

CANE

AUSTRALIAN

GROWER



CANEGROWERS

22 May 2017 Price \$9.95



QUEST FOR EFFICIENCY DRIVES BUSY GROWER TO SMARTCANE BMP



**Wilmar and
QSL agree
terms of
on-supply
contract**



**Women in
Sugar: more
women
needed in ag
management**



**SRA
research
station gets
Smartcane
credentials**

MASCHIO

GASPARDO

WORK IT. WEED IT. SEED IT.



PRESTO

- Maintenance free hubs.
- 510mm discs.
- Ideal for seed bed preparation and cover crop sowing.

FROM

\$18,250 +GST

\$20,075 INC GST

 PFG CREDIT

3.95%
P.A.

CONDITIONS APPLY*



UFO

- Culithub oil filled bearings.
- 3D safety system with spring mounted discs for ultimate protection.
- 610mm discs and side containment discs as standard.
- Heavy machine for harder challenging conditions.

FROM

\$24,750 +GST

\$27,225 INC GST



Seed box options available.



*Based on 10% Deposit & GST component repaid within 4 months followed by equal monthly repayments over 36 months. Subject to credit approval by PFG Credit. Offer ends June 30th 2017. PFG Credit is a division of De Lage Landen Pty Limited ABN 20 101 692 040. Excludes dealer freight and predelivery charges.

CONTENTS

22 May 2017



Features

- 4 CSAs within reach in Wilmar districts
- 5 \$4.7 million boost to help improve water quality
- 6 Promoting women in agriculture as sugar delegates meet
- 9 Smartcane BMP accreditation for Meringa research station
- 10 Choosing QSL — a guide for Wilmar growers
- 12 Quest for efficiency drives Tully grower to adopt best practices

Also inside:

- 2 CEO's comment
- 4 News in brief
- 8 Policy updates
- 10 QSL report
- 23 Classifieds
- 24 Rainfall report

COVER IMAGE: Long-time employee Denis Romano played an important role in the Smartcane BMP accreditation of Les Blennerhasset's 580 hectare cane farm in Tully. Read more on page 12.

Editor: Wayne Griffin

Design, subscriptions and classifieds:

Jacqui Segond

Articles appearing in *Australian Canegrower* do not necessarily represent the policies or views of CANEGROWERS

Published every second Monday by
CANEGROWERS

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

AUSTRALIAN CANEGROWER ISSN 0157-3039

Volume 39 Number 10

Printed by Printcraft

23 Links Avenue, Eagle Farm QLD 4009

Subscriptions

Yearly subscriptions for 25 issues (postage included)

Within Australia \$160 inc GST

Overseas (AUD) \$220

Can we ALL move forward – together?

By Dan Galligan, CEO CANEGROWERS

As this issue of Australian Canegrower goes to print, we can finally see a glimmer of light at the end of the very long tunnel that has been the Grower Choice in Marketing reform.

With QSL and Wilmar on the precipice of signing an On-Supply Agreement, it seems that growers will finally be able to sign the Cane Supply Agreements negotiated on their behalf by our CANEGROWERS district negotiating teams.

In December 2015, the Grower Choice legislation advocated by CANEGROWERS entrenched competition in marketing in Queensland law.

At that time, an experienced leader of our industry told me that he believed Wilmar would ensure that negotiating a pathway forward would take as long as possible.

Here we are, a heartbeat away from the start of the 2017 crushing season and the proof is in the pudding.

It is amazing to think that on 5 July 2010, Wilmar announced the acquisition of CSR / Sucrogen for close to \$1.8bn and planned for that acquisition to be finalised by September that same year – just three months later.

Seven years on, and it has taken 18 months for them to finalise the cane and on-supply agreements that will give growers control over the marketing of their sugar, as enshrined in Queensland law.

Pondering why and how things could have been different leaves little room to acknowledge the enormous stress lumbered on farmers, workers and the community – all as a result of the uncertainty of this process and the strategic decisions made by all parties along the way.

In fact, too much navel gazing may well be counterproductive.

Instead, we should acknowledge the power of the solidarity and determination shown by our members.

Cane growers saw the bigger, longer-term picture on this issue and through their actions demonstrated that they would continue to look forward and get on with growing their farming businesses' sustainably and profitably.

Much rebuilding will be needed because of the way this issue has been managed. Industry

structures and relationships have changed around us.

Dealing with change is not a new paradigm in agriculture. Farmers, working together, have shown resilience and an ability to deal positively with change far beyond that shown by many corporations or governments.

I firmly believe that we can move on and enjoy the benefits of collaborative industry relationships in areas where we are struggling.

This belief is not based on wishful thinking – we can see it happening in other areas of the industry right now.

On a recent trip to New South Wales we saw effective commercial, collaborative arrangements at play between NSW growers and Sunshine Sugar. We have also heard similar feedback from Queensland growers working with MSF Sugar.

They are not alone but they stand out because of the way growers report an understanding of the strategic direction their milling and marketing commercial partners are taking.

This does not suggest they always agree but there is clarity about an agreed sense of purpose that is commercially beneficial to all stakeholders.

The transparency of this commercial benefit seems to be at the heart of this confidence.

These types of arrangements are the bedrock upon which the success of this industry has been, and will continue to be built – if we all choose it to be so. ■



“We should acknowledge the power of the solidarity and determination shown by our members.”



ENTEC[®] PROTECTED

Growers count on ENTEC[®] treated fertiliser to protect nitrogen investment and crop yield

In a wet season or dry, just one unpredictable rainfall event can wash a substantial nitrogen investment down the drain (or up into the air) overnight.

ENTEC enhanced efficiency fertiliser keeps nitrogen stable in the soil for weeks, even months longer than with untreated Urea.

- ✓ Defends against loss from leaching and denitrification
- ✓ Optimises crop uptake
- ✓ Protects yield potential
- ✓ Supports '6 Easy Steps' application rates

More growers every day say that's protection they can't afford to be without.

To find out more about ENTEC protection, and what else growers are saying about it, see your local accredited ENTEC dealer or visit incitecpivotfertilisers.com.au

Peace of mind for Ingham grower

"I like the idea that by using ENTEC, the nitrogen stays in the soil for longer and whether the cane is cut early or late, I am giving the crop the best possible chance to make the most of the nitrogen.

"Cane growers can use ENTEC with confidence and they don't have to worry about where their fertiliser is going."

Robert Silvini Ingham

Incitec Pivot Fertilisers

NEWS IN BRIEF

CSAs within reach in Wilmar districts

An agreement which will pave the way for collective grower choice Cane Supply Agreements (CSAs) in Wilmar Sugar milling districts was just days away from completion as this magazine rolled off the presses.

Late on Friday 12 May, after two days of mediation and almost a year of negotiation, QSL and Wilmar both announced via emails to growers that their final issues had been resolved and lawyers would draft up the final wording of On-Supply Agreement (OSA).

The OSA will pave the way for growers supplying Wilmar mills to elect which proportion of their Grower Economic Sugar is to be marketed by QSL and/or Wilmar.

CSAs in Wilmar districts have been on hold until the OSA was finalised. Once it is signed, CANEGROWERS negotiating teams will finalise the marketing provisions of CSAs, ensuring the two agreements can work together

to provide grower choice in marketing. Arrangements will then be made for members to sign.

QSL reported the final matter in contention was a Wilmar proposal to deliver Grower Economic Interest sugar tonnage to QSL calculated on Actual CCS rather than Relative CCS, which could have resulted in lower QSL Advances payments to growers during the early months of the harvest and less sugar for QSL to market during this period.

QSL says the parties have negotiated a resolution that addresses the concerns and enables Advances payment arrangements for growers and the sales program to proceed without change.

CANEGROWERS BURDEKIN APPOINTS NEW MANAGER

It's been a baptism of fire for CANEGROWERS Burdekin new General Manager Harvey Coe, with the 58-year-old taking over the reigns of Queensland's largest sugar-producing district just as the marketing dispute between grower collectives and Wilmar comes to a head.

"It's been interesting, that's for sure," said Harvey, who took on the role in early May.

"There has been a lot of angst among growers, but thankfully things are starting to look up.

"Just in the last few days, since the announcement of an agreement between Wilmar and QSL, growers seem to be a bit more optimistic."



A former general manager of Tableland Stockfeeds, Harvey has almost 40 years experience in the agribusiness sector in Australia, New Zealand and Papua New Guinea.

He recently relocated from Tolga, moving to Ayr to take on the role with CANEGROWERS Burdekin where he replaces former manager Deb Burden.

While he's still settling into the role, Harvey has already set his sights on boosting member numbers in the Burdekin.

"Retaining our current members and encouraging new members to join will definitely be a focus for me," he said.

"You just have to look at this dispute to see how important a strong membership base can be.

"Divide and conquer was definitely a tactic being used against growers and having a number of competing groups only increases the chance of that tactic being successful."

DISTRICTS GEAR UP FOR 2017 CRUSH

Queensland's crushing season is just around the corner, with Mackay and Tully set to kick off the 2017 harvest on 30 May.

While crop estimates and start dates have been rolling in from some districts, others are yet to finalise details of this year's harvest.

MILL	START DATE	ESTIMATES
MOSSMAN		
Mossman mill	5 June	1,200,000 tonnes
TULLY		
Tully mill	30 May	2,700,000 tonnes
HERBERT RIVER		
Victoria mill	TBA	4,700,000 tonnes
BURDEKIN		
Invicta mill	13 June	3,197,000 tonnes
Pioneer mill		1,804,000 tonnes
Kalamia mill	6 June	1,597,000 tonnes
Inkerman mill		1,802,000 tonnes
PROSERPINE		
Proserpine mill	4 July	1,370,000 tonnes
MACKAY		
Farleigh mill	May 30	
Marian mill	June 6 – one milling train and June 14 – second milling train	5,300,000 tonnes
Racecourse mill	June 8	
PLANE CREEK		
Plane Creek mill	June 20	1,180,000 tonnes
ROCKY POINT		
Rocky Point mill	Prospective 12 June	471,620 tonnes



\$4.7 million boost to help improve water quality

The Australian Government has pumped a further \$4.7 million into projects aimed at reducing nitrogen runoff across the Wet Tropics and Burdekin regions.

In the Wet Tropics, 15 growers have secured funding under Reef Trust Phase IV. The money will be used to assist with the implementation of improved land management practices to reduce nitrogen moving off-farm.

Joe Marano, Chairman of the Wet Tropics Sugar Industry Partnership, which is overseeing the administration of the tenders, said the additional funding was great news for the project.

"All of the growers involved in previous Reef Trust Reverse Tenders successfully reduced their nitrogen inputs through a range of different solutions including application of mill mud, use of legumes as a source of nitrogen, as well as trialling biological fertilisers and purchasing equipment for precision farming," he said.

"One of the key lessons learned from these growers was that they were able to make these reductions in fertiliser use without affecting yields, so it's a good result for farmer's back pockets and water quality.

"The great thing about this project is that the government is backing growers to put their own ideas into practice."

For further information contact the Reef Trust hotline 1800 899 486 or speak to your local WTSIP extension officer. Visit www.wtsip.org.au/team/ for details.

Pictured above: South Johnstone grower Adrian Darveniza applied for funding under Reef Trust Phase 1 to buy a more efficient mill mud spreader

2017 CANEGROWERS Levy Schedule

It has been a challenging 12 months for the sugarcane industry, with the Grower Choice marketing dispute, rising electricity prices and destruction caused by Cyclone Debbie just a few of issues impacting Queensland growers.

But through it all, CANEGROWERS has been working tirelessly to support members, battling publicly and behind the scenes to ensure the best and fairest outcomes for growers and the industry.

As one of Australia's strongest agricultural lobby groups, CANEGROWERS has led the way on many of the big issues facing Queensland's ag sector.

From vegetation management, to disaster recovery, to protecting the Great Barrier Reef, CANEGROWERS representatives have been pounding the corridors of power, raising grower concerns with government ministers at State and Federal level.

This tireless determination to secure the best outcome for growers has seen the introduction of an industry

Code of Conduct, has brought a successful end to the Grower Choice in Marketing dispute, and resulted in the introduction of electricity tariff trials for the agricultural sector, to name just a few of the positive outcomes.

However, CANEGROWERS continued success is only possible through a strong level of grower membership.

With this in mind, the Board of QCGO has determined a minimal increase in the state levy of just 1.5% or 0.26 cents per tonne for 2017/18, bringing the levy to 17.91c per tonne. ■

Membership Fees 2017 season (cents per tonne of cane)

District Company	Crop Insurance	Total Membership Fees (inc. GST)
Bundaberg	TBA	TBA
Burdekin	1.63	50.09
Cairns - Babinda	TBA	**42.25
Cairns - Mulgrave	TBA	**42.25
Herbert River	2.86	46.61
Innisfail	Note 2	49.20
Isis	1.79	46.94
Mackay	TBA	TBA
Maryborough	Note 2	32.90
Mossman	Note 1	32.90
Plane Creek	TBA	TBA
Proserpine	Note 2	34.00
Rocky Point	4.75	72.23
Tableland - Mossman Mill	TBA	TBA
Tableland - Tableland Mill	TBA	TBA
Tully	2.50	33.01

** excludes crop insurance as rate has not yet been set.

NOTE 1 - Crop insurance provided free to members | Cane Testing & Audit is provided for in the CSPA

NOTE 2 - Crop insurance included in general fee

TBA - District Board has not yet set the fee for 2017. Total levy to be advised

This fee schedule will apply to cane supplied to Queensland mills during the 2017 crushing season.

Fees vary from district to district due to the size and extent of operations and services offered.

Promoting women in ag as sugar delegates meet

By Neroli Roocke

The 2017 Women in Sugar Australia conference in the Burdekin region kicked off with the observation that the proportion of women in management positions within agriculture sits at a disappointing 14%.



James MacPherson, ANZ's head of Qld and NT regional business banking for told the WISA delegates the 14% participation figure of women in management positions in agriculture was a long way from university entrance figures which show 52% of the students going into agricultural and environmental courses were women.

"According to the Federal Government's Workplace Gender Equality Agency report, the percentage of women in the sector has increased by a mere 1.7% over the past 2 decades to 33.7%," he said.

"Compare this to women in other occupations where this number has increased by 10% to 47%."

James MacPherson said the national gender pay gap of 16% in favour of men was a disadvantage to attracting, developing and retaining the best and brightest in the field at a time when Australian agriculture was poised for growth.

He said awareness of the problem was a first step and urged improvements in systems and processes to address the gap and move towards gender balance.

"We should be striving for a society where all people are judged on their abilities alone, and if we're not fully using the capacity and talents of over half of the population, then we're really are holding ourselves back," he said.

Kerrie Payne, Wilmar's Occupational Health and Safety coordinator based at Inkerman told the delegates that the proportion of women working in the milling group had increased from one for every 20 men 30 years ago to be 1:5 now. That equates to 400 women in a workforce of 2200.

The theme of women's participation in the agricultural sector was picked up **Tom Edwards** of ABC Open as he encouraged the delegates to take part in Invisible Farmer project. The three-year effort is collecting the hidden stories and histories of women working in primary production

in Australia to challenge stereotypes that can surround the sector.

Tom urged delegates and other women in the sugar industry to visit the website and contribute their stories, photos and perspectives. <http://ab.co/2m0hHPR>

Another keynote speaker was Professor **Peter Ridd** of James Cook University who has worked in the area of coastal oceanography and the effects of sediments on coral reefs. His message, ironically coming from a scientist, was that the general population should be wary of scientific work and conclusions.

He drew on international work which concluded that 85% of science resources is wasted due to false or exaggerated findings and that up to 50% of scientific findings may be flawed.

Linking this to the current concern about coral bleaching, he spoke of his push for a government-funded body to test, check and replicate scientific work across a range of disciplines.



Above: The Women in Sugar conference delegates from Herbert River (in orange shirts) and the Burdekin conference hosts (in green shirts)



Right: Bundaberg delegates Dianne Bailey and Margaret Doughty with CANEGROWERS Communications Manager Neroli Rooke.

Below: Members of Canegrowers Network Mackay at the cane cutter statues in Home Hill.



The topic of water quality and environmental responsibility was raised by the delegates on the second day of the conference when they boarded three buses for the traditional field trip.

The day included visits to a new algae farm just weeks from production, MBD Energy, and prawn and cobia producers Pacific Reef Fisheries where there was a lot of interest in how the operations deal with their waste water.

The greenfields algae farm plans to contain and recycle the water it will use in the production of tiny organisms for astaxanthin, an anti-oxidant compound for the nutraceutical industry.

At the 100ha prawn and fish farm delegates saw 12ha of mangrove wetlands and a pilot project using algae/seaweed to clean water of nutrients in one pass of a pond. There

are plans to market the seaweed as fertiliser and fish and cattle food.

Another visit was to the Sunrice rice mill near Brandon where delegates heard of the company's drive increase rice production in the region by encouraging it as a rotation crop on sugarcane farms.

The Women in Sugar groups from various districts presented their reports to the conference and Bundaberg was nominated as the host for the conference in 2018.

With husbands, CANEGROWERS staff and other Burdekin community members joining the delegates for dinner, it was a lively and noisy affair which met the key aims of the conference – to share, learn, support each other and have fun!

Conference sponsors included ANZ, CANEGROWERS, Wilmar, QSL and the Burdekin Shire Council.

Money Matters

with AustSafe Super

TIME IS TICKING

Learn more about the 1 July 2017 changes at our Regional Seminars

Superannuation changes that passed through Parliament in November 2016 come into effect from 1 July 2017. Targeted at making the superannuation system more sustainable for all Australians, these reforms could impact you and your super.

As the industry super fund for rural and regional Australia, AustSafe Super has launched an integrated communications campaign that provides everything you need to know about the changes, their potential impacts and what opportunities you could take advantage of now. Part of this campaign is a regional seminar series.

Held from mid-May in Southern Queensland, Central Queensland and Northern New South Wales; they provide a unique opportunity for you to engage with AustSafe Super face-to-face.

Attendees will learn about the changes to the contribution limits, the updates to the TTR pensions tax exempt status, the pension transfer balance cap and how to make the most of the current opportunities. It is a great opportunity to engage directly with us to clarify any confusions you may have with the upcoming changes.

All seminars are free and light catering is provided. Get a handle on the 1 July 2017 superannuation changes and register today through our website at austsafe.com.au/seminars or call **07 3218 1401** for more information.

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

For more information, please visit austsafe.com.au



Policy Update

Environment with Matt Kealley

Industry with Burn Ashburner

Economics with Warren Males

Data allows us to tell our story

There is a saying, "If you can measure it, you can manage it".

In our industry and our businesses, we require information and data to measure what is working, what is changing and how effective we have been in making those changes. This can be agronomic data, production data, scientific data

I regularly hear from growers wanting CANEGROWERS to tell our industry's story - and we do have a great story to tell.

For people to believe our story, it must be supported by data such as Smartcane BMP showing that 25% of the sugarcane land from Ingham to Mossman has been independently accredited as being farmed at or above industry best practice standard.

In the Wet Tropics region 78% of the cane land is now benchmarked against Smartcane BMP's best management practice criteria.

What a great story to tell!

Recently, CANEGROWERS held a meeting with the Paddock to Reef modellers to discuss data and the future data needs for sugarcane.

Attending the meeting were representatives from the Department of Agriculture's Paddock to Reef team, the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection, Smartcane BMP, the Queensland Farmers Federation Reef Alliance Project and CANEGROWERS.

It was a very positive meeting and it was very important.

With the impending delivery of the 2016 Reef Report Card, which will show how we are going on water quality targets, and the review of the Scientific Consensus Statement, which will develop new catchment load targets, industry data is now more important than ever.

If we can put our data forward with confidence that the it is secure and will be used to inform rather than denigrate - then we are in a great position to tell our positive story. ■



Interesting time for extension

Right across Queensland's cane-growing regions we're seeing an increase in the adoption of best management practices, especially through the Smartcane BMP program.

This is a direct result of the need to improve the quality of water flowing into the Great Barrier Reef. In fact, there is more money being poured into extension through Reef-related funding than ever before.

At the same time, industry-funded extension is undergoing change.

The demise of BSES and each mill area becoming responsible for its own extension programs, means a range of different models have evolved across the industry.

There is no doubt, however, that money talks, and many productivity services and private consultants' resources have been "bought" for water quality outcomes.

These resources are possibly at full stretch and we now see NRM bodies advertising for sugarcane extension officers to fill gaps - there is lots of money competing for a small pool of good people.

There are currently two significant investigations going on into extension. The first, with Reef Task Force funding, is looking at the overall extension available to agriculture in Reef catchment areas and the effectiveness of this extension.

Recommendations will be made about how this could be more effective, i.e. what skills are missing and how to increase the extension skill levels.

The second investigation, being conducted by Sugar Research Australia, is examining how it can change its extension model to best serve the industry. This involves, for example, how to integrate services with the productivity services.

Despite all the hype around extension, there is only one person who really matters and that is the grower. With all this money and willingness to change, surely we can do better. ■



China's sugar dilemma

The Chinese team undertaking the sugar safeguard investigation on imported sugar is expected to report on 22 May. In late April, it provided a Statement of Essential Facts (SEF) in relation to the investigation.

It is a concern that although the SEF provided an overview of trends during the period 2011 to 2015, the report did not contain any analysis of those trends, nor did it establish any causal link between China's import growth and the alleged injury to its domestic sugar industry.

In addition, the SEF did not provide any evidence to demonstrate that the introduction of safeguard measures would remedy the alleged injury.

For example, the global and Chinese sugar production fluctuations identified in the SEF were largely driven by adverse weather conditions in both Brazil and India, which also contributed to high prices in the three years to 2011.

It was not surprising that a return to normal seasonal conditions in both countries saw increased production and lower world prices. Those that rely on the world sugar market would see the price volatility as an expected market response, not as an unforeseen development.

China's sugarcane and sugar production is not sufficient to meet its consumption needs, so it is not surprising that China imported sugar to fill the gap and replenish strategic stock holdings.

China's importers filled the country's 1.94 million tonnes WTO import quota, complying with the quota restrictions and paying the associated in-quota tariff. They also imported almost two million tonnes of sugar paying the full 50% import tariff, but even these imports were not sufficient to meet China's growing sugar consumption needs.

With China's internal sugar prices approximately USD500/tonne higher than world prices, there is a strong flow of sugar being smuggled into the country.

The sugar dilemma facing China is that introducing safeguard measures to reduce sugar imports would increase the economic incentive to smuggle sugar into China, risking the replacement of official trade with unofficial trade. The Australian industry has raised these concerns with the Chinese government. ■



SMARTCANE BMP ACCREDITATION

for Meringa research station



SRA's research station at Meringa, just south of Cairns, has achieved Smartcane Best Management Practice (BMP) accreditation.

The accreditation is part of SRA's commitment to ensuring that its research stations across the industry meet the best practice standards for farm management and stewardship. This process was initiated by SRA leader for Resources, **Jerome Gumley**.

Meringa is the second SRA station to achieve accreditation, following Mackay's accreditation in 2016. Other research stations will also go through the Smartcane BMP process in the future.

The accreditation process at Meringa was led by Farm Manager, **Jeff Smith**, who has worked for SRA and its predecessor organisation for 44 years.

SRA Executive Manager, Operations, **Stephen Annells** said that Smartcane BMP was recognised as a valuable tool for the industry to improve on-farm practices and to receive acknowledgement for the hard work that is already occurring on many farms.

"Smartcane BMP is rapidly gaining momentum and is a valuable tool for the Australian sugarcane industry to demonstrate improved practices," Mr Annells said.

"SRA's research stations grow sugarcane, but our business is research, development and adoption. This means that some of the elements of running a research station do differ at times to running a commercial farm.

"However, the fundamentals of Smartcane BMP are the same and these principles are a natural fit with SRA's operational activities and farm management plans.

"SRA is also committed to undertaking sustainable and efficient farm operational practices to the benefit of the broader community.

"SRA continues to invest in our research stations and farms through farm management plans and an asset management plan. This extends beyond BMP to also include investments that are recognised as part of the modern farming system.

"I commend **Jerome Gumley**, **Jeff Smith** and **Annette Corcoran** at Mackay for gaining BMP accreditation at these sites."

The Meringa research station has a long history of sugarcane research in the Wet

Tropics and it will celebrate its centenary later this year.

It is where first stage crossing and selection takes place for creating new sugarcane varieties for the Australian industry.

It is also home to a range of other important research activities including water quality, soil health and nutrient management, entomology, milling research, and adoption. ■



*Pictured (top): The photoperiod facilities at the Meringa research station. Pic by Tim Staier.
(above) Meringa Farm Manager Jeff Smith at the research station*

Choosing QSL – a guide for Wilmar growers

Under Marketing Choice arrangements, Wilmar Sugar growers now have a new process to access QSL marketing and pricing services. This process is outlined below:

1

SUBMIT YOUR PRE-REGISTRATION FORM

- ▶ If you have not already done so, please complete and return your QSL Direct Pre-Registration Form.
- ▶ You should have received a copy of this form via email or in the mail. You can obtain another copy from the QSL website (www.qsl.com.au) or your local QSL regional office.
- ▶ Your Pre-Registration Form is used by QSL to create your Grower Pricing Agreement.

2

SUBMIT YOUR QSL GROWER PRICING AGREEMENT (GPA)

- ▶ The Grower Pricing Agreement (GPA) is your contract for marketing and pricing services with QSL for the 2017 Season and beyond.
- ▶ Your GPA will be emailed to you and a QSL representative will contact you to ensure you have received your GPA and explain the process moving forward.
- ▶ Please note: While your GPA will be processed when you submit it, it does not come into effect until QSL has an On-Supply Agreement in place with Wilmar Sugar and you have chosen QSL as a GEI Sugar Marketer within your CSA.

3

NOMINATE QSL AS A MARKETER OF YOUR GROWER'S ECONOMIC INTEREST IN SUGAR (GEI SUGAR) IN YOUR CANE SUPPLY AGREEMENT (CSA)

- ▶ When completing your CSA within the Wilmar Sugar GrowerWeb system, you need to nominate QSL as a GEI Sugar Marketer and allocate a percentage of your GEI Sugar production to QSL for marketing and pricing services.
- ▶ This GEI Sugar marketing allocation within your CSA covers all of your GEI Sugar, not just your forward or committed pricing. If you only want to use QSL for marketing and pricing services, you should assign 100% of your GEI Sugar Marketer allocation to QSL.

4

YOUR GPA WITH QSL IS ACTIVATED

- ▶ Upon confirmation of your GEI Sugar Marketer allocation and CSA from your Miller, QSL will activate your previously submitted Grower Pricing Agreement (GPA).
- ▶ If you have not yet submitted a GPA to QSL, one will be issued to you via email and a QSL representative will contact you to discuss the process moving forward.
- ▶ Please note: You cannot access QSL marketing and pricing services until you have both a valid CSA and GPA in place.

5

YOUR NEW ACCOUNT ON THE QSL DIRECT ONLINE GROWER PORTAL IS NOW AVAILABLE TO ACCESS YOUR PRICING OPTIONS.

- ▶ Once QSL has activated your GPA, you will receive an email with details of how to access the QSL Direct online portal for the first time.
- ▶ You will use the QSL Direct portal to:
 - ▶ Nominate pools
 - ▶ Place and track pricing orders
 - ▶ View production data
 - ▶ Monitor payments from QSL
- ▶ The QSL Direct User Guide details how to use the portal and will be available on the QSL website (www.qsl.com.au), with additional support available through local QSL regional offices and the QSL Direct helpline.



GEI Sugar and the nomination process

WILMAR SUGAR GROWERS ONLY

When you nominate QSL as a GEI Sugar marketer, you are choosing us to provide marketing and pricing services for an allocated proportion of your Grower's Economic Interest in sugar (GEI Sugar). Your GEI Sugar is the total tonnage that you receive payment for – generally two-thirds of the sugar produced from your crop. This means your GEI Sugar tonnage includes your Harvest Pool and US Quota tonnages as well as any other committed pricing (QSL-managed pools or grower-managed pricing) that you may choose to undertake.

COMPLETING THE GROWER PRICING AGREEMENT (GPA)

In order to access QSL's pools and pricing products, Wilmar Sugar Growers must have a Grower Pricing Agreement (GPA) with QSL. To receive your GPA, please complete the Pre-Registration Form available from the QSL website (www.qsl.com.au) or from your local QSL regional office.

Your GPA will be emailed to you and you can also return this document via email, if you choose to do so. A hard-copy version of your GPA will also be available from your local QSL regional office and can be submitted at this same office or via mail.

Your QSL GPA will include some pre-populated information which has been obtained through the Pre-Registration process. You will be asked to check this information and complete additional fields before returning the completed document to QSL for execution. Should you require changes to any of the prepopulated information in your GPA, please contact QSL to organise for an amended GPA to be issued.

ELECTING QSL AS YOUR GEI SUGAR MARKETER

As a Wilmar Sugar Grower, you must select QSL as a GEI Sugar Marketer and allocate a percentage of your GEI Sugar production to QSL within your Cane Supply Agreement in order to access QSL's marketing and pricing services for the 2017 Season and beyond.

If you do not choose QSL as a GEI Sugar Marketer by Wilmar Sugar's GEI Sugar Marketer nomination deadline for the season concerned, all of your GEI Sugar tonnes for that season will be priced and marketed through Wilmar Sugar.

Even if you only want to participate in the QSL Harvest Pool, you must nominate QSL as your GEI Sugar Marketer within your Cane Supply Agreement.

By choosing QSL as a GEI Sugar Marketer, you have access to the QSL Harvest and US Quota pools, as well as the following 2017-Season QSL Pools and Pricing Products:

- QSL Actively Managed Pool;
- QSL Guaranteed Floor Pool;
- QSL 2-Season Forward Pool;
- QSL Fixed Price Contract (grower-managed pricing product);
- QSL Target Price Contract (grower-managed pricing product);
- QSL In-Season Fixed Price Contract (grower-managed in-season pricing product);
- QSL In-Season Target Price Contract (grower-managed in-season pricing product); and
- Any other pools and pricing products QSL makes available in respect to the 2017 Season.

QSL DIRECT AND YOUR PRICING OPTIONS

After QSL has received confirmation that you have chosen QSL as your GEI Sugar Marketer within your CSA and you have a GPA in place, you will receive an email with log-on information and instructions to access your new account on the QSL Direct online grower portal.

You must use your account on QSL Direct to make your QSL pool and pricing nominations by QSL's 2017-Season Pricing Declaration Date, to be advised by QSL upon finalisation of the On-Supply Agreement with Wilmar Sugar.

Details of your QSL pool and pricing options are featured in the 2017-Season Pricing Pool Terms available at www.qsl.com.au. Growers should read these terms before making any pricing decisions.

An automatic and mandatory allocation of 35% of your 2017-Season QSL tonnage allocation will be made to the 2017 QSL Harvest Pool.

An additional mandatory allocation of up to 5% will be made to the 2017 QSL US Quota Pool. Any GEI Sugar nominated to QSL but unallocated to a QSL pool or pricing product after QSL's pricing nomination deadline will default to the QSL Harvest Pool.

If you encounter any problems during the log-on process, please call the QSL Direct helpline on 1800 870 756.

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.

QUEST FOR EFFICIENCY DRIVES TULLY GROWER TO ADOPT BEST PRACTICES AND TECHNOLOGY

Operating a 580 hectare cane farm in Queensland's World Heritage Wet Tropic is a time consuming job. When you're also running north Queensland's largest transport company, free time is at a premium.

A quest to free up time, coupled with a love of farming technology and a desire to protect the environment while maximising profits drove Tully cane grower Les Blennerhasset, owner of Blenner Transport, to adopt best management practices and achieve Smartcane BMP accreditation.



"I'm kept pretty busy between the transport business and the cane operation," Les admitted when *Australian Canegrower* visited his Tully farm recently.

"We've got 330 people on the payroll at the transport company, with 120 trucks operating right around Australia.

"We service every capital city in Australia, we even have 10 road trains servicing Perth."

While haulage is the family's core business, the cane farm is where Les' heart really lies.

"My grandfather started in cane in Innisfail in the early 1900s," Les said.

"Then my father made the move to this area and went from cane farming to cattle."

In 1980 Les began growing bananas, but when Cyclone Winifred wiped out his entire crop in 1986, he decided it was time to diversify.

"I'd always wanted to get back into cane farming - probably because I'd always loved tractors and you don't have much call for tractors when your growing bananas.

"When Winifred flattened all the bananas in '86 we had no income, so we knew we had to do something.

"We started down the precision ag road about 10 years ago, installing Trimble GPS on all the tractors and laser levelling paddocks. Today, every paddocks is laser levelled, and trimmed every fallow."

"At least with cane, even if a cyclone comes through and damages it, you can usually still cut the crop and get some return from it. So, after Winifred we started buying up cane farms."

Les kept the banana operation going as he built up the cane side of the business.

Then in 1988, against the advice of his father, he bought his first truck, embarking on a journey that would eventually see Blenner Transport become north Queensland's largest road haulage operator.

But as the transport business grew, Les found he had less and less time for bananas.

"We got out of bananas completely about 10 years ago. By that stage we had a pretty big cane operation and the transport side of things was getting bigger and bigger, so we decided to give up on the bananas.

"They're a lot more hands on and with the core business taking up a lot of my time, there was just too much involvement with the bananas."

With bananas out of the picture, Les had time to continue building the transport business, but more importantly, focus on turning his cane farm into one of far north Queensland's most efficient operations.

"I've always loved the tractors and machinery, but also the technology side of things," Les said

"We started down the precision ag road about 10 years ago, installing Trimble GPS on all the tractors and laser leveling paddocks.

"Today, every paddocks is laser leveled, and trimmed every fallow."

Continues next page...





Les was also one of the first growers in the region to get on board with Smartcane BMP, achieving full accreditation in 2016.

"From the very start I wanted to do the BMP," Les said.

"At the end of the day, the Great Barrier Reef is there and it's up to cane farmers to do our bit to protect it. And also to be seen to be doing our bit, and that's where BMP comes in.

"Some growers out there might not like the idea, they might think 'how can you tell us what's right for our farm,' but I think there are some farmers that need to be told.

"I've seen people do some stupid things. We can get eight or 10 inches of rain overnight in this area, but still you'll see blokes up discing on hills in the wet season.

"That's just pouring the soil into the river system and it's getting all of us a bad name. ▶

"From the very start I wanted to do the BMP ... At the end of the day, the Great Barrier Reef is there and it's up to cane farmers to do our bit to protect it. And also to be seen to be doing our bit, and that's where BMP comes in."





"At the end of the day, if you do it right, it means way less soil movement, way less chemical use, the weeds are controlled better and ultimately you're saving money on inputs and producing a better crop.

"And on top of that, you're protecting the Reef."

Through the Smartcane BMP process, Les has reduced his nitrogen and herbicide inputs, while maintaining a 50,000 tonne crop.

"We've made a lot of changes, and all of them for the better.

"We've moved to 1.9m dual rows, which means less kilometres and therefore less wear and tear on the harvester, and less fuel, but we're still getting same tonnage per ha.

"Also, the slower ground speed for the harvester doesn't knock the stool around.

"We spray Flame straight after harvest to control grasses and 2,4D in any areas that have weeds that are out of hand. It's a huge reduction in chemical use!"

"We've also received Reef Rescue funding to reduce nitrogen use and have gone from using 325kg/ha of our Reef Choice 345 blend down to 225kg/ha. And we're still growing 100 tonne/ha.

"We started putting humic acid and trace elements in with the Confidor sprayed directly into the stool.

"That, as well as a move to Agricoat coated urea about two years ago, has seen a big improvement in ratoons, hence the lower nitrogen rate."

Despite the massive changes he has already made in farming practices, Les isn't finished yet.

"We'll keep making improvements where we can, especially in nitrogen and herbicide use.

"As long as it doesn't impact on profitability, I'm happy to adopt any practices that are good for the farm and the environment."

Pictured: (right) Blenner Farming manager Damien Dodd and (below) Les oversees the movement of Blenner Transport's fleet of 120 trucks.



Main Engineering

Dual Row Billet Planter



Features Include:

- *760mm fully adjustable coulters.*
- *Press wheel and Hillup discs.*
- *Hydraulic Conveyor drive.*
- *Adjustable rear wheels
1.6m and 1.8m centres.*
- *All tanks mounted to planter.*



Optional Extras

- *316 Stainless Steel fertilizer box.*
- *Overhead spray bar for conveyor.*
- *Larger bin capacities.*
- *Bedform attachments.*
- *Ground drive conveyor.*



www.mainengineering.com.au

K-Line Speedtiller® Save fuel, time and chemicals

Supplied by K-Line Agriculture



The **K-Line Speedtiller®** is a highly effective disc-tilling machine, ideal for soil conditioning in the presence of high levels of crop residues.

Manufactured in Cowra, NSW, the Speedtiller has been specifically designed by K-Line Agriculture's research and development team to withstand Australia's demanding working conditions.

The most recent model released in the Speedtiller range is the Powerflex™, which took out the prestigious Tractor and Machinery Association of Australia (TMA) Award at this year's Henty Machinery Field Day.

The Powerflex combines the Speedtiller concept with many new features and benefits.

The Speedtiller has found a niche in strategic tillage systems, as a one-pass tillage tool.

The combination of the adjustable rubber-torsioned jump arm system with disc undercut and the effective action of the levelling crumble roller makes the Speedtiller ideal for stubble incorporation and seedbed preparation.

Incorporating your crop residue builds up humus levels in the soil profile, feeding microbes, increasing soil organic matter and allowing for much-needed microbial activity.

This leads to healthier soils and, eventually, less reliance on outsourced nitrogen.

Using the one-pass Speedtiller saves you fuel, time and chemical costs.

Now available with 26" discs, this machine is ideal for fast breakdown of residues, with superior trash flow and digging capacity.

Experience the benefits of the Speedtiller, call K-Line Agriculture on **1800 194 131** to arrange a demo (subject to availability of machines in your area).

ARE YOU USING THE BEST TILLAGE TOOL?

YOU DESERVE IT.
YOUR SOIL DEMANDS IT.
AND WE PROVIDE IT.



PROVEN TO PERFORM
Use in cane, cereals, pasture, corn, cotton, rice, viticulture and horticulture.
Innovative and versatile, the Speedtiller® is the leader in efficient tillage tools.






K-LINE AG

1800 194 131
www.k-line.net.au

T7 SERIES TRACTOR

FOUR MODELS RIGHT FOR YOUR FARM

Supplied by New Holland

New Holland's recently released T7 Series Long Wheelbase (LWB) range of tractors offers the next generation in farming excellence. With a host of new inclusions, and complete with HI-eSCR Tier 4b engines, the T7 Series leads the way for best in class features and technology.

The new range includes three model variations that will replace the two T7 LWB model variations previously available.

The T7 LWB extended family, which retains New Holland's premium Sidewinder models, with Power Command and Auto Command transmissions, has rated powers ranging from 185 to 240 horsepower.

Added to this line-up is the new Classic model version, which includes a conventional styled armrest and mechanical rear remote valves.

New styling further enhances the T7's design, while retaining the practicality for which the T7 is renowned.

Included in this new look, the 'cats-eye' style lighting has been made more compact to increase the size of the grill area, and three rear hood vents have been added to promote cooling airflow over the engine.

Projector style headlights, plus numerous work lights positioned around the tractor featuring LED technology, have also been added to increase total visibility while working long days in the paddock.

Adding to the T7's stylish line up of features is the inclusion of the industry leading suspended Horizon™ cab, with its whisper quiet comfort and uninterrupted views through the front windscreen's new single glass panel design. Removing the glass join provides improved front vision with no distortion.

For those working with front-end loaders, the high visibility, fully openable transparent roof hatch provides

a perfect view at maximum extension from the comfort of your seat.

The front roller sunblinds are made from a solid rather than perforated material, completely blocking out the sun's glare.

A new seat range has been introduced to the line up, with new cushion and suspension systems. All Classic model versions of T7 will be equipped with the Comfort Seat, while all 'Sidewinder II' models will be fitted with the Dynamic Comfort Seat.

The new seats feature an innovative backrest design that provides upper back support without impeding on a drivers ability to turn and look rearwards.

There is also an optional semi-active ventilated seat, making long days on the farm even more comfortable.

All Sidewinder version tractors come fitted with New Holland's large IntelliView IV display, which can also be equipped as an option on Sidewinder and Classic model T7 tractors. ■



TRUE BLUE EOFY DEALS ON NOW

LOAD UP WITH — 50% OFF — LOADERS



TRUE BLUE



**ORDER BEFORE 30TH JUNE AND GET 50% OFF A
NEW HOLLAND LOADER WHEN YOU PURCHASE A TT4 OR TD5**

Purchase a TT4 or TD5 tractor before the 30th of June and you'll get an amazing 50% off a New Holland AP Plus Front End Loader with standard bucket. Plus for a limited time get 5 years warranty on all TT4 & TD5 models. This EOFY offer must end on June 30.

So for amazing EOFY deals visit your local New Holland dealer today.

0.95%* P.A ON SELECTED DEALER & COMPANY STOCK

5 YEAR WARRANTY ON TT4 & TD5 MODELS



MASSEY FERGUSON 7700 SERIES

offering straightforward sophistication

Supplied by AGCO Australia

The new Massey Ferguson MF 7700 Series tractors build on the highly successful and award-winning MF 7600 Series. The new range provides an outstanding choice of highly productive, straightforward and dependable tractors.

There are eight models available, ranging from 140hp to 255hp and providing a choice of three transmissions and two levels of specification.

Engine Power Management (EPM), which provides up to 25hp extra power, is standard on all models taking maximum power to 280hp on the flagship MF 7726 model.

"The MF 7700 Series continues Massey Ferguson's drive to develop dependable, straightforward, low maintenance tractors that provide efficiencies across all farming operations," says **Michael Partridge**, General Marketing Manager – Tractors.

"These new tractors benefit from the excellent pedigree established by the MF 7600 Series, which won Machine of the Year, Tractor of the Year Golden Design Award, as well as numerous other gold medals and accolades across Europe. It has also established a proven track record and gained strong respect from customers," he adds.

Massey Ferguson has further refined this winning design and added new features that boost comfort and control, leading to even greater performance and productivity to further reduce overall ownership costs.

Even more cab comfort and control

Operators will appreciate the new, clear dashboard. The new colour display provides better visibility during the day and at night, making it easier to use the SIS – Set Up and Information Screen.

All Efficient models are equipped with the easy to use Command Control Armrest, which operates a range of frequently used functions. The Essential versions have a longer console which houses the controls.

The multi-function joystick, which is standard on Efficient models, provides press button shuttle control, as well as operating the hydraulic spools and/or a loader. It can also be used to change forward speeds and direction.

To ease turning on the headland, Speedsteer reduces the number of steering wheel revolutions needed to turn the wheels from lock-to-lock.

The MF 7700 Efficient models come with the option of factory-fitted wiring ready to connect up the latest Auto-Guide 3000 automatic steering and AGCOMMAND systems.

The recently introduced 'Go Mode' on Auto-Guide 3000 provides a fast set-up and enables users to choose between four steering paths – A-B line, A+ heading, Centre Pivot and curved lines. AGCOMMAND Telemetry improves fleet management, machine monitoring and security while simplifying record keeping and job reports. No software is required because it's accessed through a secure, mobile friendly webpage.

Small details make a big difference

The MF 7700 Series is packed with small details that make big differences for operators, with the possibility to set the flashing beacon lights to come on automatically when the tractor is on the road and is fitted with automatic sensor lights to get you to your door after a long day.

When the tractor is finally parked up for the night owners can protect their investment with the option of a unique key - simple, cost effective crime prevention.

For more information on the new MF7700 Series tractors, contact your local dealer or www.masseyferguson.com.au ■

MF 7700 Series features

- Latest technology six cylinder, 6.6 litre and 7.4 litre AGCO POWER engine, with Engine Power Management (EPM) generating 25hp extra power on all models
- Unrivalled choice of Dyna-4, Dyna-6 semi-powershift or Dyna-VT continuously variable transmission (depending on model)
- Electronic PTO speed selection on all Efficient models
- High capacity – Permissible Gross Vehicle Weight increased by 12% allowing MF 7700 Series to carry larger loads and pull heavier trailers
- New Massey Ferguson designed and built, maintenance-free front axle suspension offers high comfort
- AGCOMMAND and latest Auto-Guide 3000 ready
- Available in Essential and Efficient specifications to match all owners' specific tasks and budgets
- Higher hydraulic capacity and up to eight spool valves for excellent implement control

REAL DEAL PERFORMANCE



MASSEY FERGUSON



MF 7700 SERIES | 140 – 255 HP STRAIGHTFORWARD AND DEPENDABLE TECHNOLOGIES

- Advanced electronic management of engine and transmission
- Fuel efficient AGCO POWER engines
- Dyna-4, Dyna-6 and Dyna-VT transmissions for maximum productivity, efficiency and operator comfort
- Newly designed cab with SIS (Setup and Information Screen) offering the highest standards of draft control
- Outstanding lift and drive capacities for heavy-duty applications
- New Massey Ferguson designed double acting front axle delivers longer suspension travel



CONTACT YOUR LOCAL MF DEALER FOR A REAL DEAL
MASSEYFERGUSON.COM.AU | FREECALL 1800 802 914



**MF IS THE
REAL
DEAL**



MASSEY FERGUSON®, MF®, the triple-triangle logo® is a worldwide brand of AGCO. © 2017

Case IH Patriot worthy of celebration

Supplied by Case IH

They've been around for 25 years, doing the hard yards in paddocks across Australia, and in honour of this silver anniversary Case IH has given its Patriot sprayers an eye-catching makeover.

Case IH has manufactured a limited number of special 25th anniversary Patriot 4430 sprayers, which are now available through dealers across Australia.

The anniversary models feature a unique silver and red paint finish and the very latest technology, including the new AIM Command FLEX advanced spray system.

New South Wales farmer **Andrew Lowien**, who recently took delivery of a special-edition Patriot, said the high tech features were already proving their worth.

"It's already living up to expectations," Andrew said. "Just the stability of the boom and the width – I notice I'm getting more done."

Working a 2700 ha property near Bellata, Andrew appreciates the importance of a sprayer that can get the job done faster and more efficiently, with the latest in technological advances at his fingertips.

The new Patriot's AIM Command FLEX advanced spray system was a big selling point for Andrew.

"One of my neighbours had a Patriot and it's been pretty tough for them, in that it's stood up to everything they've thrown at it," he said.

"I took theirs for a run and liked it. I liked the boom stability and I'd researched a lot of the other features of the new system. I knew I wanted the AIM Command FLEX."

This latest advancement in spray technology helps operators be more efficient without sacrificing accuracy, regardless of speed and terrain, resulting in higher potential return on investment in high dollar crop protection products.

Features beneficial to operators include the ability to adjust spray rates up to 30% higher than the target rate on up to eight nozzles, all with a single push of a button.

In addition, several levels of boom section control are available. This means the same machine has the flexibility to spray with seven boom sections, 36 sections or individual nozzle control, providing more precise control across the boom and throughout the field.

Andrew likes the comfort of the Patriot's cab too, and the fact that outside noise is reduced to a minimum.

"The spaciousness of the cab is great, as is the lack of noise," he said. "I've had another brand and

it was just noisy – the constant, loud noise was getting to me after a while."

The special edition Patriots include everything that has ensured the model has stood the test of time - including the cab-forward, rear engine design - while also offering Michelin tyres, Raven Industries technology and Wilger Combo-Rate nozzle bodies as standard equipment.

New Case IH family cab styling, 360-degree lighting package option and AIM Command FLEX (with no additional hardware needed) make it all the more attractive for those in the market for a new sprayer.

"When Case IH brought the first 4260 Patriots to Australia almost 20 years ago, it changed what growers thought of when it came to a self-propelled sprayer," said **Alyx Selsmeyer**, High Horsepower and Sprayer Product Manager – Australia and New Zealand.

"Features like the cab-forward rear-engine design and near 50-50 weight distribution were as important then as they are now. Combine that with industry-leading technology to improve accuracy, and it shows why the Patriot has always been a strong machine in Australia."

The special edition Case IH Patriot sprayers are available now. For more information, see your local Case IH dealer or visit

www.caseih.com ■



Pictured: Case IH customer Andrew Lowien with his new special edition Patriot 4430 sprayer and Case IH Product Specialist Andrew Kissel.

FIRST 5 LINES FREE* FOR CANEGROWERS MEMBERS!

Book online anytime of the day or night at www.canegrowers.com.au or email us at ads@CANEGROWERS.com.au

Next deadline is **29 May 2017**.

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

Beaulieu R.U.M.

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
Can you afford not to give it a go?**

For further information contact –

Burdekin & Northern Region call Wally Ford 0417 937 722

Mackay Region call Noel Jensen 0438 595 325

Childers Region call Peter Irwin 0428 427 212

**GREAT BARRIER
REEF FRIENDLY**

Do you want a **FREE** electronic version of *Australian Canegrower* delivered to your email inbox every fortnight?

To receive your free electronic copy, email us on: editor@CANEGROWERS.com.au



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

WANT MORE NEWS, VIEWS
AND PHOTOS?

Find *CANEGROWERS* on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/CANEGROWERSAustralia

Neil's Parts Australia

GLW

GULF WESTERN OIL

**Tough Lubricants
for our harsh
Aussie conditions!**

www.neils.com.au

1800 463 457

AH 0417 662 137, 0408 735 148

Graham Twyford Machinery Sales Pty Ltd

Specialising in Used Cane
Harvesting Equipment Sales

2007 JOHN DEERE 3510 Track Harvester.

8.1 litre engine, 3,000 hrs. from engine
rebuild. 600mm elevator extension.
Standard topper. Recent pump
overhauls. Reversing fan fitted to the
cooling package. 8 blade chopper.
GPS fitted. Very Good For Age.

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

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

WRECKING

CAMECO 1996 Track Harvester.
No engine, crop lifters, 8 Blade Diff
chopper drums, various hydraulic
valves & Hydraulic motors.

NEW! Chopper Drums
to suit JD 570 available.
Enquire NOW !

**IN STOCK NOW 12, 10, 8 & 6 BLADE
DIFFERENTIAL CHOPPER DRUMS**

Suit '05 Cameco to JD 570.
Tungsten Hard Faced on Wear Areas.
New seal plates, Clamping Bars &
Dowels with kit.

Graham Twyford
48 Central Park Drive, Paget, Mackay
Mobile: 0418 742 696
graham@gtmachinerysales.com.au
www.gtmachinersales.com.au



Classifieds

Mossman-Tully

Bonel B60 wheeled offsets. 28 plate-26"discs in very good condition. 3.2m wide cut. \$15000 plus gst. Located Mena Creek. Ph. 0427642523

Mulgrave/Gordonvale Area: 1998 Cameco CHW 2500 Harvester – Excellent Condition POA Ph. 0407183680

3 x JCB 2135 with 6 Tonne HBM Tipper, Good Condition, \$44,000 each inc GST. Ph. 0437932489 or 0427337601

JD 3520, 2012 model, adjustable powerfeed roller, elevator extension, GPS, well maintained. Ph. 0427667964

Herbert River-Burdekin

3 tonne side dresser fertilizer box fitted with 28inch coulters and adjustable spacings. Also fitted with Confidor applicator. \$10,000 plus GST. Ph. 47774697 or 0427774697

1977 Buick Riviera. One of a kind. Regretful sale. \$30,000+GST Ph. 0427772101

09 T6050 New Holland front & cab suspension with 03 Newton 10 tonne tipper; 07 TM130 New Holland front & cab suspension with 07 Newton 10 tonne tipper; Contact 0428776026

High clearance Fiat 600 with 600lt Silvan tank with legs plus 400lt front tank 34 inch clearance; Four tonne Newton tipper; International 766 for parts; Case 1070 for parts; IH Trycle front end to suit 66-86 model. Contact 0428776026

Mackay-Proserpine

Fiat F100, 4wd, rear tyres 18-4-038, 50%. Front tyres 14-9-28, 50%. Good gear box and rear end. Motor some spares. Injector pump and reconditioned injectors. \$3000 ono. Ph. 0429888805

A pair of 18.4 x 30 tractor tyres, rims and cast centres to suit Ford 5000 or 6600. \$880 Ph. 0419710280

MF105 Harvester with TOFT TOPPER in EXC cond. Always shedded. Comes with many spares incl. full elevator, extractor hood, chopper drums & shafts, rollers, pump, pump box, base cutter, etc. \$7000 + GST. Ph. 0409050261

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. Other fully reconditioned AR & AH Rotary hoes also available in different sizes. Ph. 49595883 or 0407643441

Brand new 14.00 R 25 tyres for sale under half of new price. Ph 0488300361

Howard Crumble Roller, HO-CROLLCH365DT, brand new still in crate, fits rear tool bar of Howard CH2365DT, 2 rollers each@2M. \$4,422 GST inc. Ph. 0428236165

Rainfall Report

brought to you by AustSafe Super

Location	Recorded rainfall (mm)		Year to date	Average rainfall (mm) January–May
	7 days to 9am 8.05.17	15.05.17		
Mossman	17	0	1588	1668
Mareeba AP	1	0	567	702
Cairns	43	6	1217	1551
Mt Sophia	71	12	2220	2470
Babinda	33	0	1250	3055
Innisfail	65	25	2176	2525
Tully	80	0	1642	2953
Cardwell	18	1	1276	1608
Lucinda	17	12	1285	1583
Ingham	20	17	985	1509
Abergowrie	12	10	631	1379
Townsville	1	2	480	847
Ayr DPI	0	0.2	599	686
Proserpine	3	4	1138	985
Mirani	3	11	942	1060
Mackay	38	14	1697	1104
Sarina (Plane Ck)	3	10	2340	1225
Bundaberg	5	27	378	560
Childers South	2	30	519	472
Maryborough	34	21	366	660
Tewantin	4	40	793	1019
Eumundi	1	44	685	995
Nambour	2	43	596	996
Woongoolba	4	34	500	745
Murwillumbah	4	36	896	938
Ballina	63	43	943	948
Woodburn	14	34	1164	765



**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

Australian
Distributor

Belshina Tyres & Chinese Imports

- ☒ Tractor Tyres
- ☒ Earthmoving Tyres
- ☒ Truck Tyres
- ☒ Cars & 4WD Tyres

DROVER EQUIPMENT AUSTRALIA
UTV's, ATV's & AG BIKES
See website for more details

P: 07 4952 2577 M: 0412 535 887
www.johnnyfarmingcompany.com.au
E: johnnyfarmingco@bigpond.com
133 Schmdike Road Mackay 4740

WANT MORE NEWS, VIEWS
AND PHOTOS?

Find **CANEGROWERS** on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/CANEGROWERSAustralia

4 complete wheel motors, as new, to suit 1998/1999 Austoft Powerhaul. Ph. 49592260

DitchWitch 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)

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

Bundaberg–Rocky Point

Isis Central Sugar Mill shares for sale. Ph. 0428401467

For Sale - S.T.L shares, current holding 3,476 units. Price to be negotiated. Now retired. Ask for Ray. Ph. (07) 4122 1173

J I Case 1194 tractor 49hp 12 forward speeds 4 reverse, 2 speed PTO, power steering, 3 point linkage, drawbar 3000hrs approx \$7700. Ph. 0418874615

Kubota M7040 4WD Tractor g/c \$22000 neg. David Brown 990 Working condition \$4400. International 3/4 24 Plate wheel Offsets g/c \$4400. Ph. 0414497264

Land Leveller 3.5m x 3.5m solid construction \$4,000+GST. Quinco Fertiliser Distributor—discs, coulter, rippers rollers stainless steel drive \$9,000+GST. Ph. 41598340 or 0403598345

Wanted

WANTED shipping container 20ft. Ph. 0429888805

WANTED TO BUY: Brennan Quick Hitch Category 2. Ph. 0407161941 or 0407232675

WANTED TO BUY: 1 tonne fertiliser distributor—double row with 1 ¼" tynes—in good condition. Bundaberg Area. Ph. 0427599636

WANTED TO BUY: STL shares, any amount. Ph. 0408448227 or 0419717006

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

TRACTOR TYRES of all sizes. 0418775698 all hours

Work Wanted

Seeking work in the cane crush. MC and UD license. Experienced with operation of harvester, Sarina. Residing in Cardwell atm. Also have experience with haulout operations. Final trim grader operator 8 years. 47 Aussie male. With 23 years family run cattle station. Ph. Colin 0458854475 or email cowdygonefishing@hotmail.com

Couple seeking work. I am qualified diesel fitter and fitter and turner also have HR truck license. My wife is a fully qualified cleaner. Am hoping we can gain employment in the 2017 cane season. Ph. Andrew 0459692939 or E: Hollieroberts40@hotmail.com

Property

For Sale Beach Hut FLAGSTAFF BAY. Ph. 0400787329

FINCH HATTON Cane farm 500 acres 53 ha cane. Ph. 0400787329

INGHAM Cane farm for sale. Hawkins Creek. Total area 48.3ha. CPA 46.6ha. Shed, electricity & water. Genuine enquiries Ph. 0407635175

MIRANI area farm land appr. 34 Ha Fully laser levelled Fully irrigated. Perfect Block for lateral move or centre pivot irrigator. Reply to cooperbob2014@gmail.com or Ph. 0456624027

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

WANT MORE NEWS, VIEWS
AND PHOTOS?

Find CANEGROWERS on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/CANEGROWERSAustralia



Driven by growers. Used by growers. Owned by growers

Become part of the movement:
Sign up to Smartcane BMP

Contact your local Smartcane BMP facilitator. Get recognised for what you are already doing.



www.smartcane.com.au



CANE COUNTRY DEMANDS REAL IRON

Puma® tractors provide the right size and power for a wide variety of on-farm tasks. With models designed especially for cane haul out, Puma tractors deliver the precise power you need for peak efficiency and fuel economy. Now add in full Power Shift 50km/h transmission, active front axle suspension, hydraulic trailer brakes, and pneumatic trailer brakes, and you've got an agile, easy to operate tractor that keeps up with your demands while keeping you comfortable through long working hours. Contact your local Case IH dealer today.