

# Cane News

*CANEGROWERS Proserpine's  
monthly member newsletter*



## WELCOME TO THE 2022 ISSUE # 5 OF 'CANE NEWS'



### JEPPESEN FARMING CO.

For all your agricultural contracting needs

Laser levelling , truck & dog, surveys, earthmoving & more

Tony Jeppesen

0414 322 729

Jake Mitchell

0408 160 660



## CANEGROWERS

MARKETING INFORMATION SERVICE

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

Watch this month's video and read the PDF updates from the CANEGROWERS Marketing Information Service to learn what's been happening.

You can access this information by logging into the member services section at [www.canegrowers.com.au](http://www.canegrowers.com.au), using your CANEGROWERS membership number.

### **SSP MEMBERS - HAVE YOU BOOKED YOUR RSD TESTING?**

**Now is the time to book your RSD testing.**

The SSP team anticipate a high demand for testing this year, so to ensure your results are received as promptly as possible, please contact Frank (0419 679 427) or George (0488 777 657) to arrange your testing.

The Lab takes approximately three weeks to return testing results. Growers will be advised of their results by text message with an invoice following shortly afterwards.

## 2022 SHOW CANE COMPETITION RESULTS



This year's Show Cane competition experienced a fantastic number of entries, with a tight competition across the sections.

The competition was once again supported by generous sponsors; some that have provided continual support over many years and some who were excited to be on board for the very first time.



As always, we'd like to thank all of our members that entered this year. Without you, there would be no competition!

We also thank our sponsors and look forward to hosting another successful competition with all of you next year.

We wish everyone a safe and successful season and are already preparing for another brilliant Show Cane competition in 2023.



### **Section 1; Six Stalks of Plant Cane**

1.A	Town Branch	D Holcombe
1.B	Up River Branch	D & A Lee
1.C	Kelsey Creek Branch	RM & JE Rule
1.D	Lethebrook Branch	JR & ML Casey
1.E	Gregory/Strathdicke Branch	PJ & GW Simpson
1.F	Cannonvalley/Preston Branch	BE & CL Penhallurick
1.G	Bloomsbury/Elaroo Branch	Jeppesen Farming

### **Section 2; Six Stalks of Ratoon Cane**

2.A	Town Branch	D Holcombe
2.B	Up River Branch	DS & TL Botto
2.C	Kelsey Creek Branch	Valmadre Farming
2.D	Lethebrook Branch	PE & JH Quod
2.E	Gregory/Strathdicke Branch	Blair Bros.
2.F	Cannonvalley/Preston Branch	BE & CL Penhallurick
2.G	Bloomsbury/Elaroo Branch	Jeppesen Farming

### **Section 3; Champion Six Stalks of the Show – Plant or Ratoon**

BE & CL Penhallurick

### **Section 4; Champion Stool of Plant Cane (from single billet)**

Jeppesen Farming

### **Section 5; Champion Stool or Ratoon Cane (from single billet)**

Jeppesen Farming

### **Section 6; Heaviest Stalk**

BJ & BL Holcombe

### **Section 7; District Exhibit**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Lethebrook Branch
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Kelsey Creek Branch

### **Section 8; Highest CCS Test in Two Stalks**

8.A	Q183	D Holcombe
8.B	Q208	D Holcombe
8.C	KQ228	BJ & BL Holcombe
8.D	Q232	BJ & BL Holcombe
8.E	Q240	D Holcombe
8.F	Any other approved variety	JR Casey

### **Section 9; Highest Quantity of CCS in Six Stalks of Plant Cane**

J Mau

### **Section 10; Highest Quantity of CCS in Six Stalks of Ratoon Cane**

BJ & BL Holcombe

### **Section 11; CANEGROWERS Proserpine Insurance Trophy**

(Exhibitor with the most points. Points are allocated for each entry)

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	BJ & BL Holcombe	27 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	D Holcombe	26 points



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## **IS YOUR INSURANCE POLICY READY FOR THE CRUSH?**

With the crush about to begin, are you confident that your insurance policies have you covered? Amidst the pre-crush rush, it's worth taking some time to ensure you have the right cover for your needs. Some important questions to consider are:

### ***Is any of your equipment used for contract harvesting & do you hire contractors to work on your farm?***

Your insurer must be advised if your equipment is being used for contract harvesting. If your insurer is not aware of the situation your policy and liability coverage may not be applicable, should you need to make a claim. Many insurers are now not only asking if clients participate in contracting activities, but also if contractors are hired to work on their farms. Ensuring you're correctly covered for both situations is as easy as having a conversation with your insurer or insurance brokerage office.

### ***Is everything listed on your policy & is it relevant?***

It pays to read through your insurance policy (or policies) to ensure all of your equipment and structures are covered, also considering the sums insured listed on your documents

and the type of cover (accidental or listed events) you have chosen, where applicable.

Familiarising yourself with your excess values is also helpful. We easily lose track of what excess we've chosen and being unfamiliar with your excess value/s can sometimes cause a shock at claim time, if you've previously chosen quite high excesses. When reviewing your policy, it's always worth asking yourself if you're comfortable with the excess values you have chosen, or if you'd like them altered.

Overall, it's a good time to complete an annual check that the cover is staying relevant, especially if it's been several months since your policy renewed.

### ***Maintenance, maintenance, maintenance***

As always, it pays to ensure your equipment and structures are well maintained. Loss Adjuster's being able to easily identify where the damage starts and ends can make the claims process far smoother. It can also ensure that your insurer is able to continue providing coverage for your items, as you're meeting your obligations as set out in your policy documents.

Please contact the Proserpine office with any questions you may have, to request a quote or if you'd like to discuss or make any updates to your insurance policy. Trish is in the office Monday to Thursday, 9am to 3pm.



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## **ARE YOUR CONTACT DETAILS UP TO DATE WITH SRA?**

Sugar Research Australia publishes a quarterly magazine called *Cane Matters*, distributes a fortnightly eNewsletter and frequently sends out invitations for events. Other publications like the Variety Guides, Greyback Canegrub Management Manual and Weed Management Manual have also been posted out to growers.

If you aren't receiving content from SRA, please contact Dylan Wedel, District Manager – Central, to update your details, 0490 029 387, [DWedel@sugarresearch.com.au](mailto:DWedel@sugarresearch.com.au)

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*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. Articles appearing in 'Cane News' do not necessarily represent the policies or views of CANEGROWERS.*

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# PROSERPINE MILL

## Typical quantity of nutrients applied in mill by-products

Mill by-products contain nutrients that are essential for growing sugarcane crops.

Most of these nutrients, P, K, Ca and Mg, are in inorganic compounds and are available to the growing sugarcane plant a short time after the mill by-product is applied to the soil.

Alternatively, N is slowly and continually released from mill by-products, particularly by-products containing mill mud, as it is generally bound up in organic compounds that need to undergo decomposition to release the N.

The typical content of nutrients in mill by-products varies from mill to mill, load to load and year to year. However, this variation tends to be small and the application of mill by-

products at rates greater than 50 tonnes per hectare (t/ha) results in adequate quantities of nutrient being applied in the mill by-products.

This provides an opportunity for the grower to consider adjusting the nutrients they apply in fertiliser to take into account the quantity of nutrient applied in the mill by-product, thereby saving costs.

Growers can refer to the Six Easy Steps method to assist them with how to reduce the nutrients in their fertiliser.

The following tables provide an estimate of the quantity of nutrients applied to the soil when a known quantity of mill by-product is applied to a field growing sugarcane.

### Approximate quantity of nutrients applied in the mill mud/ash mix produced at the Proserpine Mill

Applied rate	N (kg/ha)	P (kg/ha)	K (kg/ha)	S (kg/ha)	Ca (kg/ha)	Mg (kg/ha)
50 t/ha	105	85	70	20	165	60
75 t/ha	158	128	105	30	248	90
100 t/ha	210	170	140	40	330	120
125 t/ha	263	213	175	50	413	150
150 t/ha	315	255	210	60	495	180
175 t/ha	368	298	245	70	578	210
200 t/ha	420	340	280	80	660	240



## PROSERPINE PRECISION AGRICULTURE WORKSHOP



On Wednesday 1 June over 50 growers and industry representatives attended the Proserpine Precision Agriculture (PA) Workshop hosted by Proserpine Young Farmers Inc (PYF), with support from SRA and SSP. A range of speakers delivered informative sessions, these included:

-Molly O'Dea started the day with a brief overview of PYF's precision agriculture trial being run in Proserpine.  
-Denis Pozzebon gave an overview of who the Society of Precision Agriculture are and what they do, and provided some insight into his own PA journey on his farm in the Burdekin.  
-Zoe Eagger from Farmacist gave a presentation on practical agronomy solutions.  
-Dr Alex Olsen updated us on Autoweed spot spraying technology, which can detect and spray only the weeds in a crop, including trials currently being run in sugarcane. herbicide and cost savings possible  
-Emilie Fillols, SRA, added to Alex Olsen's presentation, sharing the positive water quality implications for the Autoweed technology.  
-Steve Attard, Agritech Solutions, spoke about irrigation technology and the value it can deliver.  
-Dr Neil Cliffe, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, shared information on new improved climate forecast products linked to improved business planning, and highlighted a range of drought preparedness grants and loans available to sugarcane growers.  
-Sarah Limpus, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, finished the day by sharing some interesting PA examples from horticulture.

Those interested in finding out more, or getting in contact with any of the speakers can email Stephanie at SRA on [SRoberts@sugarresearch.com.au](mailto:SRoberts@sugarresearch.com.au) or 0459 863 298. To keep up to date with other events PYF host in the future, follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/proserpineyoungfarmers>



# PRICING COMPLETION DATE

**EXTENDED**



**We've extended our pricing nomination completion date for Call and Target Pricing from 20 February to 20 April. This change will be effective from 2022 season onwards.**

### This means:



You'll have an extension of the Call and Target Pricing dates.



You'll have an additional two months to participate in the market going forward.



You'll benefit from the simplicity of one pricing completion date across all pricing mechanisms.



**SHIRLEY NORRIS**  
OFFICE Proserpine Mill  
PHONE 0437 803 019





# PRE-PAY & SAVE

## EARN \$150 CREDIT

for every \$10,000 pre-paid for Bio Dunder® liquid  
fertilisers before 30 June 2022.

Our straightforward pre-payment  
offer makes it easy to calculate  
the benefits.

### Reasons to pre-pay

- > Take control of your farm finances
- > Lock in your fertiliser plan
- > Save on your fertiliser costs

### How it works

- > Receive \$150 credit for every \$10,000 pre-payment, applied as credit to your account
- > Pre-payment must be made before 30 June 2022
- > Credit must be used by 31 December 2022

**FIND OUT MORE > 1800 799 037**

Offer available to customers who pre-pay by 30 June 2022 a minimum of \$10,000 towards the purchase of Bio Dunder liquid fertiliser for the 2022 fertilising season. The value of the credit will be calculated on a pro-rata basis for pre-payments above \$10,000. The credit can only be redeemed on purchases of fertilisers from Wilmar BioEthanol (Australia) Pty Ltd ABN 85 009 660 191 (Wilmar) by 31 December 2022 and is non-transferable. Offer subject to change. Wilmar, its employees, agents or contractors are not providing any financial, legal or tax advice. Wilmar recommends that interested parties obtain their own independent financial advice on the suitability and benefits of this offer based on their specific circumstances.





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## **2022 REEF CHAMPION AWARDS OPEN**

Nominations are now open for the 2022 Reef Champions Awards, celebrating the outstanding individuals and organisations working to improve the quality of water entering the iconic Great Barrier Reef. The Awards are run by the Queensland Farmers' Federation (QFF) with support from the Australian and Queensland governments. They celebrate the growing culture of best practice and innovation in how the community, business and industry help protect the reef.

QFF CEO, Ms Jo Sheppard, said farmers, with the support of extension officers and their communities, play an essential role as responsible land managers and it is important to acknowledge and celebrate those who are excelling as environmental stewards.

"The Awards provide agriculture and the broader community with the opportunity to celebrate the local heroes who are working to improve land management practices and Reef water quality by reducing farm run-off and erosion. These important actions are continuing to improve the quality of the water leaving the farm and they highlight the long-standing commitment farmers and their communities have made to improving the health of the Reef."

"Critical to the success of these voluntary programs is the strong partnership with the Australian and Queensland governments. It is only through working together that we can achieve mutually beneficial outcomes for farmers and the environment."

This year, two new awards have been introduced that will recognise and celebrate the work of Traditional Owner Reef Champions, reinforcing the collective community efforts that are being made to protect this unique, world heritage listed national treasure. The Awards are also open to young people, schools, councils and community groups who are helping preserve the wonder of the reef.

"Further adding to the prestige of the event, QFF has partnered with the Prince's Trust Australia to offer the coveted Prince of Wales Environmental Leadership – Reef Sustainability Award. This recognises the exemplary efforts of an individual farmer or group of farmers, to raise awareness, foster knowledge-sharing, and engage local communities in sustainable natural resource management, particularly for reducing water pollution to protect and preserve the Great Barrier Reef," said Ms Sheppard.

The full list of Awards is:

- Prince of Wales Environmental Leadership – Reef Sustainability Award
- Reef Nutrient Champion Award
- Reef Sediment Champion Award
- Reef Pesticide Champion Award
- Reef Conservation Champion Award
- Reef Extension Officer Champion Award
- Reef Community Champion Award
- Reef Youth Champion Award
- Reef Traditional Owner Youth Champion Award
- Reef Traditional Owner Group Champion Award

Nominations close 12pm Tuesday 12 July 2022. For more information and to apply, visit <https://www.qff.org.au/projects/reef-champion-awards/>



# PROSERPINE QSL UPDATE



## **2021-Season Loyalty Bonus reminder**

Did you know that QSL has paid growers more than \$15 million in Loyalty Bonuses to date?

Local QSL growers still have until the end of this month to secure their bonus for the 2021 Season if they haven't done so already.

To qualify for this additional payment worth over \$2/tonne of sugar, growers marketing with QSL for the 2021 and 2022 Seasons just need to nominate QSL as their GEI Sugar marketer for the 2023 Season by 30 June 2022.

## **Advance rate increase**

The initial 2022-Season Advance payment rate has been set at 65%, with this currently scheduled to increase to 70% in October 2022.

## **Third-party Payments**

Growers are reminded that any Third-Party Payments (liens) in place for the 2021 Season will automatically roll into the 2022 Season.

If you do not wish your Third-Party Payment/s to continue into the 2022 Season, please contact QSL as soon as possible.

If you have any questions regarding Third-Party Payments, please contact your local QSL Grower Services Team or call the QSL Direct helpline on 1800 870 756.

## **Commitment limits will increase from 1 July.**

The amount of GEI Sugar QSL growers can price in the 2023, 2024, and 2025 Seasons will increase from 1 July 2022 to:

2023 Season – 70%

2024 Season – 70%

2025 Season – 50%

## **New 'Balancing Order' feature**

Growers using the Self-Managed Harvest Contract can now price the remainder of their unpriced tonnage against individual contracts by using our new 'Balancing Order' feature.

This allows you to place an order for all the remaining unpriced tonnage against that contract – down to the last tonne – rather than limiting the order size to a multiple of 10 tonnes.

To access this feature in the QSL Direct portal, just click on the Balancing Order button now featured on the order screen for this product.

When using the QSL App, type the full balance figure into the 'tonnes' field when placing an order and it will be accepted.



## Your 2022-Season pricing options



Leave the QSL Harvest Pool during the season and price more yourself using QSL's new Harvest Pool Opt Out.

Just choose to 'Opt Out' before 20 April next year, and any of your 2022-Season 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.

Please read the full Pricing Pool Terms available at [www.qsl.com.au](http://www.qsl.com.au) for details.

## Show Whitsunday

QSL was a proud sponsor of the Proserpine Canegrowers Cane Awards at Show Whitsunday last week and welcomed the opportunity to share in the fantastic community and industry spirit this great event generates. Congratulations to all who entered, including the happy winners pictured below.

Growers (L-R) Dale Holcombe and John Casey with Judge Gary Considine



## Upcoming key dates:

**30 June 2022 - Last day to receive the 2021-Season QSL Loyalty Bonus.**

Sign QSL as your preferred marketer for 2021, 2022 and 2023 seasons to be eligible.

For more information, please contact your local QSL representative on the details below.

Grower Karin Swift and Kay Quod



Growers John Casey and Peter Quod



**For more information please contact QSL Grower Relationship Officer, Karen Vloedmans:**

### Proserpine



Grower Relationship Officer  
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0429 804 876  
[karen.vloedmans@qsl.com.au](mailto:karen.vloedmans@qsl.com.au)

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