

Cane News

*CANEGROWERS Proserpine's
monthly member newsletter*



WELCOME TO THE 2022 ISSUE # 11 OF 'CANE NEWS'



*Merry
Christmas*

The CANEGROWERS Proserpine office will close at 5pm,
Friday 23rd December and re-open on Monday 9th January,
2023.

We wish all of our Members a very Merry Christmas & a
safe & wonderful 2023.



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**Info, new video & new PDFs to
download & read**

Sugar DOWN, Aussie Dollar UP. Sugar Prices in US\$ terms were steady during the week, despite some negative macro influences, particularly from a weaker oil market. The Aussie dollar edged higher again over the week, and was trading around AU\$/US\$ 0.6805 at the time of writing having briefly traded above AU\$/US\$ 0.6900 early in the week. As a result, A\$/t returns were lower as detailed below.

With the AU\$ now buying US\$ 0.6805, Aussie dollar indicative gross sugar prices are currently:

Season 2022:	AU\$622/t,	UP	AU\$1/t
Season 2023:	AU\$569/t,	UP	AU\$5/t
Season 2024:	AU\$534/t,	UP	AU\$3/t
Season 2025:	AU\$512/t,	UP	AU\$2/t

The prompt Mar-23 contract settled at US 19.60 c/lb on Friday, up by 12 points week-on-week. The rest of the sugar contracts in the more deferred positions also settled higher, with the Jul-24 contract settling at US 16.47 c/lb, down by 23 points.

The release of this weeks commitment of traders report has confirmed the speculators as small net buyers of sugar over the week. The latest commitment of traders report showed the specs are currently holding a net bought position of 161,050 contracts, an

increase of approximately 3,200 contracts on the week.

In India, it was reported that 434 mills have began a slightly delayed 2023 season crush campaign. Current expectations for this crop are projecting around 370 mln mt of cane to be crushed, yielding 36.5-37.0 mln mt of sugar. Domestic consumption stands around 27.0 mln mt leaving a significant exportable surplus of approximately 10 mln mt of sugar. As mentioned previously, the Indian government has allowed 6.15 mln mt of exports during the 2023 campaign.

In Queensland, the current crush has passed 29 mln mt of cane (down 1.5% on last year) as wet weather continues to cause delays. The seasonal average CCS has also suffered now standing at 12.99 units, down 4.1% on last season.

Oil prices traded lower over the course of the last week, and at the time of writing were trading around US\$ 71 per barrel, down approx. US\$ 9 per barrel from last week.

As reported by QSL, the following pricing has been completed by some growers during the last week; 2022 season at AU\$630/t, 2023 season at AU\$565/t, 2024 season at AU\$515/t and 2025 season at AU\$510/t.

You can access this information by logging into the member services section at www.canegrowers.com.au, using your CANEGROWERS membership number (see link below).

Readers should consider their own circumstances and take their own financial, legal and accounting advice as required.



Sugar Services Proserpine will close for Christmas on Thursday 22nd December, & will re-open on Tuesday 3rd January, 2023.

We'd like to take this opportunity to wish our Members a safe & Merry Christmas, & a brilliant 2023.

NEW PROSERPINE MANAGER APPOINTED

The board is pleased to announce the appointment of Brendon Nothard to the position of Manager, CANEGROWERS Proserpine. Brendon will replace our departing Manager, Mike Porter who will commence retirement at the end of the month after 14 years with the organisation.

Brendon has strong ties to the sugar industry having grown-up on a cane farm in South Africa. After completing his Masters' degree in Agricultural Economics, he worked for several years as an Agri-banker/Advisor before joining the South African Canegrowers Association where he served in various senior roles until 2017.

For the past five years, Brendon has been working with the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries as Senior Agricultural Economist based in Mackay. His involvement in the



Australian Sugar Industry includes investigating the economic impacts of cane harvesting practices and new farming systems. He enjoys deep sea fishing and is married with two children.

Brendon will officially commence his duties on Monday, 9 January 2023 and is very much looking forward to working with our members.

CANEGROWERS FIRST CUT VIDEOS * 2nd & 3rd EPISODES RELEASED *

The CANEGROWERS First Cut videos are exclusive to members and break down topical issues and industry challenges through face-to-face interviews with industry specialists.

The second and third episodes in the series explore the global and domestic factors impacting fertiliser prices, and the tools available to help growers mitigate the rising costs.

The videos can be viewed by logging into the members resources section at: www.canegrowers.com.au

NO HOLIDAY FOR CANE TRAINS

School students may have holidays just around the corner but cane trains don't. Cane trains will continue to operate around the clock past Christmas.



**KEEP YOUR
TRAIN BRAIN
SWITCHED ON!**

Be alert, stay off our rail network, and

**ALWAYS GIVE WAY
TO CANE TRAINS.**


wilmar



Merry Christmas

from the
Wilmar AgServices team

Thank you for your business in 2022, and we
look forward to working with you in 2023.

Please note our Oonooie plant will be closed:

- > from 3pm on 24 December to 6am on 28 December 2022, and
- > from 3pm on 31 December to 6am on 3 January 2023.

Get in touch



JACOB SNYMAN
Agribusiness Agronomist
0419 174 616



Merry Christmas

from Wilmar's
Grower Marketing team

We look forward
to working with you
again in 2023.



Shirley Norris
OFFICE Proserpine Mill
PHONE 0437 803 019



CANEGROWERS INSURANCE - DO YOU COMPLETE DRIVER DECLARATIONS?

Have you disclosed ALL of your driver's information to your insurance company?

Have you checked that your driver's hold a current driver's license?

Do they have any conditions?

Have they been charged, convicted, or have any allegation pending for any offence?

It is requirement of your insurance coverage that you disclose all information to your insurer. Failure to do so can result in your insurer cancelling your policy or reduce the claim settlement amount they will pay for a claim, or both. If your failure to tell them is fraudulent, they may refuse to pay a claim and treat the contract/policy as if it never existed.

To help our client's, CANEGROWERS Insurance has produced an easy-to-use Driver Declaration form to use throughout the employment process. Copies can be obtained by phoning or visiting the Proserpine office.

Proserpine Insurance Admin, Jess Harrison, is in the office 8.45am to 2.45pm Monday to Thursday. She can be contacted by phoning the office (07 4945 1844) or by emailing jess_Harrison@canegrowers.com.au.

PROSERPINE UPDATE

CANEGROWERS Proserpine and SSP conducted their Annual General Meetings on 29 November with around 40 members and invited guests in attendance. While the AGM focussed on the 2021 crushing season, there was plenty of discussion regarding the 2022 harvest, particularly as crushing is not expected to be completed until the first week in January. It's been a long time since Proserpine has extended its crush past December and while La Nina has played its part, mill performance has been the primary cause for the delay.

A number of Wilmar senior executives attend the AGM including Paul Giordani, (GM Cane Supply & Grower Relations) and Ian Davies, (GM Agriculture) – local mill representatives Sebastian Foti (Operations Manager) and Jed Page (Cane Supply Manager) were also in attendance.

In response to the concerns raised during the meeting, Mr Giordani acknowledged the growers' efforts in producing a good crop and agreed the factory had not performed to its capability. While acknowledging the impact of the weather, Mr Giordani also conceded Wilmar were caught-out by supply chain issues, and endured a high turnover of knowledge and expertise during pre-season maintenance program. He assured members that Wilmar has already instigated changes at Proserpine Mill – and commitments were given that the mill's capital and maintenance investment would be maintained. Mr Giordani also pledged to provide more bins next year, including 60 new 10-tonne bins in addition to 30-40 damaged bins which would be repaired ahead of the next crush. The loco fleet would also be improved from 'in-house' resources, however this will be a 3 to 4 year program.

There was no positive news about the 2022 season length with the crop estimate being revised up to 1.83 million tonne and an expected finish sometime in the week ending 7 January (weather permitting). Given the longer-than-normal crush, Mr Giordani agreed to meet with CANEGROWERS representatives early next year to consider an earlier start of the 2023 harvest.

At the conclusion of SSP's Annual General Meeting, Productivity Awards were presented to the following growers:

Zone A:	Cantamessa Farming	15.80 TSH
Zone B:	GJC & RS McDowall	14.90 TSH
Zone C:	RA & C Wilson	13.70 TSH
Zone D:	DJ Lee	15.20 TSH
Zone E:	Ted Jeppesen Family Trust	16.40 TSH
The overall Producer of the Year:		Ted Jeppesen Family Trust

In other news relating to the 2022 crush, CANEGROWERS Proserpine has reviewed the Collective's interim payment CCS which currently sits at 13.80. The year-to-date average CCS (at the end of Week 23) was 14.12. However, given the prospect of another 3-4 weeks of harvesting, and the forecast of more rain, it was considered prudent to reduce the payment CCS to 13.60. To lessen the impact on growers, the reduction has been timed to coincide with the marketer's next Advance Rate increase scheduled for mid-December.

TRANSPORT REGULATIONS REGARDING CHRISTMAS PERIOD

While most growers have heard of the Christmas and Easter Restrictions about moving wide loads between Christmas and New Year, they may not have thought how this impacts them directly.

When reading the new National Class 1 Agricultural vehicle and Combination Mass and Dimension Exemption Notice Operator's Guide, on page 36 there are some specific directions about movement of **vehicles over 2.5m wide during the Christmas/ New Year period**. During the Christmas New Year period, agricultural vehicles or combinations must be accompanied by at least one (1) pilot (ag pilot) vehicle extra to the normal travel requirements. The holiday periods are listed in the table below:

Holiday	Period of restricted travel
Christmas and New Year's* If no pilot or escort is required or if no more than one (1) pilot or escort is required	Midnight 23/24 December (though practically sunset 23 December for excess dimension vehicles that are not able to travel on roads at night due to width) to midnight 2/3 January
Christmas and New Year's* If more than one (1) pilot or escort is required	Midnight 18/19 December to midnight 3/4 January
*When Christmas day falls on a Sunday or a Monday the Christmas and New Year's holiday period will commence earlier from midday on the Friday prior to Christmas day *When 1 January falls on a Friday, the Christmas and New year's holiday will finish later and is extended to 11.59pm on 3 January that year (effectively can start moving on 4 January)	

The travel restrictions during the Christmas New Year period basically means there is no movement through critical areas, critical roads and major roads **from sunset Friday 23 December to sunrise Tuesday 3 January**, though this is extended based upon the number of pilot (ag pilot) or escort vehicles required to move the machinery normally as listed in the table.

Movement around the council road network during this time is permitted provided the oversize agricultural vehicle or combination is being accompanied by at least one (1) agricultural pilot above the minimum requirements of this Guideline. If growers need to move tractors, machinery or equipment wider than 2.5m on critical and major roads during these periods, permits from NHVR are required. As part of that application for a permit, a traffic management plan is required



PROSERPINE QSL UPDATE



Harvest Pool Opt out

Leave the QSL Harvest Pool at any time during the season and price more yourself using our new Harvest Pool Opt Out. Just choose to opt out and any of your Harvest Pool tonnage which has not already been priced by QSL will be transferred to the Self-Managed Harvest Contract so you can price it yourself.

Non-delivery options

Worried about delivering your estimated GEI sugar this season? QSL growers with committed pricing have multiple options to address in-season production reductions, including:

- Reallocating your Harvest Pool tonnage to meet your committed sugar pricing
- Shifting tonnage between ABNs
- Rolling pricing forward to the next season
- Unwinding pricing

Should you come up short, you have an obligation to pay QSL any wash-out costs associated with your shortfall under the Pricing Pool Terms. But rest assured that we will work with you to find the lowest-cost option available within the current market for your pricing position, and where possible, any wash-out costs will be factored into your remaining Advances payments.

Stay current for security updates

QSL App users on older versions of our app may receive a notification when they log in, prompting them to update their app. This reminder is to ensure they are accessing the latest app features and security updates, and can move off older versions of the app before they are no longer supported.

To update your **iPhone** and **iPad**, the manual process is:

1. Open the App Store app.
2. Tap your profile icon at the top of the screen.
3. Find the QSL App and tap **Update**.

For those on **Android** devices, the process is:

1. Open the Google Play Store app.
2. At the top right, tap the profile icon.
3. Tap **Manage apps & device**.
4. Find the QSL App and tap **Update**.



Key Dates 2022

20 February 2023:

Last day to price 2022-Season Target Price Contract tonnage before the pricing window is automatically extended and roll adjustments apply.

20 February 2023:

Last day to fill or roll orders for the March 2023 ICE 11 Contract in the Individual Futures Contract and/or Self-Managed Harvest Contract.

20 April 2023:

Last day to fill or roll orders for the May 2023 ICE 11 Contract in the Individual Futures Contract and/or Self-Managed Harvest Contract.

30 April 2023: QSL's 2023-Season Nomination Deadline.

This is the last day to elect QSL products for the 2023 Season, with any tonnage not allocated to a pricing product defaulting to the 2023 Harvest Pool after this date.

For more information, please contact your local QSL representatives:

YOUR QSL GROWER SERVICES TEAM

QSL Direct Helpline P 1800 870 756

Proserpine Region



Grower Relationship Manager
Russell Campbell
0408 248 385
russell.campbell@qsl.com.au



Grower Relationship Officer
Karen Vloedmans
0429 804 876
karen.vloedmans@qsl.com.au

Disclaimer: The information in this document does not constitute financial advice. Growers should seek their own financial advice and read the QSL Pricing Pool Terms in full (available at www.qsl.com.au) before making any pricing and pool selection decisions. QSL does not accept any responsibility to any person for the decisions and actions taken by that person with respect to any of the information contained in this document.

Closing date for classified advertisements is the close of business of the first week of each month.

Classifieds are free to CANEGROWERS members.

CANEGROWERS Proserpine does not necessarily endorse products or services advertised in, or associated with the newsletter.

CANEGROWERS INSURANCE - END OF YEAR UPATE

2022! What a completely different year this has been, seems to me that everything has had a price increase, even my favourite pie from the local Bakery has gone up!! This year we have seen a big change to the way Insurance companies are doing business, they are moving away from the hands-on personal approach, they have become more digital in their dealings and more focused on maintaining profits and removing what they call high risk properties from their books. What is a high risk? Well for some insurer's it is a building with a Timber frame, for others it is any structure in Nth Qld built before 1976.

Claims, what a difference 12 months can make! This year has seen record claims across Australia with over \$8billion paid out. CANEGROWERS as just one entity has had over \$3million in claims and I do believe one of my colleagues down south has a liability claim that has been set with a reserve of \$1.2million. The majority of these claims could have been avoided and some clients have suffered financially, as they chose to deliberately underinsure their machinery. Please do review your Sums Insured, especially Machinery, Building and Theft limits.

Maintenance has become a major player with Insurance companies, if you have failed to maintain your property and you have a claim that the poor maintenance has contributed to, you will have your claim either declined or reduced. Rusty roofs, leaking showers, wood rot, silicon failing on kitchen benches, termites, these are all maintenance related. Insurance does not cover maintenance related items, you need to maintain your properties.

Theft has also increased this year; Motor Vehicle theft in north Queensland has been especially high this year, with the number of vehicles stolen so far this year already exceeding figures from previous years. Houses and Farm sheds have also been impacted. I ask that you take photos of your contents, take photos of receipts, and store them somewhere safe, because you may be asked to prove that you owned certain items if you were to have a claim.

Storm Season is upon us already, so it is a timely reminder to get your properties ready, secure loose items, clean your gutters, and remove any branches that might impact your property. Your local office has distributed a Flyer that we have put together, this flyer will have contact numbers for your insurer, in case I am unreachable.

And finally, I hope that you all get to stop for a couple of days, eat some good food, drink some very cold beverages and catchup with family & friends.

Thanks,

Brad Hancock

Brad Hancock (AR 1260270)
Insurance Regional Manager

Corporate Authorised Representative
(CAR No 429264) for Community Broker
Network Pty Ltd | ABN 60 069 916 184 |
AFSL 233750.

*You are invited to come and celebrate the
Sugar Industry in our Community.*

Cut Out Party

Saturday 14th January 2023 at 5pm
Proserpine Showgrounds
Tickets online at Whitsunday Tickets
Adults \$75/head, Children 7-17 \$15, Children 6 years and under - Free
Includes: Nibblies, BBQ dinner and sweets, all drinks, complimentary Stubby Cooler, Live Music, entertainment and party bags for the kids
AUCTION TO BE HELD - GREAT PRIZES
All funds raised donated to RACQ CQ Rescue

RACQ CQ RESCUE