGROWERS Burdekin at Home Hill on 18 July.

The meeting gave members a full overview of the status of Cane Supply Agreement talks for 2017 onwards and an update on forward pricing and to sought feedback and direction.

At this meeting, growers agreed to sign an individual letter directing Wilmar to cease all direct correspondence and communication in regard to CSAs and forward pricing until the grower has signed a CBL CSA for 2017.

The aim is to stop Wilmar trying to divide growers. 80 growers signed the letter on the day and we now have over

50% of letters signed and returned.

Members also voted unanimously to:

- completely reject Wilmar's "Individual CSA and supporting documents"
- require Wilmar to immediately commence true and fair negotiations for a CBL CSA for 2017 onwards.

Members and ARC UP supported the



Burdekin growers vote unanimously to reject Wilmar's individual CSA agreements.

Proserpine

Crushing was suspended at Proserpine Mill on 15 July due to the rain event that affected most of the coastal growing regions. Falls in excess of 100mm were recorded over most of the district.

Harvesting operators were already struggling to find dry blocks prior to this rain event and, as a consequence, cane throughput has been severely reduced.

Almost 160,000 tonnes of cane has been crushed to date, which is less than

half the budgeted throughput at the mid-July point.

The rain has also negatively impacted CCS levels. While the season to date CCS has steadily risen to 12.12 it remains below expected levels.

Any restart to crushing operations will be dependent on continued fine weather. The mill has already utilised its wet weather allowance for the season and a late end to the crush looks likely.

Directors consider the draft documents are not reasonable in their current form. This view has not changed in regard to the non-negotiated Draft Individual CSA, which is also unacceptable.

Harvesters have been parked up since Thursday 14 July as the entire district experienced unseasonal rainfall, the highest of which was recorded at Hawkins Creek and the lowest at Bambaroo.

Mills have been idle since a sequenced shut down last week, with Macknade being first to boil out on 15 July followed by Victoria.

Sunny weather reappeared on Friday 22 July and continues to time of writing.

Saturated paddocks and headlands will challenge harvesters in the wake of the wet weather event.

Herbert River and Burdekin growers were there to support an AgForce rally in Townsville on Saturday 23 July for fair laws for farmers.

There was a symbolic march to the office of the Premier's representative in north Queensland, the Hon Coralee O'Rourke MP, where the crowd was addressed by several speakers who exposed the extreme seriousness of the proposed changes to clearing laws currently before Queensland's Parliament.

Bundaberg

Weather has been unfavourable for the first month of crushing. The district has had a rain event every fortnight since the start of the season, making harvesting very difficult in many areas. Most areas have received in excess of 200 mm since mid-June. Limited sunshine and cooler temperatures have kept moisture levels high. Dry ground is now hard to find with many of the drier blocks already harvested.

The finish date at both mills looks like being December rather than November. Mill performance this year will play an important part in an early December finish.

Both mills are crushing about 105% of the original estimate. CCS is surprisingly high, with some growers obtaining mid-15s. The average at both mills for the season is 12.98. Total crushed so far is 224,410 tonnes.

Bundaberg CANEGROWERS Manager Dale Holliss was presented a Certificate of Recognition by the Chairman of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority in appreciation of 10 years of support and involvement with the GBRMPA Burnett Local Management Advisory Committee. Dale represents the Bundaberg regional sugar cane industry on this committee.

Mackay

Wet weather continued through the first half of the week ending 24 July, which contributed to all three factories remaining offline.

With continued fine weather it is anticipated that the factories will commence crushing in a staggered arrangement on or after 28 July. The estimate remains at 5.4M tonnes.

Plane Creek

No cane was crushed at Plane Creek mill during the week ending 24 July due to continued wet weather which did not clear until Thursday, 21 July. Falls of between 200 and 377mm were recorded across the district over a period of a week. Fields have begun to dry slowly. It is hoped strong inshore winds forecast for the latter half of the week will improve drying conditions. Prospects for harvesting to resume are currently being reviewed.



Continues page 8...

Ag orce 'Fair Laws for Farmers' protest rally in Townsville on 23 July.

Crushing ceased at all mills on 15 July following the onset of showers.

Seventeen days have now been lost to wet weather for the season compared to the 5.5 days forecast in crush budgets.

The highest weekly throughput for the

season occurred in Week 5 when a total of 321,000 tonnes was crushed.

At the end of Week 6 less than 14% of the available cane has been crushed (1,155,965 tonnes) compared to 25% (2,078,107 tonnes) this time last year.

CCS to date is also lower for the district at 12.32 compared to 13.53 last year.

At time of writing, all Burdekin mills are still stopped and feedback from growers is that cane is unlikely be available before the first week of August.

Whilst harvesters have been parked up, CBL implemented a 'train in the rain' program and have offered two free first aid courses for members.

Isis

Up to 25 July Isis mill had processed 208,551.64 tonnes at a seasonal average of 12.92 CCS. The crushing is in the fifth week but most of Week 4 was washed out due to widespread rain. Only 20,653 tonnes were processed in Week 4.

With the crushing delayed at the start and now another five days lost, there is some concern about the impact on the finishing date, originally forecast as mid-November. The rain will most likely increase the tonnes available for harvest, adding to fears of a late finish. Fine weather is forecast for Week 5.

Most contractors are moving frequently between farms trying to find dry ground. Some contractors have fitted half and three-quarter tracks to their machines. Harvesting in the wet conditions is also causing damage to cane stools.

The clean cane committee is examining a number of options to improve the quality of the cane supply received at the factory this year. Early reports from two harvesters fitted with the EHS Manufacturing Maxichop 4/5 blade chopper assemblies are very pleasing. SRA will be involved in a trial to assess sucrose loss when three harvesters with different set ups line up in the same block later in the season.

KQ228 continues to record the highest individual daily/weekly CCS.



Group 48 harvesting at Babinda just before the rain set in. Photo by Todd Ridolfi

New South Wales

The NSW harvest is progressing well with all three mill areas crushing on budget. A total of 495,000 tonnes has been harvested to date out of the estimate of 2.2 million tonnes of cane.

CCS is currently between .8% and .9% above budget in all three mill areas.

The North Coast of NSW has been receiving showery weather on a

Maryborough

As at 25 July MSF had crushed 86,098 tonnes of cane at CCS of 12.54.

The crushing was delayed by four days due to rain falling throughout the district.

The estimate is expected to rise as a result of the recent rain and the unseasonal warm weather being experienced through winter.

Rocky Point

The Rocky Point mill was unable to start crushing as contracted per the CSPA on 4 July 2016, as the required repairs to the adjoining co-generation plant boiler had not commenced.

The outlook for a 2016 season is not good for Rocky Point at this stage, however, we remain hopeful that the necessary repairs will be made and the mill will get going at some stage.

The Rocky Point mill has agreed, after insistence from directors of CANEGROWERS Rocky Point, to send the area's standover cane (approx. 40,000 tonnes) to Condong mill in New South Wales.

We are thankful that NSW have agreed to assist us by taking 300 tonnes of standover cane per day until around Christmas. The first loads of standover were transported to Condong mill on Monday 18 July.

The weather has been perfect for harvesting but we appear to have missed the peak of the sugar pricing as we were prohibited from pricing any more sugar due to uncertainty of this year's harvest.

regular basis, however the rainfall has not been enough to disrupt the harvest to any degree.

All three mill areas are on target for an end of November finish however it is expected that the large percentage of plant cane to be harvested will exceed grower estimates which has the potential to lengthen the season.

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Since March 2013, we've been the official superannuation fund for the entire cane growing industry.

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AustSafe Super was recently identified as one of an elite group of 8 funds whose members that invested in our balanced option have seen their money more than double since March 2009. All without even making a contribution – and this is something we're really proud of!



In this column over the coming months, we'll be talking about superannuation – how to increase it and make the most of it and what it means for the people who live and work on the land.

We'll also address some of the relevant issues taking place in the superannuation environment at the moment, and how these might affect employers, members and the wider community.

We look forward to providing you with thoughtful, insightful and most importantly, helpful information in the months ahead.

In the meantime, if you have any questions about super, don't hesitate to contact us on 1300 131 293, visit austsafe.com.au, or contact your local regional manager.



Burn Ashburner

CANEGROWERS Manager -
Industry

“The growing sector is made up of individual growers who have their own minds and risk preference and will do what they think is best for them.”

CONVINCING GROWERS

that best practice is best for them and the industry

Is the sum of individual grower practices meeting industry needs? I find it hard to believe that the majority of caneland is farmed by growers that do not know about, or at least have a good understanding of:

- Best practice harvesting
- Six Easy Steps
- ‘New’ farm systems

In the past year, I have attended many workshops and forums on these three topics.

These meetings have been full of clever scientists, clever consultants and extension people, clever government representatives from all sorts of departments, clever environmentalists, clever growers, clever millers and very clever CANEGROWERS people.

Yes, they are actually all clever people (well most of them), sometimes with different agendas, but clever.

While there is still a lot we don't know, one thing that most of these clever people agree on is that we have a lot of solutions but these solutions have not been widely adopted.

This situation seems to stump all of these clever people.

They just cannot understand why all these clever answers, based on good research, are not being adopted.

And we're not talking about recently discovered answers either. They have all been around for 10 or more years (I don't know how long we are going to talk about 'new' farming systems).

Maybe adoption rates are greater than they can see. Maybe growers don't know about and/or understand the clever answers and extension has completely failed to be effective (as I said above, this is hard to believe).

Maybe the answers just aren't that clever, or maybe we do have demographic, structural, cultural issues leading to difficulties for adoption.

There are many maybes, all of which may be partly right but no one of them tells the full story.

If the whole industry changed to best practice harvesting, Six Easy Steps and 'new' farming systems, the clever people believe we would be much better placed as an industry to make more money and improve our environmental footprint.

Smartcane BMP is designed to do just this.

The growing sector, however, is made up of individual growers who have their own minds and risk preference and will do what they think is best for them.

My understanding of this is mostly around risk.

It seems clear that harvest best practice will make more money for the whole value chain, but individual growers face the risk of paying more and getting the same.

Six Easy Steps provides the optimum amount of nutrient and reduced environmental impact. But with huge seasonal weather variability a bit more nitrogen is a low risk insurance, isn't it?

'New' farming systems have not clearly shown short term yield increases and although they save costs, this needs to be weighed against the initial investment and cash flow risks.

There is no doubt that adopting best practice will be expected for our social license to continue to farm and may well become a future marketing requirement.

The sum of the individual grower practices will be used to measure this.

There is also no doubt that growers need to continue to improve profitability.

We need a meeting of the minds between growers (and grower leaders) and the clever people to ensure implementing best practice is a no risk scenario that benefits individuals and the industry.

If the whole industry changed to best practice harvesting, Six Easy Steps and 'new' farming systems, the clever people believe we would make more money and improve our environmental footprint.

SRA WELCOMES NEW ADOPTION OFFICER

SRA has announced the appointment of new Adoption Officer, **Bill Gordon**, to work in the Southern Region, based at Bundaberg.

In this role, Mr Gordon (*pictured right*) will work closely with SRA investors in the southern region.

He will also have a focus on precision agriculture, which will see him work with investors and stakeholders across the Australian sugarcane industry.

Bundaberg Sugar Services chairman **Kelvin Griffin** said he was pleased that there would be more resources available for the southern sugar industry and looked forward to working with Bill.

Mr Gordon will work alongside leader of the Adoption Group **James Ogden-Brown**, who is also based at Bundaberg.

The Adoption Group is an important public face of SRA and a conduit of information between the local industry and SRA research, working with investors to enhance industry productivity, profitability, and sustainability.

"Mr Gordon brings extensive experience to the role and is well known in several agricultural industries for his expertise in working with spraying practices," Mr Ogden-Brown said.

"This expertise will be an asset to the southern region and the entire sugarcane industry."

He has worked as a project leader for several multi-year research projects via entities including the Cotton Research and Development Corporation and the Grains Research and Development Corporation.

Mr Gordon said he was looking forward to working in a hands-on role with sugarcane growers and millers.

"I've been involved with many agricultural industries so I understand the challenges and opportunities that face the agricultural sector," Mr Gordon said.

"The cane industry of course has its own unique challenges, but I look forward

to helping bring my experience to the industry to create positive outcomes.

"I look forward to building relationships across the industry, and especially in the southern growing region."

TRAVEL AND LEARNING AWARDS OPEN THE DOOR TO INNOVATION

Sugar industry participants are encouraged to apply for a Sugar Industry Travel and Learning Award (STLA) through SRA.

The awards offer up to \$5000 for an individual award, or \$10,000 towards a workshop or event, or up to \$30,000 as a contribution towards a longer term staff placement or learning opportunity.

The STLA are part of SRA's investment in building the Australian sugarcane industry's knowledge and capability

Dr **Michael O'Shea**, General Manager of the Research Funding Unit at SRA, said that applications for the awards were now open and that SRA was seeking applications for innovative learning ideas.

"We have expanded the awards this year to cover a range of possible activities that will deliver benefits throughout the Australian sugarcane industry," Dr O'Shea said.

"This includes, for example, skills-development activities that could include visiting farm trials and assessing new farming methods, visiting other mills, wineries or paper mills, and then sharing this information back with industry via an adoption activity.

"These awards are on offer to all industry participants, including growers, millers, and service providers including researchers.

"The awards recognise that it is crucial the Australian sugarcane industry continues to develop its skills and



expertise, which includes looking at other industries and even other countries to ensure that we keep our ideas and innovation at the leading edge.

"SRA is committed to investing in research that can be adopted on farm or in the mill, providing a tangible outcome for sugarcane growers and millers.

"All applications will be assessed in that context of their benefit to the industry.

"This is an important investment in the people of the sugarcane industry, and forms part of SRA's investment in the eight Key Focus Areas developed in the SRA Strategic Plan."

Applications close 2 September 2016.
For more - www.sugarresearch.com.au.

CAREER RESEARCH AWARDS MAKE THE INVESTMENT IN CAPABILITY, INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Applications are also open for SRA's Early-Career and Mid-Career Researcher (ECR/MCR) Awards, which encourage innovative research ideas and seek to enhance the capability of the research sector that supports the Australian sugarcane industry.

The awards are an investment in professional development for people directly involved in the sugarcane industry.

The awards are available for diverse activities, including for researchers who may require initial results or a proof of concept prior to developing a larger project, and who want to expand their skills and build collaborations in pursuit of an innovative initiative.

Applications close on 31 August 2016.
For more - www.sugarresearch.com.au.

Reef science review

Scientific work sponsored or undertaken by the sugarcane industry will be sought for a document which will collate research related to agriculture and the Great Barrier Reef.

The Department of Environment and Heritage Planning is reviewing and updating a scientific consensus statement published in 2013. The project is being led by Dr **Jane Waterhouse** and is due to be completed by February 2017.

Dr Waterhouse told a recent Reef Water Quality Science Forum in Brisbane that peer reviewed industry science would be included in the process and other work, including trials, will be assessed for its suitability.

At the Forum, the Department also outlined some of the work undertaken by its Reef Water Quality science program between 2009 and 2015.

Among the projects featured were RP20 which tested and proved the Six Easy Steps nutrient management program on a number of Burdekin farms and water quality monitoring projects involving growers in the Burdekin, Herbert River and Sandy Creek catchments.



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New news site for farmers

The National Farmers' Federation (NFF) has launched Australian Farmers, a new online home for food and agribusiness news, weather and market information.

The online community will also act as a forum for campaigns and policy development across all farming sectors and commodities.

CANEGROWERS will be contributing news content and blog posts on issues of concern to the sugarcane industry.

It's free to sign up, so join now, at www.farmers.org.au.

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Surge wanes, but prices still sound

This week we take a look back at raw sugar market activity for the month of July and key factors moving forward. *Please note, all figures quoted are current as of 25 July 2016.*

Sugar

WHAT HAPPENED?

During July we saw raw sugar prices retreat from a four-month surge which had led to front-end prices above 21 US cents/lb.

With fundamental and technical drivers indicating an imminent drawback, prices have remained relatively sound.

The July16 contract rolled off the board a touch above 20c/lb, seeing 1.19 million tonnes of sugar delivered to the tape.

Most of this was Brazilian in origin. Non-index funds have begun to reduce long positions, with the latest Commitment of Traders report indicating a 12,000-lot reduction week-on-week to 323,000 lots.

Weather in Brazil remains favorable as production exceeds estimates.

Sugar mix and ATR (Total Recoverable Sugar) yields dominated headlines, producing figures well above expectations.

GOING FORWARD...

Sugar price drivers have changed mildly over the past month, as better-than-expected weather in Centre South Brazil has equated to higher-than-expected output for the second half of June.

This may mean a short-term correction in prices, giving funds the opportunity to liquidate, but it also suggests we may still see prices higher later in the year.

Weather conditions in India and Thailand are continuing to dampen any concerns raised early in their key growing periods.

What will be the trigger for the non-index funds to start their sell-off?

A strengthening of the US dollar could prompt commodities in general to sell

and funds may decide to take some profits.

Another better-than-expected UNICA report is expected and could be the driving force to see the market move lower.

WHAT COULD CHANGE?

With the global deficit tipped to arrive over the back end of 2016 and into

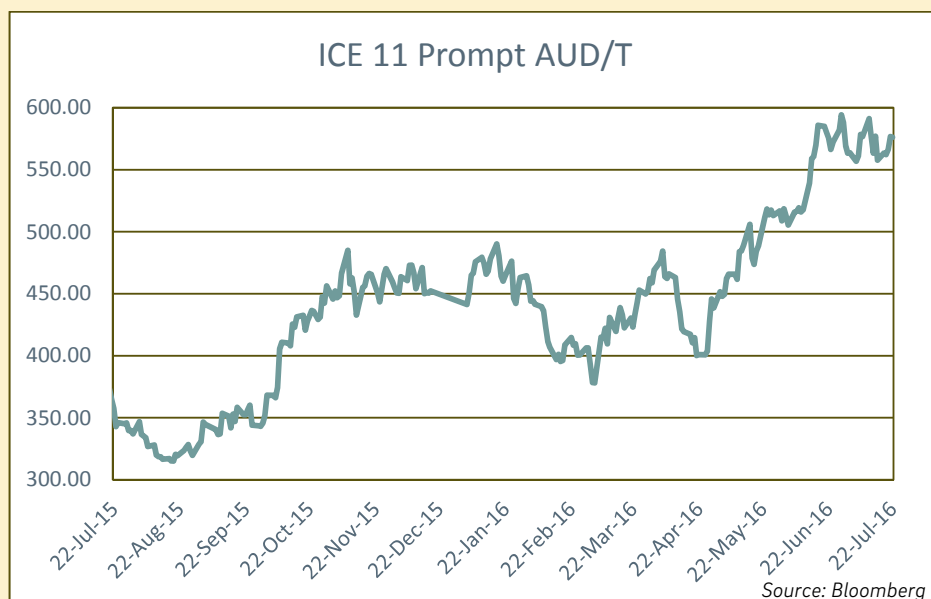
2017, questions have been raised over a further delay to the deficit.

Production in Brazil is expected to increase over the next three months and Northern Hemisphere crops are seeing better conditions ahead of their October start.

The question regarding what period we now expect the deficit to reach is coming to a head.

Contract	Latest Settlement	Monthly Change	High	Low
Oct-2016	19.59	0.25	21.10	19.13
Mar-2017	19.83	0.29	21.13	19.40
May-2017	19.17	0.42	19.99	18.79
Jul-2017	18.59	0.40	19.20	18.25
Oct-2017	18.23	0.26	18.79	17.86
Mar-2018	18.07	0.20	18.53	17.75
May-2018	17.59	0.13	18.00	17.31
BRL/USD	3.2565	-12.12%	3.3920	3.2130
Ethanol Parity	14.51			

Source: Bloomberg





Currency

WHAT HAPPENED?

Despite having succumbed to emerging markets weakness following the UK's Brexit vote, the Australian dollar performed solidly across the first half of July.

Renewed strength in the US dollar over the past fortnight has seen the AUD back under downside pressure.

The RBA left interest rates on hold, implementing a watch and wait strategy, with mention that the period ahead would allow them to refine their outlook on growth and inflation and make changes where appropriate.

Source: Bloomberg

	Settlement	Change	High	Low
AUD/USD	0.7462	1.34%	0.7676	0.7409

GOING FORWARD...

In the near term, we expect the AUD to come under more pressure as this week's Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting and local CPI data release become the dominant focus for currency fluctuations.

We expect the RBA to take a keen interest in local CPI, as it remains one of the key drivers ahead of next week's July meeting. More upbeat data out of the US sees market watchers

adjust their expectations for a rate hike, maintaining the view that the September meeting remains live for a rate hike.

WHAT COULD CHANGE?

Last month we mentioned that a lot could change. Again, we maintain this view. Global commodities look to have run out of steam in their latest rally and the macro environment we are placed in favours a lower local currency.

2015 QSL Pools finalised

QSL has finalised its 2015-season pool results, with the last advances payments for the season made to milling suppliers on 20 July.

QSL Treasurer **Stephen Stone** said the 2015 season was one of two halves, with the prices in the second half of 2015 still depressed by a five-year global raw sugar surplus, before an obvious tightening of trade flows in 2016 finally changed market sentiment.

The ICE 11 price slid below \$A350 per tonne in August 2015, before the realisation of an impending global raw sugar deficit saw prices start to rally and climb back over \$A400 per tonne earlier this year.

Mr Stone said that while the market turnaround was welcomed by Australian producers, a larger than expected 2015-season crop weighed

POOL	GROSS \$A/TONNE IPS	SHARED POOL (DEDUCTION)	NET \$A/TONNE IPS
QSL 2015 Harvest Pool	\$382.96	\$1.42	\$381.54
QSL 2015 Actively Managed Pool	\$414.35	\$1.42	\$412.93
QSL 2015 Guaranteed Floor Pool	\$407.66	\$1.42	\$406.24
QSL 2015 US Quota Pool	\$695.04	\$80.20	\$614.84
QSL 2015 2-Season Forward Pool	\$436.58	\$1.42	\$435.16
QSL 2015 3-Season Forward Pool	\$442.13	\$1.42	\$440.71

heavily on 2015 Harvest Pool values, as storage constraints meant an increased Harvest Pool allocation had to be sold and priced into a very weak price environment.

The Actively Managed Pool was better able to benefit from a more optimistic

market view (particularly for currency), with increasingly active short-term trading activities in both the ICE 11 and currency ultimately reflected in its final price.

***All results as at 30 June 2016.**

NOTE: This report contains information of a general or summary nature. While all care is taken in the preparation of this report, the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the information provided in the document is not guaranteed. The update on marketing and pricing activity does not constitute financial product or investment advice. QSL does not accept any responsibility to any person for the decisions and actions taken by that person with respect to any of the information contained in this report.

IRRIGATING BY APP

"Know when next to irrigate and how much water to apply to make the most of available water."

A free digital irrigation management app aims to help Queensland farmers reduce their water use and increase productivity.

The Scheduling Irrigation Diary has been developed by the University of Southern Queensland with a \$40,000 grant from the State Government.

"The Queensland Government's Rural Water Use Efficiency – Irrigation Futures program helps irrigators make better use of their on-farm water

Free irrigation app boosting Queensland farming productivity

supplies through the adaption of new technologies to maximise the performance of irrigation systems," Department of Natural Resources and Mines Executive Director, Mandy Downes said.

"A \$40,000 grant to the University of Southern Queensland's National Centre for Engineering in Agriculture led to the development of the app, which is helping irrigators across Queensland to better manage their water use."

Research engineer **Michael Scobie**, from the NCEA's irrigation and water resources team, said the app allows growers to record irrigation and rainfall while also calculating daily crop water use.

"The tool assesses crop water needs based on Bureau of Meteorology weather data sourced from the nearest weather station, actual irrigation amounts, irrigation frequency, rainfall and calculated crop water use," Mr Scobie said.

"Irrigators can use the program to know when next to irrigate and how much water to apply to make the most of their available water.

"The tool complements industry best practice by promoting irrigation scheduling, which not only optimises production but minimises deep drainage and run-off that could have an impact on the Great Barrier Reef.

"The app develops specialised diaries and provides irrigators with a record of irrigation and rainfall against yield over a number of seasons."

Originally developed as a program for desktop computers, the new mobile app makes it possible for irrigators to view details in the field through a smartphone or tablet.

"Approximately 100 Queensland irrigators are now using the app and interest continues to grow from irrigators in the southern states," Ms Downes said.

The Scheduling Irrigation Diary app is available free online at: <https://sid.usq.edu.au/>

It can also be downloaded from the App Store and Google Play for both Apple and Android devices.



AUSTRALIA office

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ReinCloud™

Putting powerful irrigation technology in the back pocket of Queensland cane growers

Supplied by Reinke

When it comes to irrigation, there are many decisions facing modern growers. The ability to gather and analyse data makes these decisions easier to make and to justify.

One crucial decision facing growers revolves around when to irrigate and how much water to apply.

Proper plant hydration is the ultimate goal and there are tools available to help the grower reach this goal.

ReinCloud™ allows growers to capture and analyse important irrigation data and remotely manage a variety of irrigation operations such as starting and stopping the pivot, adjusting irrigation scheduling and maximising irrigation resources.

Saving time and resources with remote irrigation management is easier to accomplish with the ability to analyse data in a customisable platform.

ReinCloud, the customisable ag-data platform, gains further importance as additional partner products and feeds are integrated into the service.

The RS300, by Ranch Systems LLC, is a ReinCloud-ready product providing advanced field sensing that can help growers get the right data to make informed decisions.



The data that the RS300 provides includes information such as wind speed and direction, humidity, solar radiation, leaf wetness, water monitoring and more.

With several different equipment options to measure soil moisture, growers can identify areas with different soil types and the hydration needs of the crops in these areas.

Conversely, if too much water is being applied the soil moisture station can illustrate the need to adjust the water application rate.

If water becomes scarce, further regulations may be imposed on producers.

The ability to accurately measure the water applied can be done using flow monitoring.

Using a flow metering device, water is measured to provide information on whether the system is being utilised in accordance with the requirements of the plant.

Excess water application may harm yields and the ability to analyse real data can lead to more efficient and cost saving processes for watering.

This efficiency in water application indirectly leads to other efficiencies in energy and labor and costly mistakes can be minimised.

Savings in irrigation and yield improvement make ReinCloud and the RS300 invaluable tools for any operation.

As input costs continue to increase, it's good to know efficiency and cost saving tools are available that can help growers make better management decisions.

Beyond the savings, a modest increase in yield compounded over

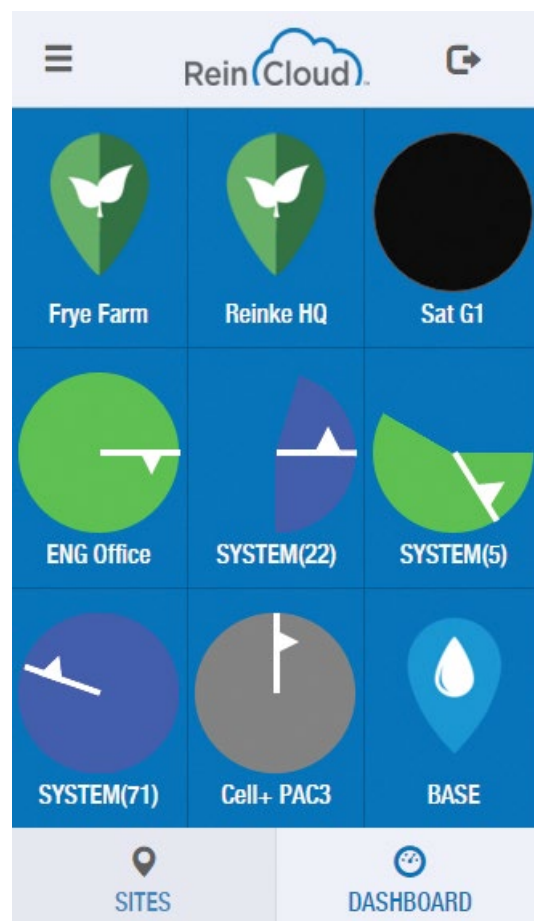
time and multiplied by the acreage can lead to significant increases in profits.

Gaining efficiency while reducing input costs and increasing yield is a great combination that continues to improve with ReinCloud and its partners.

For additional information about Reinke, please visit www.reinke.com.

For additional information about ReinCloud and the RS300, visit www.myreincloud.com.

Pictured: (left) Installed RS300 system and (below) ReinCloud app interface.





PRECISION TECHNOLOGY | maximising profit with environmental benefits

Supplied by Lindsay NZ

Reducing the loss of nutrients through run-off and leaching will go a long way towards minimising any impact sugarcane farming has on the Great Barrier Reef.

By using best management practices, nutrients remain within the soil and available to the plant to promote growth, allowing the fertiliser investment to produce the maximum possible returns for growers.

Precision agriculture technologies are the key to achieving this - increasing cane growing profitability while allowing growers to demonstrate social responsibility and protect the health of the Great Barrier Reef.

To explain how this is achieved we must first understand the basics of soil moisture properties.

In terms of moisture, soil is said to be at field capacity once rapid drainage has ceased subsequent to a rain or irrigation event (usually after 2-3 days).

At this point the soil's micro-pores are full of water, but the macro-pores have been fully drained by the downward forces of gravity.

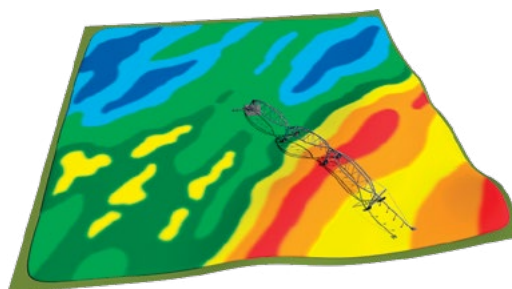
If irrigation is applied in excess of a soil's field capacity then surface ponding, run-off and/or leaching may occur.

With the latter two there is a high risk of nutrient loss into the external environment.

Other factors that influence nutrient run-off are the infiltration rate and slope of the soil's surface.

The texture and structure of a soil has an effect on the amount of water it can hold.

These two physical factors can vary significantly within an irrigated area.



Pictured: An example of the spatial variation that typically exists under one pivot which cause challenges when limited to "blanket" irrigation technology.

To avoid irrigating past field capacity using traditional 'blanket' irrigation methods would require irrigation scheduling to focus on areas with the lowest water holding capacity (WHC).

Due to the variability within a field this may only be a small portion of the entire area and consequently the moisture requirements of the majority of the crop may not be met.

There are two key components to optimising irrigation efficiency on variable soils – first, spatial soil and crop data for a basis to support irrigation scheduling.

The second component is an accurate irrigation system with variable-rate control such as Growsmart Precision VRI.

Electromagnetic (EM) surveying is a method of mapping the relative conductivity of soils in a field and is commonly used to identify soil characteristics and spatially divide areas into irrigation management zones. ►

When combined with soil moisture monitoring, this provides growers with the information required to optimise scheduling for variable rate irrigation.

The aim is to maintain soil moisture above stress point and below field capacity, referred to as the 'readily-available' range.

A buffer below field capacity should also be considered should rain be forecast.

Growsmart Precision VRI allows growers to customise exactly the right amount of irrigation to each management zone.

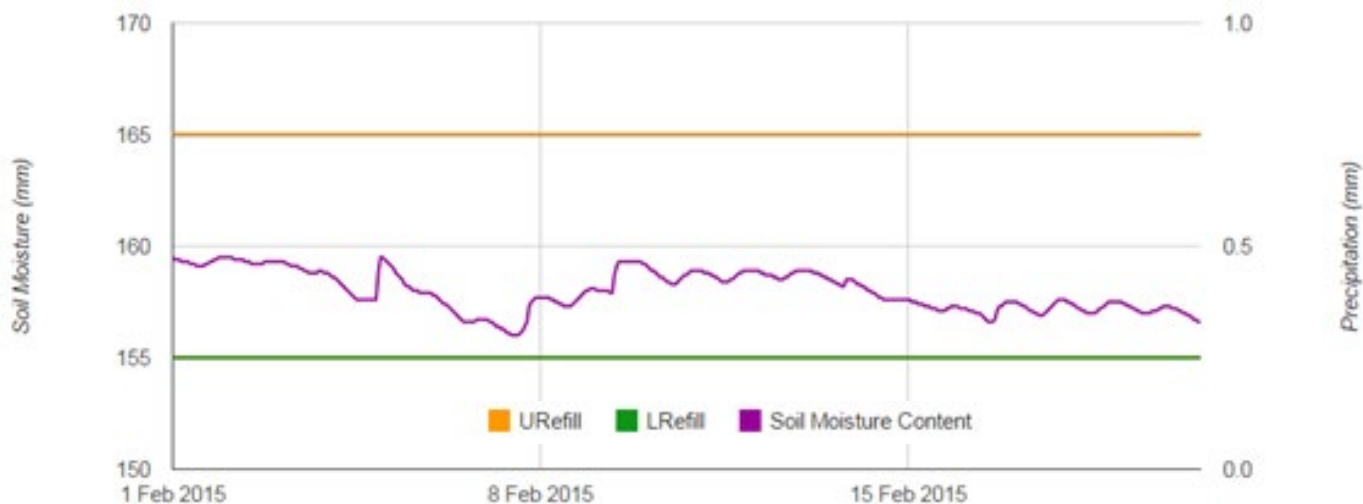
This is achieved by individually pulsing sprinklers on and off, while also controlling the irrigator speed to modify the application depth along the length of the irrigator.

Avoidance zones can also be set to keep water off non-productive and environmentally sensitive areas.

For more information on how you can increase profitability while decreasing environmental impacts through the use of precision agriculture technologies, contact

your local Growsmart by Lindsay dealer or visit www.growsmartprecisionvri.com.

Picture below: Growers should aim to maintain soil moisture within the 'readily-available' range. As shown in the example soil moisture graph taken from a pastoral farm, the soil moisture content is held above the stress point (LRefill) but below field capacity (URefill), with a buffer to allow for rainfall.



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How you ask? Growsmart Precision VRI controls every individual sprinkler allowing you to irrigate only where it is needed. Research has shown yield increases and water savings are achievable by reducing irrigation to heavier soils, high run-off areas and low areas prone to getting too wet and boggy.

"The correct amount of water on every part of the field is essential for maximum yields. When coupled with FieldNET, Precision VRI gives growers the pinpoint accuracy they need along with the efficiencies that result from full remote capabilities," Richard Hall, Lindsay Regional Manager Australia

For more information talk to your local Zimmatic® by Lindsay dealer or visit www.precisionirrigation.co.nz/fieldnet.



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VALLEY & DOWDENS

IMPROVING FARMING EFFICIENCIES

Supplied by Dowdens Pumping and Water Treatment

In the mid-1950s **Tony and John Bugeja's** father bought a property in Homebush, Queensland, where they now grow sugarcane.

In the present era of ever increasing water and electricity prices, Tony and John are constantly on the lookout for the most efficient ways to irrigate their cane.

In the late 1980s Dowdens Pumping and Water Treatment began working closely with the Bugejas to improve their farm's overall pumping, water use and energy consumption efficiencies.

Flash forward to today, and Tony and John are now operating two Valley Centre Pivots and seeing an increase in yield of up to 40 tonnes per hectare compared with other on-site irrigation methods, including flood irrigation and soft hose travelling irrigators.

The average tonnage for a Mackay sugarcane farm is approximately 72 tonnes/ha.

Tony and John have seen cane harvests (under pivot irrigation) in excess of 150 tonnes/ha.

Dowdens undertook a detailed comparison of the Bugeja's irrigation costs, equating their traditional soft hose travelling irrigators versus their Valley Centre Pivot operating costs and the results (*illustrated in the table below*) clearly speak for themselves.

Pictured: Glenn Agnew (Dowdens), Tony Bugeja and members of a Vietnamese agricultural consortium inspecting a Valley Centre Pivot control panel.

BUGEJA FARM (HOMEBUSH, QLD)	Soft Hose Irrigator	Valley Centre Pivot
Power Used (@ Duty Point)	32 kW/ hr	15 kW/ hr
Pump Motor Required	45 kW	22.5 kW
Application Rate	30 L / sec	40 L / sec
Application Time	240 hrs / 40 ha	74 hrs / 40 ha
Total Irrigation Cost per 40 ha	\$1,555 (\$38.90 / ha)	\$246 (\$5.91 / ha)

Grower success with Valley attracts international interest

In 2015, Valley was approached by a consortium of Vietnamese agricultural producers wanting to learn more about the efficient farming and irrigation techniques being developed in Australia with the aim of improving farm productivity in the Asian agriculture industry.

The Bugeja's sugarcane farm was selected to host the onsite tour due to the increased yield their Valley Pivots have helped deliver.

Both of the Bugeja's Valley Pivots are the 8120 model - an export pipe range that was produced for the international market in 1999.

The Select2 control panels used are not top of the range, but have proven to be very practical with features like auto reverse and smart programming.

Select2 control panels can also integrate with Valley's new complimentary management system AgSense.

Valley's AgSense Remote Irrigation Management System allows farmers to manage their irrigation components remotely via any web-connected smartphone, tablet or desktop PC.

The Bugejas installed the AgSense system on their 250m Poly Lined High Profile Full Circle pivot, meaning they can now remotely monitor, start and stop their pivot from anywhere in the world.

Dowdens is proud to supply quality Valley Centre pivots and linears, providing Queensland farmers with the ability to precisely apply water, chemical and fertiliser. This can result in improved crop yields, reduced labour costs, more efficient energy consumption, increased water conservation and reduced runoff.

Operating as Valley's only Master Dealer in the Mackay / Whitsunday region since 2002, Dowdens Pumping and Water Treatment Ag Sales team has over 125 years combined irrigation system design, service and operational experience.

Contact Dowdens Pumping and Water Treatment today for a free design / quote, or to register for our upcoming Valley Product Training Day.

This is a free seminar on servicing and basic operation, diagnostic fault finding and the latest Valley product innovations, hosted by Dowdens and representatives from Valley.

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- **Pro2 CONTROL PANELS** - GPS READY, VRI SPEED PROGRAMMABLE SYSTEM THAT ALLOWS PRECISE APPLICATION OF WATER, FERTILIZERS & CHEMICALS



- **AgSense REMOTE IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT** - MANAGE YOUR IRRIGATION COMPONENTS VIA WEB-CONNECTED SMARTPHONE, TABLET OR DESKTOP PC



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Installing irrigation mains – quickly and efficiently

Supplied by Drain Tech

Drain Tech is a leader in the field of design and installation of sub-surface drainage systems and also uses its trenching expertise to install rising mains for irrigation systems.

Drain Tech director **Richard Gloyne** urges landholders to consider trenching as an alternative to traditional excavation methods.

"Appropriately designed chain diggers are able to trench neatly and accurately, with or without grade control, and the trenching process reduces all material to a finely graded tilth," Richard said.

"On many projects the cost of importing bedding material can be avoided by using this excavated spoil as backfill.

"Site re-instatement is another bonus, with all excavated material able to be graded back over the pipe and crowned.

"Impact is confined to the narrow trench so crop damage is minimised."

Drain Tech offers a complete excavate, install and close service that is popular with busy landholders.

However, forward planning is essential and factors that should be considered include:

- *Route planning to consider materials required and existing underground services.*
- *Provision for future extensions or branch lines.*
- *Checklist of all components to be on site before excavation commences.*

The installation system involves the excavation and laying of the pre-assembled pipe in a continuous operation.

"We use a rolling pipe sling to gently lift the assembled pipe and lower it to the trench floor," Richard said.

Contact Drain Tech on 0428 528 054 or visit the website www.draintech.net.au to watch a video of the process.



With over 25 years of experience, Drain Tech can offer a mud-free crop with services including **Sugarcane Drainage & Pipeline Installations.**

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TIPSA is proud to bring Australian farmers our range of BANDAMA 2000 drag hoses for irrigation.

BANDAMA 2000 is best described as being 'at the top of the food chain' when it comes to hoses for irrigation. This is due to its unique characteristics of being a heavy duty layflat hose suitable for dragging.

BANDAMA 2000 is designed for, but not limited to, uses requiring high tensile strength, ease of deployment, storage and dragging resistance. It has a very low bend radius so it is low kink even at low pressures.

The BANDAMA 2000 hose is super hardwearing, with excellent resistance to ozone degradation, making it ideal for irrigation applications. The hose also excels in oil resistance.

This is due to the fully synthetic construction where NBR-PVC rubber blend is forced through a circular-woven polyester textile. This process ensures excellent adhesion between rubber and textile.

The result is a very stable hose when under load with minimal elongation and expansion properties at working pressure.

The outer profile ensures easier handling with longitudinal ribs and excellent resistance to abrasion. High flexibility and its relative light weight means that storage is simple.

BANDAMA 2000 is available in sizes from 51mm through to 150mm, with standard lengths of 100m, 150m and 200m.

For you nearest outlet or to obtain more information, call TIPSA on 02 9517 9995.



AUSTRALIAN CANE FARMER MAXIMIZES YIELD with Zimmatic Lateral Irrigation System

Supplied by Lindsay

Since 1991, Burdekin farmer **Chris Hesp** and his wife, **Sonya**, have grown 607 hectares of flood-irrigated sugarcane. In order to save water and improve soil health, Chris now irrigates his crop with a Zimmatic by Lindsay lateral irrigation system.

The couple had two main goals when investing in a lateral irrigation system - saving water and transitioning to green cane harvesting and trash blanketing.

The Zimmatic ditch-fed lateral irrigation system Chris uses is 600 meters long and equipped with a Nelson S3000 sprinkler package (260 sprinklers).

Chris planted his first cane crop under the Zimmatic lateral in 2006.

He has since increased his lateral irrigation use from 44 to 132 hectares of his farmland.

As the couple deal with drier weather, controlling the timing and amount of water applied is crucial to maximum yield.

Another reason Chris and Sonya invested in lateral irrigation was to enable them to adopt green cane trash blanketing.

"With the new lateral irrigation, we do not have to burn anything," Chris said.

"We just leave the trash on the ground, which helps enrich the soil and keeps the evaporation down, acting like a mulch. Plus, we don't have the smoke."

With the help of their Zimmatic lateral irrigation system,

the Hesp's are averaging yields of 154 tonnes per hectare.

"The lateral irrigation system is much more economical with water usage," Chris said.

For details, visit www.zimmatic.com.



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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.

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Attention Canegrowers

The first step in achieving a high yielding cane crop is a good strike and vigorous growth in the early stage of your crop.

This can be achieved easily by simply adding 5 litres of R.U.M per acre to your dip water.

**For a cost of around \$25 per acre
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For further information contact –

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5,677 Hrs. Iveco Engines 9L 350 HP. 10
Blade Fagg Chopper System. Standard
Topper with D5 Type Tracks. Elevator
Rebuild, New Engine Harness.

2007 JOHN DEERE 3510 Wheel Harvester.
8.1 L Eng 375 HP Recent engine rebuild. 8
Blade Chopper System, Shredder Topper,
Scraper Tyres. Very well maintained
machine. New chains fitted to elevator. IN
STOCK NOW !!

CASE POWERHAUL 1997.
Front suspension 177HP Cummins 10,000
Hours. 6 and 4 tonne side tippers fitted.

McLean 6 roller three quarter tracks suit JD
3520 wheel harvester. Very good condition.

2011 MASSEY FERGUSON 5465 4
WD Tractor 120 HP. 1,967 Hrs. Front
suspension, Linkage & D/Bar fitted.

NEW ! BILLET PLANTER 2500 Immediate
Delivery. In Mackay NOW.

USED ! HBM Billet Planter. Narrow
elevator, New Stainless Fertiliser boxes.
Very Good condition.

NEW! 4 SLAT OPEN BUTT ROLLERS Suit
JD 3510/20 and CASE. Helps Drop Dirt.
Enquire NOW!

CAMECO 2500 TRACK FRAMES
Complete with L & S hubs, Volvo track drive
motors and idlers. Dead Axle available.

NEW PLANTING TIPPERS Triple Side
Tippers on trailer remote hydraulics.

IN STOCK NOW 12, 10, 8 & 6 BLADE
DIFFERENTIAL CHOPPER DRUMS Suit
'05 to current 3520 CAMECO/JD. Tungsten
Hard Faced on Wear Areas. New seal
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Mossman –Tully

Toft 7500 Track Harvester - HBM Billet Planter – wide Elevator, double tipper bins on Trailer. Ph: 0438 654 784 or 0427 163 519

Howard rotary hoe rubber top ah 2000 2011 model new input shaft and bearings good blades. Depth wheels \$13500 inc gst. Ph: 0404 582 501

Inter 32 plate 3-5 offset good discs and bearings \$11000 inc gst. Ph: 0404 582 501

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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
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Johnny Farming Company

Phone (07) 4952 2577 or 0412 535 887 (John)
or 0407 638 674 (Andrew)

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Case 2590 2 WD, Chamberlain 4080, Fiat 1000 2 WD, Fiat 980 2 WD, Michigan 14 yd scraper, Toyota 1.4 Forklift. Plant Cutter, Blower, 7 Tyne Ripper, Silvan Spinner C X 2, Hardy 600lt Tank, Rotary Hoe M130, Half tracks 7000 Harvester. Ph: 0407 160 673 or 07 40554 449.

Herbert River – Burdekin

John Deere 7920 with 5,010 hours. Autotrack ready. 50KPH Box. \$80,000 plus GST. Ph: Daryl 0417 778 027

Billet harvester Toft 6000, Billet planter all camera equipped, Tully 12 ton tipper & Fiat tractor, Leyland 30' flat top truck 12

new tyres, current machinery. Ph: 4777 4108

WTS-Double bin 4.5t trailer, dual 8.25 x 20tyres. 4.5m Obryan scoop, rippers, x leveller. Ph: 0439 556 234

2012 Case 8000 with steering wheel, 2000 hrs. Ph: 0429 840 117

Mackay – Proserpine

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)

Rainfall Report

brought to you by AustSafe Super

Location	Recorded rainfall (mm)			Average rainfall (mm)
	7 days to 9am		Year to date	
	18.07.16	25.07.16		Jan-Jul
Mossman	4	69	1395	1761
Mareeba AP	4	4	402	724
Cairns	19	60	1019	1628
Mt Sophia	37	141	1809	2655
Babinda	31	149	2567	3402
Innisfail	36	65	2399	2849
Tully	34	145	2767	3303
Cardwell	119	66	1691	1686
Lucinda	69	19	1734	1705
Ingham	97	33	1617	1591
Abergowrie	63	0	1084	1457
Townsville	40	10	907	882
Ayr DPI	37	2	493	727
Proserpine	76	2	1186	1049
Mirani	107	13	1191	1155
Mackay	109	4	1344	1209
Sarina (Plane Ck)	194	8	1555	1316
Bundaberg	37	0.6	675	652
Childers South	33	0	659	552
Maryborough	33	0	647	781
Tewantin	17	0	881	1217
Eumundi	43	0	801	1172
Nambour	35	0.4	803	1169
Woongoolba	0	0.3	375	906
Murwillumbah	5	2	1043	1103
Ballina	25	0.4	942	1265
Woodburn	9	2	538	968



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. Weather report provided by the Bureau of Meteorology's Commercial Weather Services Unit.

Classifieds

Netafin trickle irrigation unit, one portable filtration system including 3 filters, valves etc. handles 30,000 gallons per hr. New 1200m reel of trickle tape 1.5L per hr. \$2,200 + GST Ph: 0400 908 812

MF 105 Harvester for billet planting, always shedded. Moller billet planter single axle. Heavy duty Tpl 8 ft grader blade. Phone 0414 012 664

Valtra 6400 4WD tractor - 100HP, air-con cab, 2004 model, 3700 hours, good condition. \$30,000. (incl GST) ONO Ph: 0418710958 / 49503048

Brand new 14.00 R 25 tyres for sale under half of new price. Ph 0488 300 361.

205 Massey Harvester for spare parts, Ph: 0417 595 771

Toft Infield track transporter, A/c Cab, Bedford engine, sunstrand pumps, Dyna power track motors, 8 Ton bin sectioned off at 5 ton, Hi lift side tip, 24inch bent Grouser plates, Good condition, \$40 000 plus GST. Ph 0417746001

1200L Fuel tank, 2010 425cfm Sullair trail air compr. aft/cool air VGC, new 600 psi 50'x2" wire braid hoses AM26 ends, International 574 tractor. Ph: 0438 784 684

HBM billet planter. As new condition, only planted about 50ha. various width settings. Wide shute. \$35,000 incl gst. 2x2.5ton tandem axle rear tippers. Good condition new tyres. \$3300 incl gst. Ph: 0419646066

Westhill half tracks, dead axle 24" grouser plates & sub frame to fit 7000, only done 100 hours work since new. Ph 0428 124 826

FOR HIRE: Dropdeck with ramps. Move harvesters and tractors. 20 & 40ft container pins. Ph: Shane: 0428 007 955 or Mick: 0438 167 545

BUCKET (NEW) suit 20T Excavator: 1050mm GP bucket. \$2,000+GST. Ph: 0419700761.

Cameco 96 f/track in gc.ph 0407054417
Hodge 3 row self-centring cutaway. \$5500 ONO. Ph: 0409 775 016

Feral pig removal. Various methods used. Free service. Servicing Mackay and all close areas. Fully insured. Ph: 0424 281 964

Bundaberg - Rocky Point

DROP-DECK, tautliner and flat top extendable for hire. 07 4159 8174 or 0417 004 717.

Gandy Box on 2" toolbar little use \$750, J I Case 1194 tractor 49hp 3 speed PTO approx 3000hrs \$8500, Janke Precision Planter 4 row, suit soy beans, peanuts, cowpea etc. \$6750, cotton king \$300, Rawlings 24 plate 24" trailing offsets \$5000, 1 tonne Bag Lifter \$1200, Hodge 3 Row Weed Rake with spare tynes, \$1500. Ph: 0418 874 615

24 plate IH 3/5 offsets, full refurb. VGC \$11,000 plus GST Ph: 0419 641 518

Toft tracked transporter double bin hi lift 230hp sunstand pumps dyna power drive. Case 21t excavator 2004 tilt & gp with near new Abex rock hammer 8700hrs good tracks. 0407 466 276

Fiat 100-90 4WD Tractor, Ford 7810 4WD Tractor, International 766 Tractor, International Tractor 856 with loader, David Brown Tractor 990 with loader, 5 tyne ripper (straight leg), 1 tonne bag lifter - 3 point linkage. Ph: 0419 577 110

2 of 5-tonne rear tipper bins, 23.1 x 34 tyres in good condition, \$7700. Ph: 0419 710 280

Farmscan (ag-guide) GPS-screen, rover, antenna and 2 complete steer kits including steering valves, VGC - \$12,000 + gst. Ph: 0419 665 001

Rotary Hoe Celli K230, 90 inch, heavy duty, 1000 pto, good condition - \$5200 + gst. Ph: 0419 665 001

Trailco 4" hose reel trailer with approx. 270m crusader hose. VGC. both for \$3500 (incl gst). 2 x Avokah Bingera special 4" irrigators, near new hoses, \$10,500 and \$12,500. Near new Hodge hydraulic multi weeder, \$6,500 ono. 60" Howard rotary hoe, \$1000 (incl gst). Single row Bonel plant cane cultivator - spare bearings \$200 (incl gst) High pressure booster irrigation pump on 3 point linkage. Offers considered. 4" irrigator hose reel with free hose, offers considered. Bonel hydraulic cane cultivator, \$2,500 (incl gst). Weeder implement, \$100 (incl gst). 1 tonne Bonel fertiliser box, \$1800 (incl gst). Tractor blade 3 point linkage, \$100 (incl gst). Bonel cane cutter, \$2500. 1.5 tonne fertiliser box cultivator, \$2500 (incl gst). Irrigator furrow implement, \$60 (incl gst). Fiat 60-90 air con cabin tractor, \$11,000 ono including gst. Phone: 0408 133 860

Wanted

Disc ratooner to suit 1.6 metre rows - Hodge or similar. Ph 0407 969496

4wd tractor 120 hp.ph 0407 054 417

Fertiliser box suitable for tow-behind ATV. Stool splitter. Mackay region. Ph: 07 4959 6197

Positions Vacant

OAKENDEN - Contractor wanted to harvest and plant small cane farm. 07 4958 5224 or 0428 575 787.

Work Wanted

MACKAY & PROSERPINE REGION - harvesting contract wanted. Ph: 0429 840 029.

MACKAY AREA - Ex-cane grower work in the farming industry. Have experience in all aspects of cane growing and harvesting. I have HR UD licence, loader, backhoe, grader, tractor, dozer and forklift tickets. I'm flexible, reliable and live locally. Please phone David Dahms 0428 387 600

BURDEKIN REGION - Experienced farmhand seeking full-time work or haulout job. Keen, honest and reliable hard worker with HR license, forklift license, white card and chemical accreditation. Ph: 0417 682 797 or email John jgreco127@yahoo.com.au

Property

MACKAY: 1750 Acres, seven lots, Coastal flat freehold property. South of Mackay supplying Mackay Sugar. High rainfall area and endless potential for diversification. House and garage, equipped irrigation system, shed, machinery and equipment. Ph: 0407 157 792

MACKAY: 422 hectares, cattle and cane. Huge supply of water, absolutely drought-proof property, 120 mega-litre water license, right on the coast. Ph: 0407 157 792

HERBERT RIVER: Cane farm 60.73ha with machinery and 4 bedroom dwelling at 194 Lannercost Ext Rd, Ingham Ph. 40454321

WALKERSTON AREA: Cane farm for sale, fully irrigated, 42.5ha cane 3.6ha grazing Ph: 0418 185 663

84Ha, 70.5Ha, 8Ha. Hwy access, old house+services, suit cane/cropping. Fitzroy Basin, 15min cane siding/20min Mill. Ph 0438784684

Wanted to lease, cane farm in Bundaberg area minimum 100 acres. Ph 0409 223 445

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ENTEC® is a treatment that keeps nitrogen stable in the soil for weeks, even months longer than with untreated Urea.

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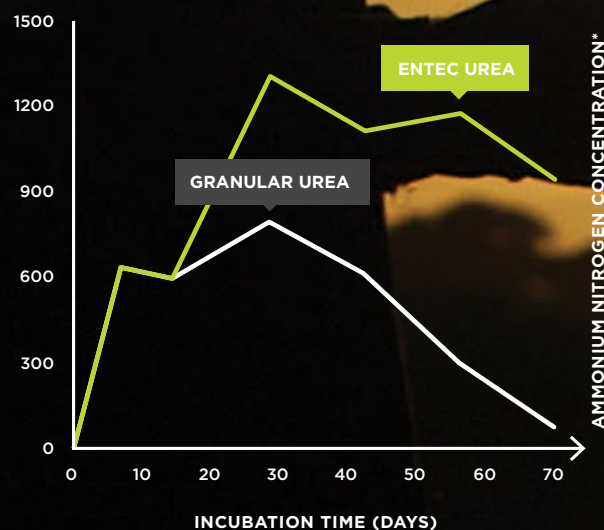
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- ✓ Protection against denitrification
- ✓ Improved crop uptake under conditions where leaching and / or denitrification potentials exist
- ✓ Protection against cane climate uncertainties
- ✓ Potential for improvements in your cane and sugar yield

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This experiment was conducted with urea in a moist acidic chromosol (Pin Gin) soil at 25°C (pHw 4.5) (60% water filled pore space). Source: Suter et al. (2008)
*Unit of Measure is micrograms (µg NH₄⁺ N/g soil)



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