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COVER IMAGE: Richard Cross, employee at Girgenti Contracting in Ingham, gets his haulout ready for the 2017 harvest.

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Moments of leadership require tough decisions

By Dan Galligan, CEO CANEGROWERS

Defining moments in leadership are often only measured in hindsight. While the options and strategies available may be analysed, almost every defining moment in our lives will eventually require hard decisions to be made - choices to be both taken and explained.

The Queensland State Budget was handed down this month. With an election likely to be held within the next six months, the Government had an opportunity to use this budget as a platform to define its election agenda.

Unfortunately, there was little in it that met this objective.

Most issues were forecast well in advance of the actual release, with the main focus being on spending around \$700m to help the state reduce electricity costs.

We can be justifiably cynical about this measure, as it is really just the recycling of money from the enormous dividends, in excess of \$1.6bn, that the Government receives from inflated electricity prices.

The budget was also marketed as focusing on jobs for Queensland. Strange then, that the major spending announcements around capital infrastructure works are forecast to make no difference to the unemployment rate, which is predicted to be stuck around 6% statewide for the next three years.

The Treasurer may have filled his pockets ready for an election announcement, though - a common political strategy!

An expected royalties windfall this year put an extra \$2bn into the operating budget. However, this all but disappears over the course of the next 12 months, largely for infrastructure in the southeast.

Possibly some other initiatives will see the light of day during the election campaign.

The reality is the budget lacked any real vision for the agricultural sector, and vision is what our industry needs.

CSAs

As the season finally ramps up we have seen the completion of all cane supply agreement negotiations in Queensland.

This is my first experience of the CSA process in action and I have learnt an enormous amount.

Not least of which is a newfound respect for the professionalism and tenacity of our district leaders, who have negotiated through this process against all odds.

It has taken a supreme effort of solidarity at a time when growers have experienced both emotional and financial stress. The bigger picture of future security remained the long term objective.

Likewise, our growers are now being tested in Mackay, where a recent decision to support a request from Mackay Sugar to raise funds from growers has been contentious.

But we remain true to our stated value at CANEGROWERS - accountability to our members.

In both cases leadership has been required as a few are forced to make the hard choices, and bear the responsibility of those choices, on behalf of the many.

Of course, arguments can be made about what is right and wrong. But these arguments must take into consideration the future viability and security of the industry. Grower empowerment and mill reliability are clearly cornerstones to our future.

I hope the harvest, crush and marketing of our crop goes well for all growers this season and may the weather support all our endeavours. ■



“The reality is the budget lacked any real vision for the agricultural sector, and vision is what our industry needs.”

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NEWS IN BRIEF

A triumph! CSAs guarantee choice

With days to spare before the crush began, CANEGROWERS negotiating teams and Wilmar Sugar finalised Cane Supply Agreements in the four districts where the company owns mills.

Crucially, these CSAs guarantee CANEGROWERS members in the Herbert River, Burdekin, Proserpine and Plane Creek districts the right to choose how their interest in the raw sugar made from their cane is priced and sold.

"The finalisation of these CSAs is a triumph for all members and their collective determination to choose their own path to business security," CANEGROWERS Chairman **Paul Schembri** said.

"Our growers have had to stand firm in their resolve for choice. They have rallied and written letters, sent delegations to Brisbane and Canberra and stayed the course..."

This milestone draws a line under the 2014 bid by Wilmar to seize a monopoly in the provision of marketing services in the districts in which it operates – a move which would have denied growers access to the industry-owned marketer QSL.

"Our growers have had to stand firm in their resolve for choice," Mr Schembri said.

"They have rallied and written letters, sent delegations to Brisbane and Canberra and stayed the course through countless hours of negotiations to ultimately see this process through to a successful end."

The finalisation of the CSAs also proves that commercial agreements can be negotiated under the 2015 amendments to the Sugar Industry Act, which

guarantee choice and competition in sugar marketing services.

"In the face of negativity and pessimism, growers have remained positive and held a keen eye on a more stable future with competitive forces at play in the marketing of sugar," Mr Schembri said.

"Growers can decide for themselves whether Wilmar Sugar or the industry-owned QSL, or in the future any other marketer that wants to operate in Queensland, offers the best option for their business.

"Competition fosters innovation and efficiency and both Wilmar and QSL are now working hard to convince our growers to select their marketing proposals.

"The industry can now move forward focussing on with what it does best – producing and selling quality raw sugar to the world."

CANEGROWERS members should contact their local office for instructions on completing the CSA for their district.

Pictured below: Some growers took to Twitter to express their relief and frustration.



MACKAY BIO-REFINERY

A company called Bio Processing Australia has selected a site at the Racecourse Mill for a proposed \$50 million bio-refinery project which would use soy beans grown locally as a rotation crop with sugarcane.

The company plans to make up to 15 mega litres of biodiesel for heavy transport vehicles along with 26,000 tonnes of soymeal and 2,000 tonnes of yeast products for the animal feed market each year.

Bio Processing Australia CEO **John Lockhart** welcomed the Queensland Government's \$8.64 million assistance for the project.

"The Government, like BPA, has identified that regional Qld has abundant resources for the modern bio-economy and their biofutures strategy is closely aligned to our own aims – using resources wisely to improve economic interests whilst improving the environment.



"There are global markets demanding our products and expertise, so this is really the start of something that can be an exciting boost for the region," he said.

Eton cane grower **Philip Deguara** told the *Daily Mercury* he welcomed a potential alternative to trucking the soy beans and mung beans he grows as a fallow rotation crop to Toowoomba to sell.

"It is a lot to get organised, trucks and storage on the farm," he said. "Having something local would make it a lot easier for us to harvest and make some income off our crops." ■

No vision for agriculture in Queensland Budget

CANEGROWERS CEO **Dan Galligan** said the Queensland Government had missed an opportunity to invest in a positive way in agriculture in its 2017-18 State Budget.

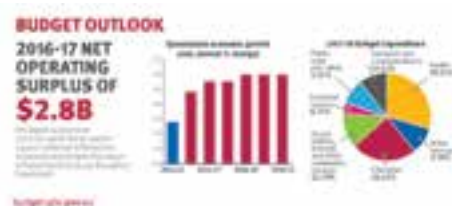
"They've had an operating surplus, it is an election year and there could have been some real initiatives for agriculture which is a powerhouse of the Queensland economy – but I just don't see it," he said.

His assessment that the budget lacked vision for agriculture was echoed by farming groups AgForce, the Queensland Farmers' Federation, Growcom, Queensland Dairy Farmers Organisation and the Nursery and Garden Industry Queensland.

CANEGROWERS, along with other producer groups, had been calling for significant moves towards reducing the cost of electricity to farmers.

"The only thing of interest was the \$700 million for electricity affordability which we heard about before the budget and even that is less than half of the windfall coming from increased electricity charges," Mr Galligan said.

While budget allocations were made to continue combatting various biosecurity threats, including white spot in prawns and panama tropical race 4 in bananas, Mr Galligan said it was disappointing that the funding was all reactionary.



"The allocations are all about dealing with known threats and issues," he said. "The government has missed an opportunity to invest proactively in Queensland's biosecurity capability to further protect our export industries and reputation," he said.

Other budget measures relevant to the agricultural industry included:

- A \$900,000 one-stop service to speed up development proposals for agricultural projects in North Queensland;
- Extension of drought relief arrangements and an additional \$1.25 million for drought affected landholders to better control weeds and pest animals;
- \$18.1 million in capital purchases with a focus on developing and upgrading existing research facilities;
- \$16.03 over five years for the Queensland Climate Risk and Drought Resilience program to improve farm business capability, seasonal forecasting and provide tools to enable producers to better manage climate risk; and
- \$23.3 million over four years for environmental law enforcement including the expanded reef regulations. ■

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CANEGROWERS Regional round-up

Mossman

Mackay Sugar's Mossman Mill commenced crushing on Monday, 5 June.

Harvesting has been interrupted, however, by wet weather as well as a number of mill stoppages due to mechanical issues. This will result in mostly delayed cane.

Tableland Mill commenced crushing in the last week in May and have toll crushed a total of 8,211 tonnes of Mossman's cane in Week 1.

Cairns region

Crushing commenced on 13 June for CANEGROWERS Cairns Region members.

A considerable amount of planting has taken place across the Mulgrave area with limitations in Babinda due to wet weather. The 2017 crop is looking average across the region but, thankfully, early signs from small mill samples indicate an increased CCS on last year.

BMP accreditations are steadily increasing.

Tully

Crushing commenced in Tully on Thursday 1 June with clear conditions giving the district one of the best starts for several years.

Just over 125,000 tonnes of cane were crushed in the first eight days of harvest and CCS was a unit better than last year at 11.4.

Although it is early days, the crop is cutting below estimate, but a better than average yield is still possible.

Planting is underway in parts of the district and productivity board staff have been busy with RSD samples and variety identification.

Growers are availing themselves of the fertiliser plans being developed using the Reef Trust 3 funding, and the grower groups for the SRA chemical project will be getting together in July.

A number of harvester groups have put their hand up to be involved in the first year of the SRA Major Harvest Project and will be involved in loss trials as well as workshops to help implement the findings.

Herbert River

CANEGROWERS members packed into the Royal Hotel Ingham on Friday 9 June to receive a detailed report from Directors on the draft Collective Cane Supply Agreement.

This agreement, the best that the negotiating team could achieve on behalf of members, was recommended to growers as the CSA that each Director would be signing.

In a move to settle a state of general confusion following Wilmar's promotion of a starting date before the CSA was signed, grower representatives met with Wilmar and agreed to a controlled start on 14 June with a gradual ramping up as the mills settled in.

The electronic signing of the Collective CSA is a new feature which is demanding considerable attention as glitches emerge.

The pre-season crop estimate remains at 4.7 million tonnes, which Wilmar forecasts will be processed by 24 November in a typical wet weather and lost time profile.

A recent burst of winter weather, including single-digit overnight temperatures, gives optimism that the crop will ripen nicely and give beneficial CCS levels.

As the soils dry out activity is also ramping up with land preparation and planting.



Innisfail

South Johnstone Mill commenced crushing on 13 June. The mill plans to crush 1,610,952 tonnes with a further 202,000 tonnes of contract cane to be crushed at Mulgrave mill this season. The pre-season estimate is 81 tonnes per hectare.

The local productivity awards for the 2016 season were presented recently. The Outstanding Grower Award went to Mr P, Mrs E and Ms R Angelini.

The Smartcane BMP Award, sponsored by CANEGROWERS Innisfail, was awarded to Matthew Stewart.

The unveiling of a Smartcane BMP honour board took place at the recent AGM.

All local growers who obtain BMP accreditation have their photo and name placed on the board, which has filled up rapidly.



Burdekin

Kalamia Mill commenced crushing on 14 June, with Pioneer, Inkerman and Invicta Mills expected to follow on 19 or 20 June.

The harvesting season was delayed by rain in May with up to 210mm falling in some areas and averages of 180mm across the Burdekin Region.

Wilmar has estimated a crushing tonnage of 8,400,000 for the season, but a large number of growers have stated that the estimation is overly optimistic and

could be up to 10% less going on their observations.

Wilmar has commissioned a lot of equipment after a significant capital and maintenance program was undertaken before the 2017 crushing season.

Steam trials were completed at all four mills. Inkerman and Invicta Mills have their two big locos still under repair but both of these were expected to be running by the harvest start.

Mackay / Plane Creek

All three mills in the Mackay Sugar area have now commenced crushing.

Farleigh started on 5 June, Marian on 9 June and Racecourse on 10 June.

Plane Creek Mill in Sarina is scheduled to commence on 20 June.

CANEGROWERS Mackay has sought the agreement of Mackay Sugar for payment of cane with PRS under 7 and purity under 75% due to the amount of standover cane currently being consigned.

Farleigh: 47,543 tonnes
Marian: 10,133 tonnes
Racecourse: 3,380 tonnes

Bundaberg

Reasonable rainfall and warm temperatures across the district during last month have seen the crop continue to grow. If we have an open winter with minimal frosts the estimate is achievable.

The estimate is 1.749 million tonnes, 784,000 at Bingera and the balance for Millaquin.

Millaquin will start on 19 June and will run in continuous mode with

a projected finish date around 20 November, allowing for two weeks wet weather.

Bingera's start date is 26 June. The first four weeks will be in the normal five day mode and for the remainder of the season it will change to six day mode.

The base CCS for both mills is to be 13.30 units at the start and we will monitor it on a fortnightly basis.

Maryborough

The crush is still approximately four weeks away, with a projected start date of 17 July, while the crop estimate sits at 540,000 tonnes.

Upcoming events in the district include:

- 22 June, Productivity Services roving field day, Contact Cam at CANEGROWERS Maryborough to book a seat on the bus. 7:00am at BGA Agri services on Saltwater Creek Road.
- 27 June, Pre-season growers meeting, commencing 1:30pm at CANEGROWERS Hall. Guest speakers CANEGROWERS Chairman Paul Schembri and MSF Sugar. There will be a BBQ to follow. ■

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Earlier in the year, we highlighted changes to the after-tax (non-concessional) and before-tax (concessional) contribution limits, which came about due to government superannuation reforms and may impact your super balance.

Coming into effect from 1 July 2017, after-tax contributions will be limited to \$100,000 a year for those under 65 years of age, reduced from \$180,000. Or \$300,000 over a period of three years, currently \$540,000.

Even though it's a considerable reduction, there's still time to take advantage of the current legislated contribution caps and contribute up to \$540,000 for the 2016/17 financial year.

Utilising the bring-forward rule, if you're under the age of 65 as at 1 July 2017, and have not utilised the bring-forward rule in the two previous financial years, you have an opportunity to do so before 30 June 2017.

Before-tax contributions will also experience a decrease. They will be limited to \$25,000 a year for anyone of any age, reduced from the current \$30,000 limit or \$35,000 limit if you are 49 and over.

If you think you're in a position to take advantage of the caps, it's important to seek advice to ensure it aligns with your current retirement planning strategy.

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Policy Update

Environment with Matt Kealley

Industry with Burn Ashburner

Reef in brief – scientific consensus statement

Some people reckon I'm too green, others say I'm not green enough. In truth, I'm somewhere in the middle. To me, environmental management is about dealing with the legacy of the past and minimising future problems.

In a few months' time, the *2017 Scientific Consensus Statement Update* will be released. This document, authored by a multidisciplinary group of scientists, will contain a consensus view on the current understanding of water quality issues for the Great Barrier Reef system.

Why is this important? This statement will support the development of the *Reef Water Quality Protection Plan 2017* and will be used as the evidence base for recommendations for the future management of water quality in the Great Barrier Reef.

Reef Regulations

As part of the Queensland Government's response to the GBR Water Science Taskforce's recommendations, the Office of the Great Barrier Reef is developing proposed minimum standards targeting nutrient and sediment pollution for all key industries in Reef catchments – agriculture (cane, grazing, bananas, horticulture and grains), urban development and industrial activity.

New targets for fertiliser and chemicals.

End-of-catchment water quality targets have been developed for pesticides, fine sediment, dissolved inorganic nitrogen, particulate nitrogen and particulate phosphorus.

The water quality targets will be set as load reductions at the end of catchment in tonnes and as a percentage.

Targets will be based on the 2009 baseline and will continue to incorporate progress achieved to date.

These new targets will apply to 35 catchments which flow to the Great Barrier Reef and will influence future reef programs and policy in the respective catchments.

Water quality targets will also be set for pesticides in the 35 catchments. The pesticide targets will now incorporate all pesticides (herbicides and insecticides), including the PSII herbicides (diuron, atrazine, ametryn, hexazinone and tebuthiuron) as well as insecticides such as imidacloprid.

The target will be based on an exceedance level for cumulative toxicity to protect 99% of aquatic species at the end of catchment.

The final release of the *2017 Scientific Consensus Statement Update* and the water quality targets are expected in August 2017.

The minimum regulatory standards for sugarcane and the consultation process for changes to the Reef Regulations is expected to occur between June and August 2017. ■



Cane analysis auditing

One of the core functions of CANEGROWERS is negotiating the Cane Supply Agreements (CSAs) on behalf of members.

While this is a critical task, the monitoring and implementation of these agreements is an equally important duty carried out by CANEGROWERS, as ultimately this determines what payments growers receive for their cane.

There are two issues to consider in relation to cane payments.

Firstly, the division of the sugar proceeds between grower and miller, and secondly, the division of these proceeds equitably between grower and grower.

The accuracy of the payment system is dependent on cane analysis, the integrity of which is dependent on the cane analysis auditor.

These auditors, and the processes they follow, are perhaps not given the recognition they deserve.

The part played by CANEGROWERS, at all levels, in monitoring this process on behalf of members (and non-members by default) is also probably taken for granted at times.

CANEGROWERS holds an annual workshop for cane analysis auditors. This year there were 12 participants, including a few district managers and growers.

These workshops give auditors a chance to compare notes and go through a process of ensuring their procedures are in line with everyone else.

A big topic at this year's workshop was the future of NIR (near infrared) spectroscopy with more reliable equipment replacing older items across several mills.

Sugar Research Australia fulfils the critical role of converting NIR readings to cane payment information and this expertise needs to be maintained.

The other issue which is always topical is a succession plan for auditors nearing retirement and a training package for new auditors.

This is a great job for someone with a laboratory background living in a sugar growing region and wanting part time, seasonal work. ■



This project is supported by CANEGROWERS and funded by the Australian Government Reef Trust and Queensland Government Great Barrier Reef Innovation Project



Introducing EEF60: Can new fertilisers help improve Reef water quality & grower bottom lines?

CANEGROWERS has been awarded a contract to run a series of 60 on farm trials of enhanced efficiency fertilisers and is now looking for growers to host the sites.

Dubbed EEF60, the project will run across three growing seasons in a bid to identify if they can meet the aims of improving nitrogen use efficiency (NUE) while reducing losses without impacting farm profitability or productivity.

Working with Sugar Research Australia, the sites will be selected for a variety of soil and climatic conditions to host the controlled and replicated field trials with 30 sites to be in the Wet Tropics region, 15 in the Burdekin, 10 in the Central Region and 5 in the Southern growing region.

Trial design

The trials will be conducted on a commercial scale using large replicated strips.

The treatments will include:

1. Nitrogen at the Six Easy Steps (6ES) rate with Urea
2. Nitrogen at 20% less than the 6ES rate with Urea
3. Nitrogen at 20% less than the 6ES rate with ENTEC/ Agromaster blend
4. Nitrogen at 20% less than the 6ES rate with either ENTEC, or Agromaster, or eNtrench or other (decided based on grower or regional interest)
5. Small plot (6 rows x 15 m) with 0 N (used to calculate how much N is available from the soil)

The treatments will be replicated three times at each site. Yield will be assessed by assigning each strip as a separate rake to the mill. Sampling of the soil and crop will also be conducted to determine nitrogen uptake and other NUE parameters. Environmental losses (run off and deep drainage) will be assessed at six of the 60 sites.

Soil sampling will occur immediately after harvest of the previous crop in order to determine the appropriate nitrogen rates and, where possible, this will be done in conjunction with EM soil mapping.

Trial site requirements

Trials are likely to require 4-6 ha, preferable with uniform soil type across the block.

Sites with poor drainage (potential for run-off and waterlogging), very good drainage (potential for leaching) and late season harvests will be targeted as this is where EEFs are more likely to be beneficial.

Sites that have had a legume fallow or mill-mud in the previous fallow period will be avoided as the nitrogen from these practices may interfere with the ability to assess EEFs. However, there is some flexibility in some regions and this should be discussed with the project team (see contacts right).

Most sites will commence in the 1R crop and will be required for three seasons.

Other benefits

Growers who participate in the project will have access to extension and agronomic support to develop a nutrient management plan (if they do not already have one). This plan will also identify other potential blocks on farm where EEFs could be tried.

The results will provide an assessment of EEFs specific to the growers' farm, including productivity and profitability, which will allow the grower to make informed decisions about the use of these products in the future

Nitrogen fertiliser for the trial site will be provided by the project. Nitrogen fertiliser application, including calibration, will be performed by the project team, although assistance from the grower would also be highly beneficial.

Contacts

Growers interested in taking part in the project should contact:

Wet tropics - Julian Connellan (SRA) 0456 4514

Burdekin, Central and South - Nick Hill (SRA) 4963 6807 ■

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Meringa Sugar Experiment Station **CELEBRATES CENTENARY**

Far North Queensland celebrated a century of sugarcane research and development activity at Meringa, south of Cairns, with an event for industry figures and the local community on June 14.



The Meringa Sugar Experiment Station first began operation in 1917 as the Australian sugarcane industry's first and only entomological research station, as part of what was then the Queensland Government's Bureau of Sugar Experiment Stations.

SRA Chairman Dr Ron Swindells said the Meringa station, now run by Sugar Research Australia (SRA), had broadened its focus beyond insects to research activities including sugarcane variety development, milling research, water quality, pests and weeds and adoption.

"The Australian sugarcane industry has a proud history of research and development that includes 100 years of research activity that has occurred at Meringa," Dr Swindells said.

"In that time, the goal has always been to increase the productivity, profitability and sustainability of sugarcane growers and millers, who provide vital economic activity for regional communities."

In recognition of the achievements and history of the station, the Meringa Experiment Station was listed on Queensland's Heritage Register in 2014.

"The Meringa station has also been the subject of a major investment by SRA to modernise its facilities, meaning that the history of the station is preserved, but also combined with modern facilities to allow for first-class research," Dr Swindells said.

"Meringa remains the engine room of the SRA sugarcane breeding program, where the first steps are made for creating new sugarcane varieties for growers and millers.

"It is where field cross of sugarcane varieties are made and it is also home to our photoperiod facilities, which have been a major technological advancement for the breeding program.

"I take this opportunity to thank all of the staff who have worked at the research station over the past 100 years.

"I also thank the local community of Gordonvale for its support, as the station is also a piece of their local history.

"Our research work continues to be targeted at delivering valued solutions for a growing industry, and I hope that this work continues well into the future." ■



Pictured: (top) Historical photographs from some of the early days at the Meringa Sugar Experiment Station.

(above) The Meringa station as seen from the air, with the photoperiod facilities to the right. Picture by Tim Staier



Warren Males

CANEGROWERS Manager - Economics

“Significant structural reform is needed to address the underlying problems.”

It's time to fix Australia's electricity prices

CANEGROWERS is engaged in a determined campaign to highlight that Australia's electricity system is broken, a cancer that's destroying jobs and economic opportunity in regional Queensland.

The Queensland Competition Authority's recent determination that regulated electricity prices would increase sharply again, by more than 10% for irrigators, from 1 July has delivered a wakeup call to the Queensland Government.

It responded by directing the QCA to recast its numbers. Unfortunately, this exercise, which at best will halve the previously announced price increases, amounts to no more than papering over the cracks in a deeply flawed system.

The Queensland Government's *Powering Queensland Plan*, pre-empting the release of the Finkel Independent Review, was designed to reduce the impact of electricity cost increases in regional Queensland while at the same time appeasing the green constituency in southeast Queensland.

But the two objectives are pulling in opposite directions.

Where will the \$1.16 billion promised spend come from? The obvious places are:

- Consumers – remember electricity prices will still rise sharply, even after the QCA crunches its numbers and the Queensland government will benefit from the higher profits its state-owned generators and network companies will deliver in 2017-18.
- Cost shifting – to the federal government. According to the *Report of the Queensland Renewable Energy Expert Panel*, “There is an opportunity for the (Queensland) Government to leverage existing Federal schemes to attract projects to Queensland”.

Significant structural reform is needed to address the underlying problems.

By focusing on issues relating to the reliability and affordability of electricity supply, the recent Finkel report to the Council of Australian Governments agreed with this assessment.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission has now been asked by the

Federal Government to review retail electricity prices. This review is underway.

Pulling in the opposite direction, a recent (24 May) Federal Court ruling against the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) in favour of the NSW electricity networks weakens the regulatory process. It diminishes the AER's ability to stop the persistent price gouging of electricity companies.

The AER had ruled that the NSW monopoly networks were 'gold plating' (over-investing) their networks and their cost claims were too high.

Lodging an appeal with the Australian Competition Tribunal, the companies argued on technical grounds that their cost claims were both necessary and efficient. They sought the right to pass the full cost on to consumers.

The Public Interest Advocacy Centre (PIAC), a small consumer legal group in NSW, joined the action arguing that the AER had not gone far enough in its initial decision.

The Tribunal found in favour of the networks and the AER and PIAC challenged the Tribunal decision in the Federal Court. The Federal Court also ruled in favour of the networks.

Electricity prices across NSW are set to increase sharply as a result.

The decision's consequences will be felt in Queensland. Weakening the AER, it is likely to embolden Ergon and Energex networks to continue to make excessive cost claims – pushing electricity prices ever higher.

Last year the AER disallowed some cost claims made by Energex and Ergon. Will it be bold enough to do so next time around?

CANEGROWERS is encouraging the AER to take further legal action to protect the rights of consumers and calls on state and Federal governments to fix the mess that Australia's electricity pricing framework has become. ■



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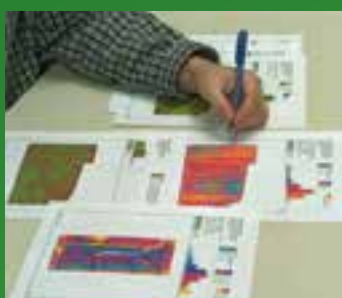
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JOHN DEERE

Clock is ticking for Wilmar growers



By Greg Beashel,
QSL Managing Director and CEO

Wilmar growers who wish to use QSL pricing and marketing services for the 2017 season are reminded that time is running out to choose us within their Cane Supply Agreement (CSA).

In order to access QSL pricing and marketing services, these growers must:

1. **Choose QSL as their GEI Sugar Marketer** within their CSA and allocate a percentage of their GEI Sugar tonnage to manage through the QSL system; and
2. **Have a Grower Pricing Agreement (GPA)** in place with QSL

Growers intending to use QSL are urged to complete their GEI Sugar Marketer nomination and have their GPA in place before their first delivery of cane to enable their new QSL payment arrangements to apply from their first Advances payment.

THE GPA AND PRICING

QSL's 2017-Season Pricing Declaration Date for Wilmar growers will be 23 June 2017.

This means that Wilmar growers who choose QSL as their GEI Sugar Marketer must finalise their nominations to our pools and pricing products by 5pm on this date.

Any GEI Sugar allocated to QSL by a grower but not nominated to QSL-managed pools or grower-managed pricing products by this deadline will default to the 2017 QSL Harvest Pool.

Those Wilmar growers who choose QSL in their CSA and who have already completed QSL's GPA process will have their access to QSL pricing services activated once their nomination of QSL within the CSA has been confirmed.

However, those growers who choose QSL within the CSA but have not yet returned a QSL GPA will need to complete this process before they can access QSL pricing services.

It's for this reason that QSL strongly recommends all Wilmar growers – even those who do not intend to use QSL this season – complete a GPA so that this can be quickly activated and their access to QSL pricing enabled should they decide to exercise their right to Marketing Choice in the future.

To obtain a GPA, please submit the GPA Pre-Registration Form, available on our website (<http://bit.ly/2rsF868>), or visit your local QSL office.

QSL DIRECT

Wilmar growers who choose QSL as their GEI Sugar Marketer will use the new QSL Direct online grower portal to make pool nominations, place/edit/cancel pricing orders and receive payment statements from QSL.

Training sessions covering how to use QSL Direct are being held regularly. Please contact your local Grower Services Team rep if you'd like to book a place.

You can also find information about how to navigate through QSL Direct via the QSL Direct User Guide, available at www.qsl.com.au or from your local QSL office.

TRANSFERRING (NOVATING) PRICING

Growers who recently chose to transfer existing pricing from Wilmar to QSL under a Marketing Nomination Transfer Request are asked to contact QSL to ensure that we have received the correct amount of pricing from Wilmar and can account for that pricing in the Grower's QSL nominations.

PLEASE 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. Information about past performance is not an indication of future performance. The report does not constitute financial, investment or product advice, a risk management strategy, a recommendation to invest in any of the pools described in this report, or an offer or invitation or recommendation with respect to any of the pools. You should read the Pricing Pool Terms, which will be available on the QSL website, and seek your own financial advice before making any decisions in relation to the Pricing Pool Terms and selecting pools.



New in-season options extend pricing window

Wilmar growers considering their QSL pricing options for the 2017 season have two new grower-managed pricing products to choose from this year.

Like their forward-season counterparts, the **In-Season Target Price Contract** and the **In-Season Fixed Price Forward Contract** are committed-sugar pricing options where the grower sets the pricing target.

The order and pricing increments are also the same as their forward-season namesakes, with the In-Season Target Price Contract requiring orders to be done in 10-tonne and \$10 increments, while the In-Season Fixed Price Forward Contract is better suited to larger growers, with a 304.815-tonne (6-lot) minimum/increment and \$1 pricing increments.

But instead of requiring the grower to set a target price based on a weighted average season price and achieve this before the first ICE 11 contract expires in June each season, QSL's in-season grower-managed products require the grower to price against the four separate ICE 11 contracts in a 1:2:2:1 ratio.

This means that the grower must price their nominated tonnage incrementally throughout the coming season, with 1/6th of their order priced against the July 2017 contract, 2/6ths against the October 2017 contract, 2/6ths against the March 2018 contract and the final 1/6th against the May 2018 contract.

The benefit of this new system is that not only can growers price across a longer pricing window ... they also have the ability to capture potential price increases should they occur as the season progresses.

As a result, participating growers need to have the appropriate proportions priced within the four ICE 11 contract deadlines established by QSL, these being 26 June 2017 (Jul17 contract), 18 September 2017 (Oct17), 15 February 2018 (Mar18) and 16 April 2018.

The benefit of this new system means that not only can these growers price across a longer pricing window than would be possible using the traditional forward-season products, they also have the ability to capture potential price increases should they occur as the season progresses.

It is also important to note that while the final pricing must be completed by 16 April 2018, QSL must receive the grower's tonnage nomination to these products and any other QSL pools by Wilmar Growers' Pricing Declaration Date which is 23 June 2017.

We cannot accept nominations to any 2017-Season committed tonnage pool or pricing product beyond this cut-off date.

To learn more about our In-Season Target Price Contract and the Fixed Price Forward Contract, please read the Pricing Pool Terms for these products, available in the Wilmar Growers section of our website (www.qsl.com.au). ■

YOUR LOCAL QSL REPRESENTATIVE AND OFFICE

REGION	OFFICE LOCATION	REPRESENTATIVE
Herbert River	11 Lannercost Street Ingham Qld 4850	Grower Relationship Officer Jonathan Pavetto P: 0428 664 057 E: jonathan.pavetto@qsl.com.au
Burdekin	Young Street Ayr Qld 4807	Grower Relationship Officer Rebecca Love P: 0429 054 330 E: rebecca.love@qsl.com.au Grower Relationship Manager Carla Keith P: 0409 372 305 E: carla.keith@qsl.com.au
Proserpine	88 Main Street Proserpine Qld 4800	Grower Relationship Manager Cathy Kelly P: 0409 285 074 E: cathy.kelly@qsl.com.au
Plane Creek	36 Broad Street Sarina Qld 4737	Grower Relationship Officer Emma Sammon P: 0418 978 120 E: emma.sammon@qsl.com.au

SIS SOIL ANALYSIS

looking subsurface to grow a better crop

Supplied by BMS LaserSat

Soil Information System (SIS) analysis gives growers the tools they need to optimise growing conditions and improve overall crop output and quality.

Plant materials within a field may be uniform, but the soils in which those crops are to grow are not.

With SIS, growers can assess the variability within each field and treat different zones according to their unique needs, thereby raising outputs and quality to the highest grade achievable throughout the field.

Trimble's Soil Information System is a new leap forward in understanding paddock and yield variability. This system uses multiple technologies to create accurate and reliable 3D information from 0-1200mm.

SIS creates a 3D soil database of paddock soil for over 60 physical and chemical characteristics from which actionable diagnostic reports are extracted. This information creates the capacity for more precise farming.

THE SIS SYSTEM INVOLVES 5 STEPS

The first step is to define a paddock boundary using the RTK GPS that is fitted to the vehicle and this GPS data is fed into the on-board computer that is running the SIS software called Data Analysis Acquisition Software (DAAS). This software ties all the mapping processes together.

The software is designed to calculate optimal locations for collecting data to assist in paddock navigation to defined locations on the display and for transferring information for post processing.

The second step involves the use of the surfer to fill in the detail within the paddock boundary defined in step one. The surfer collects variability information using the electro-magnetic sensor in the sled, and its corresponding GPS position.

In conjunction with EM (electromagnetic) data collection, the software is collating digital elevation modelling information, which is being collected approximately every metre.

A topographical map is produced from this digital elevation model information and is used as a tool to help with irrigation/drainage planning.

The EM data is collected to give the SIS a better understanding of bulk soil variability patterns. The DEM and EM data provide input for SIS intelligent targeting algorithms. This information is used for the next step in the process.

Step three is soil characterisation (Diver) which is the investigation of exactly what it is that is causing the soil variability and this is achieved by using a probe with a number of different sensors. ►



BMS Lasersat's Bryan Granshaw

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The locations for the diver are calculated from the variability that has been identified from the surfer operation and are displayed on the on board computer. The vehicle is anchored to ensure that all measurements are repeatable.

The geophysical probe is pushed into the ground to collect continuous data streams from the sensors: tip force, sleeve resistance, moisture and electrical resistance.

This data is displayed in real time on the on board monitor and is also stored.

Step four is soil characterisation and all of the data collected is used for this process. The software uses information from the surfer and diver process to calculate where the optimal locations for chemical property core collection will be.

This is done to maximise 3D spatial representation for chemical property analysis.

In step five, all of this information is processed to interpret the data and create three dimensional maps.

These maps provide the most accurate soil information to make decisions. For example plant available water can be used to help design irrigation layout, moisture sensor targeting and irrigation scheduling.

SIS gives a real picture of the factors influencing your paddock variability, and gives farmers and advisors the confidence needed to manage portions of paddocks within paddocks to maximise yield potential, and to minimise input costs.

SIS can also be used if you are buying new land and want to be certain of its potential or possible issues.

Tracking improvements from farming practice changes or monitoring areas that previously had below average yield are other uses.

Reducing and managing inputs according to field potential is also an outcome.

SIS is a valuable tool in understanding paddock variability related to plant available water, salt concentration levels, hardpan depth and severity, root zone depth, clay percentage, nutrient holding capacity, compaction levels and many more. ■

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Ozcal[®] Granular Lime for Plant Cane



Written by Andrew Olley -
Technical Manager,
Nutrifert Australia

Ozcal granular lime completely changes the game plan when a new crop cycle is commenced.

Traditional land preparation for a new cane crop cycle includes application of soil amendments for pH adjustment and the supply of calcium, an essential nutrient for sugarcane.

Where bulk ag lime is used, it should be applied as early as possible to benefit the plant crop. In fact, application up to six months in advance of planting is needed to allow time for the finer particles to react in the soil and commence the pH change, which in turn also releases calcium.

In many instances, ag lime is only applied just prior to row forming and hence, very little ag lime reaction occurs in the first six months of the plant cane crop.

This results in less than optimal growth due to reduced calcium availability and reduced efficiency of applied fertilisers.

High Reactivity

Ozcal granular lime completely changes the game plan when a new crop cycle is commenced.

A 2-4 mm round granule, Ozcal can be applied through a grower's normal fertiliser equipment. The ultra-fine lime particles within the granules allow for placement in the active root zone where fertiliser will be or has been placed.

Ozcal granules contain ultra-fine 20 micron pure limestone particles, which results in far higher reactivity in the soil compared to bulk spread ag lime.

The finer the lime, the less required. This is because as greater contact occurs in the soil, hydrogen ions on the soil particles are neutralised thereby raising the overall soil pH.

As part of the neutralisation process, calcium is released from the Ozcal and is available for crop uptake.

Ozcal also performs extremely well when placed on the soil surface and not incorporated, as the 20 micron lime particle sizing is small enough to penetrate the soil and move into the root zone with very little rainfall or irrigation.

Rates and Application

At a rate of 125 kgs/ha, Ozcal has been shown to have acted on soil pH and released its calcium within four weeks.

Combine this with the ability for the grower to use standard fertiliser equipment to apply, and it leads to a number of new lime application timing options and methods available for plant cane.

- Ozcal can be broadcast prior to row forming through basic fertiliser spreader type equipment - right up to the same day as row forming allowing quick pH adjustment for the plant crop. As the entire soil surface is receiving Ozcal, rates of 200 kgs/ha are required.
- A more common application timing is, however, to plant the crop and, after emergence, drop Ozcal directly onto the row at rates of 125 kgs/ha, letting rainfall or irrigation carry it into the rootzone to be activated.
- A further option that growers have utilised in plant cane is blending the side dress NPKS fertiliser with Ozcal and applying as a one-shot application at fill in, whether that be surface or in ground application.

Where Ozcal is applied after planting, effectiveness of pH correction and calcium release is still far higher than bulk ag lime, due to its particle sizing.

Ag lime is very slow to become active in the soil compared to Ozcal, which takes only four weeks to react.

In ratoon crops Ozcal is applied annually, also at low rates as a straight or blended with fertiliser to provide optimal pH and calcium supply to the crop. ■

Ozcal is granular lime that can be applied through grower equipment which means optimal timing and convenience. Due to the granule hardness, application can be with worm or paddle drives, spreaders or droppers.

Q232 - 8 months first Ratoon / Blend 141s @ 620 kgs/ha plus Ozcal 125 kgs/ha



Danny Pantovic, Cane grower from Kennedy (left)

"Ozcal allows ease of lime application and at my preferred timing without a contractor. Blending Ozcal with my fertiliser means a one pass operation saving valuable time. I see results in my cane by applying my crops requirements for lime annually and Ozcal allows this to be possible.

I believe broadcast application of ag lime is a waste of time as the acidity issue is directly where Nitrogen fertilisers are applied let alone expecting one ag lime application to last a five year crop cycle. The majority of my farm's plant and ratoon cane blocks is being treated with Ozcal blends."

Rod Trost, Landmark Tully

"Growers in Tully have taken advantage of Ozcal to apply low rates of lime annually to keep a consistent soil pH and Calcium supply to the crop. Our clients like the choice of straight Ozcal application or blends with their normal fertiliser products."

High Reactivity

Ozcal's ultra fine, 20 micron particle size results in high reactivity, thereby greatly reducing the rates applied compared to Ag Lime.

One Shot Application

Ozcal can be blended with NPK fertiliser for a one shot application of nutrient and Lime, if required.

Common rates of application

Plant Cane 125-200 kgs / ha

Ratoon Cane 125 kgs / ha



For more information about Ozcal, please contact your local dealer.

USING GYPSUM TO HELP YOUR SOIL STRUCTURE

Supplied by Drain Tech

If you have ever received a soil test that includes a recommendation to apply gypsum it is important to understand the processes that are going on beneath the soil surface.

Gypsum is usually prescribed to deal with soils that are classified as sodic. By definition, a sodic soil is one that has sufficient exchangeable sodium to adversely affect the growth of most plant crops.

Soil tests will usually describe this exchangeable sodium as a percentage, ESP, and soils with an ESP of > 15 are classified as sodic.

The excess sodium buzzing around in the soil has detrimental nutritional and physical effects and can cause significant reductions in crop yields.

Gypsum, also known as calcium sulphate, is available in most cropping districts.

In a nutshell, once applied to the soil, the calcium and the sulphate break apart because the sodium exerts a higher attraction for the sulphate.

This "gathering up" of the surplus sodium helps to lower the ESP and thus the sodicity is reduced.

In time, the crop root zone is cleansed because the excess sodium is leached downwards and away.

Leached downwards and away

There is frequently a fundamental misconception that the surface application of gypsum is the end of the process and "everything will be sweet from now on".

The downward leaching is an essential process and will only occur in soils with a natural or engineered capacity for leaching or drainage.

Typically, sodic soils are heavy and poorly structured with imperfect drainage.

In these soils it essential that additional drainage be installed so that the cleansing process can commence.

Sub-surface drainage will allow the downward percolation of excess sodium where it can be captured in tail drains for monitored release or shandying and re-use.

There are a number of service providers who offer soil mapping and investigation services.

Tools such as an EM 38 or Trimble's SIS, can help identify areas of a paddock that need further investigation.

This enables the remediation dollar to be spent on the target area rather than across the whole paddock.

Often, focussing the gypsum and drainage on the exact area of concern will have a far greater impact on lifting the average yield of the whole paddock than treating the paddock as a single land unit.

Contact Richard at Drain Tech for details of a service provider in your area – phone 0428 528 054 or email richard@draintech.net.au



PICTURED: Installation of sub-surface drainage to allow leaching to commence.



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SWEET WAYS TO CONSERVE: MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR SUGARCANE

Sugarcane producers have an important balancing act on their hands. Not only do they need to meet the world's demand for sugar, they are also charged with both increasing the soil quality of the cane stands they manage, and protecting sensitive wildlife areas like the Great Barrier Reef from runoff coming from cane-growing operations.

Supplied by K-Line Industries

According to the Queensland Government's Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF), the most important reef pollutants coming from sugarcane farming are nutrients (especially nitrogen and phosphorus) and PSII pesticides (herbicides specifically designed to inhibit plant photosynthesis).¹

While sugarcane production relies heavily on the application of nitrogen-based inputs to enhance soil quality, and herbicides to control competing plant growth, more sustainable farming practices can help lower overall input costs while still providing the soil quality benefit.

Growers employing innovative soil conservation management practices can help mitigate these pollutants while also improving soil quality, managing farming operations expenses, and increasing grower margins.

Two of the best known and most widely used soil conservation practises are trash blanketing and fallow break crops. Equally important is the use of conservation tillage systems.

Conservation Tillage Systems

Conservation tillage systems are a relatively new addition to the sugarcane producer's arsenal in combating input costs and supporting conservation.

The advent of precision agricultural practices and easy soil sampling processes have given farmers better insights into their paddocks' productivity, and a more quantifiable method for understanding the cost-effectiveness of new farming practices.

University studies on conservation tillage systems are ongoing and thus published results are limited. But a study in the mid-1990s found no-till conservation practices produced a 90% decrease in erosion rates on cane stands.

When paired with other precision management techniques, like timed applications, managed irrigation and monitored input application rates, the overall effect can be highly beneficial to both the soil and the producer.

Strategic tillage uses a rotary hoe and ripper tines to prepare only the strip of soil where the cane set is placed, or a

Speedtiller® with the discs removed for the non-cultivated strip of soil, leaving the soil to either side undisturbed.

This leaves a trash cover on the inter-row soil, preventing subsequent weed growth and inhibiting soil erosion. ■

References

¹ <http://era.daf.qld.gov.au/4492/1/fin-synth-rep-econ-pest-mgmt-sc-farms.pdf>

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BMP hits its double century and continues to build

Smartcane BMP has celebrated a milestone, with the number of accredited growers topping 200. That's 14% of Queensland's total cane production area.

"This is a significant achievement by these 200 growers and it's only right that we recognise and congratulate them on the leadership they have shown," said Smartcane BMP Program Manager Michael Quirk (right).

"By completing the accreditation process these growers are helping to secure the social licence our industry requires to operate successfully into the future."

Currently 25% of all cane land in the Wet Tropics region is managed by accredited growers, while a further 1,530 growers are now benchmarked in Smartcane BMP program, accounting for over 67% of Queensland's cane-growing area.

Getting the 'cred' with farming practices

Accreditation in BMP is a significant step to take, requiring an independent review of evidence (including farm records) that practice standards are being met.

For growers, accreditation has many benefits:

- **Celebrates your achievements:** Smartcane BMP ensures that improvements in farming practice are acknowledged and celebrated by industry and, importantly, by the Queensland community;
- **Keeps you up to date with research outcomes and new ideas:** Smartcane BMP practice standards are reviewed regularly to ensure they are informed by the latest industry research data and grower innovations;
- **Minimises regulatory compliance:** Smartcane BMP demonstrates to government that you are meeting, and in fact exceeding, the requirements of reef regulations. Accredited growers are not the target of government on-farm compliance programs.
- **Ensures your sugar is ready to meet market requirements:** Coca-Cola and other companies are now seeking sugar from production systems that meet sustainability



standards. Coca-Cola recognises the value of Smartcane BMP, and the program is seeking a complementary approach with Bonsucro, the global sustainability standard for sugar.

Evidence-based practice change and innovation

Nitrogen use is one of the more contentious issues in the sugar industry. Smartcane BMP is coordinating work to identify potential improvements to nutrient management, especially in relation to better alignment of nitrogen applications to crop needs.

This is bringing together the results from research and innovation to ensure that any revised guidelines are evidence-based and do not compromise productivity.

What is the real value from changing a farming practice?

Smartcane BMP is developing much clearer information for growers on the value proposition of adopting the standards for each key agronomic practice. This will describe the added value of a practice change in terms of productivity, profitability, and sustainability, while also addressing any risk factors.



Endorsed by industry and government

The program is endorsed by all industry organisations and by both State and Federal governments. It receives funding from the State Government, but is designed and managed by industry with input from stakeholders. Industry is the custodian of the program and its information.

Capture, celebrate and communicate your farming practices with BMP

Smartcane BMP is the industry-owned program that *captures, celebrates and communicates* the farm practice standards of growers. These practice standards address crop production, soil health, and the efficient use of water, nutrients, and chemicals.

Wide recognition of BMP standards

Bonsucro has a global set of sustainability standards, and recognises that:

- o Smartcane BMP practice standards fully align with the Bonsucro standards.
- o Smartcane BMP is much stronger in covering the specific practice standards that help reduce risk to water quality while ensuring productivity is maintained or improved.

Discussions with Bonsucro continue to ensure that both programs make the most of their respective strengths.

Smartcane BMP practice standards meet the sustainability requirements for biofuel feedstock sourced from sugarcane. ■

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Mackay-Proserpine

FOR SALE: 2 x 14.9 x 28 tractor tyres and tubes; 20% tread; \$330 GST inc. for both. Ph. 0427120499

Drop-deck with ramps to move harvesters & tractors; 20 & 40ft container pins. Ph. Shane 0428007955 or Mick 0438167545

2006 CLAAS 577ATZ 125hp high spec with only 1600hrs \$44000 inc GST Ph. 0407595094

2 x Hodge heavy duty quick hitches No 2 cat. \$500 each Ph. 0437827052

Parts available for Howard AR & AH Rotary Hoes from \$50 to \$500. Ph. 49595883 or 0407643441

AR 80" Howard Rotary Hoe fully reconditioned, new galvanised doors and gear box panel, good blades \$6600.00. Other fully reconditioned AR & AH Rotary hoes also available in different sizes. Ph 49595883 or 0407643441

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AND PHOTOS?

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Rainfall Report

brought to you by AustSafe Super

Location	Recorded rainfall (mm)			Average rainfall (mm) January–June
	7 days to 9am		Year to date	
	05.06.17	12.06.17		
Mossman	0	0	1624	1724
Mareeba AP	1	6	587	717
Cairns	8	5	1250	1598
Mt Sophia	45	6	2313	2577
Babinda	0	0	1250	3261
Innisfail	74	15	2367	2714
Tully	10	0.2	1652	3154
Cardwell	0	1	1343	1655
Lucinda	0	2	1409	1653
Ingham	Tce	Tce	1086	1555
Abergowrie	1	1	716	1429
Townsville	0	0.6	639	868
Ayr DPI	0	1	768	712
Proserpine	0	1	1262	1027
Mirani	0	0	1092	1118
Mackay	0	0.2	1811	1169
Sarina (Plane Ck)	0	1	2433	1282
Bundaberg	0	1	440	610
Childers South	0	3	585	513
Maryborough	0	3	388	728
Tewantin	0	0	828	1131
Eumundi	0	0	713	1095
Nambour	0	0	619	1085
Woongoolba	0	42	597	834
Murwillumbah	0	126	1090	1035
Ballina	3	209	1178	1146
Woodburn	0	0	1191	878



**AustSafe
Super**



The industry super
fund for rural and
regional Australia.

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

JOHNNY FARMING COMPANY

New Hydraulic Heavy Duty

OFFSETS

3 metre width, 28 discs,
All bath bearings

\$11,000 plus GST (\$12,100 incl GST)

Other size offsets available are 1.8m, 2.2m,
2.5m, 3m & 3.4metres.

3 point linkage offsets available also



New Heavy Duty SLASHERS

2.1 metres width \$3,300 incl GST

Other sizes available are 1.2m, 1.5m & 1.8m

Johnny Farming Company

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

133 Schmidtke Road Mackay Qld 4740

Earthmoving tyres brand new 14.00R25, \$550 each. Ph 0488300361

Tractor Tyres & Wheels x 2, Olympic 18.4 x 42 Gripstar, Including Wheels & Hubs, came off Case Magnum 7140. \$2,000 inc. GST. Ph. 0428236165.

Pallet Jack. \$250. Please phone 0428541197
Ditch Witch R100 trenching machine with back hoe attachment. F10 Volvo 10-tonne tipper with tagalong trailer used to transport trencher. Ph. 49592260

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. 0438606578 (Mackay)

Bundaberg-Rocky Point

David Brown with 5 ft slasher and loader, \$10,000 inc gst; International 856 with loader \$8,750 inc gst; Bag Lifter \$950; International 766 Tractor \$7,750 inc gst. All prices O.N.O. Ph. 0419577110

Trailco irrigator T450, no hose \$7,500; Southern Cross irrigator 200, \$7,500 inc gst 4 Tyne Ripper \$2,500 inc gst; Kabota Inter-row tractor with spray tank \$6,750. All prices O.N.O. Ph. 0419577110

Toft 6000 Harvester \$2000 + GST; New Holland TR70 Header \$5000 + GST; Grain Bin \$1000 + GST; Bedford Truck \$1500 + GST. All prices negotiable. Ph 0488662313

Massey 105 good condition with half tracks \$5000 ONO. Ph. 0421547008

Multiplyer, new 3 point linkage, \$ 14 960. Ph. 0432346549

Land Leveller 3.5m x 3.5m solid construction \$4,000+GST. Quinco Fertiliser Distributor - discs, coulter, rippers rollers stainless steel drive \$8,500+GST. Ph 41598340 or 0403598345

Lazer bucket, 8' new hydraulic lift, bowl, apron and tilt \$28,000 +GST Ph. 07 41561516

Two roll on roll off haul out trailers carries single 6t bin one has hydraulic winch and other has pto winch, \$3500 for one and \$2500 the other plus gst. Ph. 0419270981

Perkins 6354 engine non turbo was in 102 harvester runs well but needs injectors, injector pump has been reconditioned but not used since also comes with pump box and radiator all on stand can hear running. \$1200 plus gst neg. ph 0419270981.

Full track infield transporter, high lift side tipper turbo 6354 Perkins engine in vgc Toft 7700 hubs. \$22,000 plus gst Ono. Ph 0419270981

Moorooka MST1700, g.c. 250hp Cummins engine, 1900 hrs, a/c cab, new tracks, fitted with 6-tonne high lift cane tipper bin + original tipping body. \$37,000 inc GST. Ph. 0417750925

For sale - Moorooka MST 1700 rubber track infield transporter ,7 tonne High lift 1900 hrs. Also has rockbody. \$35,000 inc GST. Ph 0428221850

Wanted

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

WANTED: Fertiliser belt spreader; any condition considered. Ph. 0427120499

Wanted to buy. Howard Rotary Hoe. AH 80 or AH90 for wrecking spare parts only. Any condition. Ph. 47774966

Looking for front weights for John Deere 6620, number on weight R51910. Ph 0407 131 726. Burdekin/ Ingham area.

Suscon intel applicator wanted. Call 0409675344

Wanted billet planter and tipper bins. Prefer wide elevator HBM. Contact Isaac 0448 200 944.

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

TRACTOR TYRES of all sizes. 0418775698 all hours.

WESTCOTT ENGINEERING

HARVESTER BLADE RESHARPENING

Various sized resharpened harvester blades for sale

Tungsten Hardfacing

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

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

Work Wanted

Ingham to Bowen – Looking for driving work. HR licence. Will work any hours. Call Paddy on 0427216720 any time

Northern Rivers - Looking for a driving job preferably HC truck (Mud Truck). Licences Class 5 open. Experience with Elevated Tipper Trailers and Side tipper truck. 66 years of age. Clean record. Good health. Call Michael Hansby on 0407419184 or email startrucker1@gmail.com

Tablelands area - Interested in a haul out job. Limited experience but a fast learner. Have UD Tractor Licence, HR truck licence (condition B) and white card. Ph Darren 0429207275

Experienced Haulout Operator, 5th year, seeking position in **Sunshine Coast/ Northern NSW area**. Experienced with JCB Fastrack & Elevated Tipper, and more. Current open UD licence & HR learners. Ph. 0422351607 or 0412668664 email: marcspropertymaintenance@outlook.com

Tractor Operator - Seeking employment as haulout driver or other tractor work. Have 2 years' experience in John Deere & BSM tippers. Non-drinker & non-smoker living in Gin Gin, but willing to travel. Ph Brady 0466941286 or email BradyLarsen1997@hotmail.com.au

Cairns area - Job wanted. **Tractor driver** or any other job. I have tractor driving experience and farm experience. Ph. 0499714806 or email romain.lepretre@gmail.com

Property

CANE FARM WANTED 85ha + Marian, Mirani area. Genuine buyer. Ph. 0407629940

WALKERSTON area: Cane farm for sale, fully irrigated. 42.5ha cane 3.6ha grazing. Ph 0418185663

Cane farm at **OAKENDEN**, 6brm home, sheds and machinery. Irrigated, flat, no rocks, good soil, close to town, close cart. Ph. 49585224 or 0428575787

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CUTTING AND HAULING LOOKS BETTER IN RED

Backed by over 50 years of product research and development Austoft® sugarcane harvesters deliver high performance when you need it most. Match it with the big iron power and performance of a Puma™ tractor built to the haul out specs, and you'll be productive and comfortable during long working days. Talk to your Case IH dealer about a cutting and hauling package to suit your needs.