

# MAURITIUS CANE INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

## MAURITIUS SUGARCANE INDUSTRY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Ref A 1/2024

21 October 2024

### SUGAR CANE CROP 2024

#### Status: August and September 2024

#### 1. CLIMATE

##### 1.1 Rainfall (Tables 1a and 1b, Figure 1)

Rainfall recorded over the sugar cane growing areas of the island during August 2024 was 64 mm which represented 54% of the long-term mean (LTM, 119 mm) for the month. Below normal rainfall was recorded in all sectors of the island in August 2024.

The island's average rainfall for the month of September 2024 was 40 mm over the sugar cane growing areas and it represented 44% of the long-term mean (92 mm). Rainfall for the month of September 2024 lagged behind the long-term mean in all sectors with 20 mm in the North, 47 mm in the East, 49 mm in the South, 1 mm in the West and 74 mm in the Centre. Generally, these rainfall amounts were considered insufficient for the crop water requirement.

Cumulative rainfall from October 2023 to September 2024 amounted to 2598 mm for the island, i.e. 120% of the LTM. During that period, 1489 mm were recorded in the North, 3011 mm in the East, 3208 mm in the South, 1114 mm in the West and 3295 mm in the Centre. These figures exceeded their respective LTM in all sectors.

**Table 1a. Rainfall (mm) for the months of August and September for crop 2023, 2024 and the long-term mean (LTM)**

	Crop	North	East	South	West	Centre	Island
August	2023	90 (161)	170 (113)	204 (137)	13 (65)	207 (125)	153 (129)
	2024	41 (73)	71 (47)	77 (52)	4 (20)	105 (64)	64 (54)
September	2023	22 (49)	54 (47)	63 (55)	3 (13)	92 (73)	49 (53)
	2024	20 (44)	47 (41)	49 (43)	1 (4)	74 (59)	40 (44)

figures in brackets are % of LTM (1991-2020)

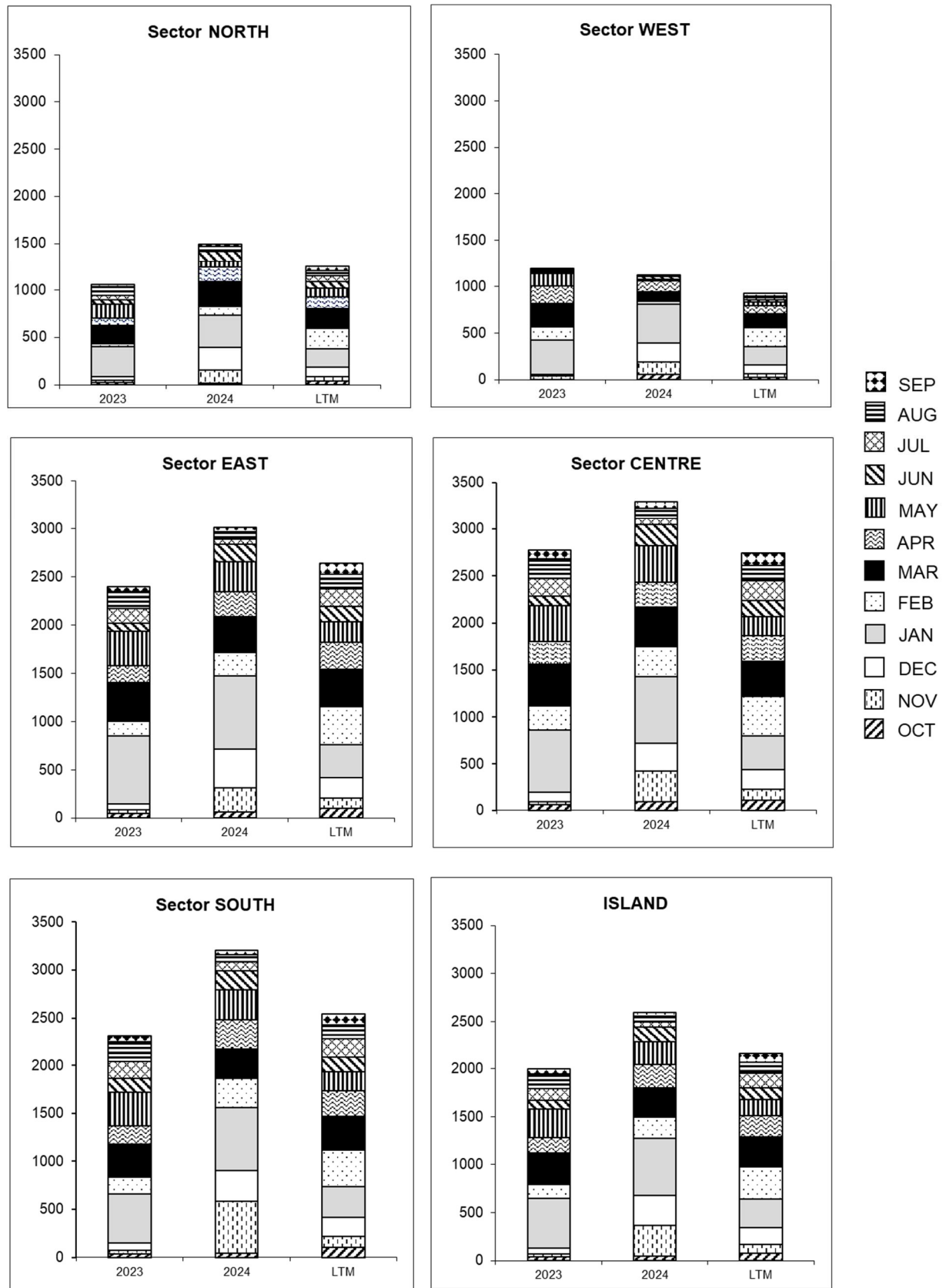
**Table 1b. Cumulative rainfall (mm) from October 2023 to September 2024 for crop 2024 compared to that of crop 2023 and the LTM**

Crop	North	East	South	West	Centre	Island
2023	1056 (84)	2397 (91)	2310 (91)	1186 (129)	2771 (101)	1997 (93)
2024	1489 (119)	3011 (114)	3208 (126)	1114 (121)	3295 (120)	2598 (120)
LTM	1253	2640	2540	921	2740	2159

figures in brackets are % of LTM

[Source: Mauritius Meteorological Services]

**Figure 1. Monthly rainfall (mm) for the period October 2023 to September 2024 for the 2024 crop compared to the corresponding period of the 2023 crop and to the long term mean (LTM).**



### 1.2 Air Temperature (Table 2)

Data on air temperature recorded during the month of August and September 2024 on the MSIRI agro-meteorological stations are given in Table 2.

**Table 2. Air temperature recorded on MSIRI agro-meteorological stations in August and September 2024**

	Stations	Maximum	+ / -	Minimum	+ / -	Amplitude	+ / -
August	Ferret	26.5	+0.9	16.7	0.0	9.8	+0.9
	Réduit	24.0	+1.2	15.0	-0.4	9.0	+1.6
	Union Park	22.9	+1.0	15.6	-0.1	7.3	+1.1
September	Ferret	27.9	+1.2	17.4	+0.4	10.5	+0.8
	Réduit	25.0	+1.3	16.3	+0.5	8.7	+0.8
	Union Park	23.9	+1.1	16.6	+0.6	7.3	+0.5

+ / - Deviation from the Normal (1991-2020)

The mean maximum temperature during August and September 2024 was above normal at all stations. The mean minimum temperature in August 2024 was below normal whereas that in September 2024 was above normal. The resulting temperature amplitude exceeded the normal at all stations by more than 0.9°C in August 2024 and more than 0.5°C in September 2024. These conditions were generally favourable to sucrose accumulation.

### 1.3 Sunshine (Table 3)

Data from the MSIRI agro-meteorological stations showed that bright sunshine duration during August 2024 was above normal at Union Park but slightly below normal at Réduit while in September 2024 it was above normal at all three stations.

**Table 3. Sunshine duration (h) recorded on MSIRI agro-meteorological stations during August and September 2024.**

Station	August	% N	September	% N
Ferret	241	100	256	111
Réduit	213	97	235	106
Union Park	154	111	171	115

%N : % of Normal (1991-2020)

## 2. CROP PRODUCTIVITY 2024

As at 28 September 2024, 12 761 ha, representing 51% of miller-planters' land had been harvested compared to 12 476 ha (48%) at the same period last year. Sector-wise and for miller-planters only, the harvested area reached 46% in the North, 51% in the East, 52% in the South, 62% in the West and 44% in the Centre. An analysis of cane productivity based on the harvest statistics for miller-planters in all sectors follows.

### 2.1 Cane productivity (Table 4a)

At end-September 2024 the cane productivity for the island was 73.2 TCH and was higher than that of September 2023 (70.4 TCH) by 2.8 TCH and that of September 2022 (66.9 TCH) by 6.3 TCH. Sector-wise, cane productivity recorded was 83.6 TCH in the North, 70.0 TCH in the East, 74.0 TCH in the South, 65.5 TCH in the West and 63.0 TCH in the Centre. Compared to the same period last year, cane productivity recorded to-date was higher by 13.1 TCH in the North, 2.5 TCH in the South and 1.7 TCH in the Centre while in the East and West sectors it lagged behind by 2.5 TCH and 1.4 TCH, respectively. When compared to September 2022, the present cane productivity was superior in all sectors except in the West.

From end-August 2024 to end-September 2024, there has been a decrease in cane productivity of 1.4 TCH over the island. Sectorwise apart from the North, the reduction in cane productivity in the other sectors ranged from 1.4 TCH in the East to 3.4 TCH in the West.

**Table 4a. Cane productivity (TCH) as at end-August and end-September for the 2022, 2023 and 2024 crops**

Sector	End August			End September		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
North	73.6	70.2	83.0	73.5	70.5	83.6
East	71.7	73.2	71.4	67.6	72.5	70.0
South	65.3	70.9	75.5	64.1	71.5	74.0
West	73.5	67.6	68.9	71.4	66.9	65.5
Centre	48.0	61.0	64.4	43.8	61.3	63.0
<b>Island</b>	<b>69.2</b>	<b>70.4</b>	<b>74.6</b>	<b>66.9</b>	<b>70.4</b>	<b>73.2</b>

### 2.2 Extraction (Table 4b, figure 2)

The recorded island extraction rate at end-September 2024 (9.99%) was higher than that at the corresponding period in 2023 (9.57%) by 0.42°, but was slightly lower than that of 2022 (10.08%) by 0.09°. Sector-wise, it was 9.85% in the North, 9.76% in the East, 10.24% in the South, 10.44% in the West and 9.42% in the Centre. Compared to end-September of last year, extraction rate was higher in all sectors by 0.57° in the North, 0.33° in the East, 0.43° in the South, 0.29° in the West and 0.56° in the Centre. The recorded extraction rate to-date compared to that of 2022 was higher in the East and Centre sector but was inferior in the other sectors.

**Table 4b. Extraction rate (%) as at end-August and end-September for the 2022, 2023 and 2024 crops**

Sectors	End August			End September		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
North	9.82	8.93	9.86	10.36	9.28	9.85
East	9.38	9.23	9.46	9.51	9.43	9.76
South	9.98	9.55	9.94	10.30	9.81	10.24
West	10.16	9.79	10.38	10.67	10.15	10.44
Centre	8.84	8.65	9.08	8.93	8.86	9.42
<b>Island</b>	<b>9.73</b>	<b>9.28</b>	<b>9.78</b>	<b>10.08</b>	<b>9.57</b>	<b>9.99</b>

From end-August 2024 to end-September 2024, extraction rate has increased by 0.21° over the island. Sectorwise apart from the North sector, improvement in extraction was observed in all sectors.

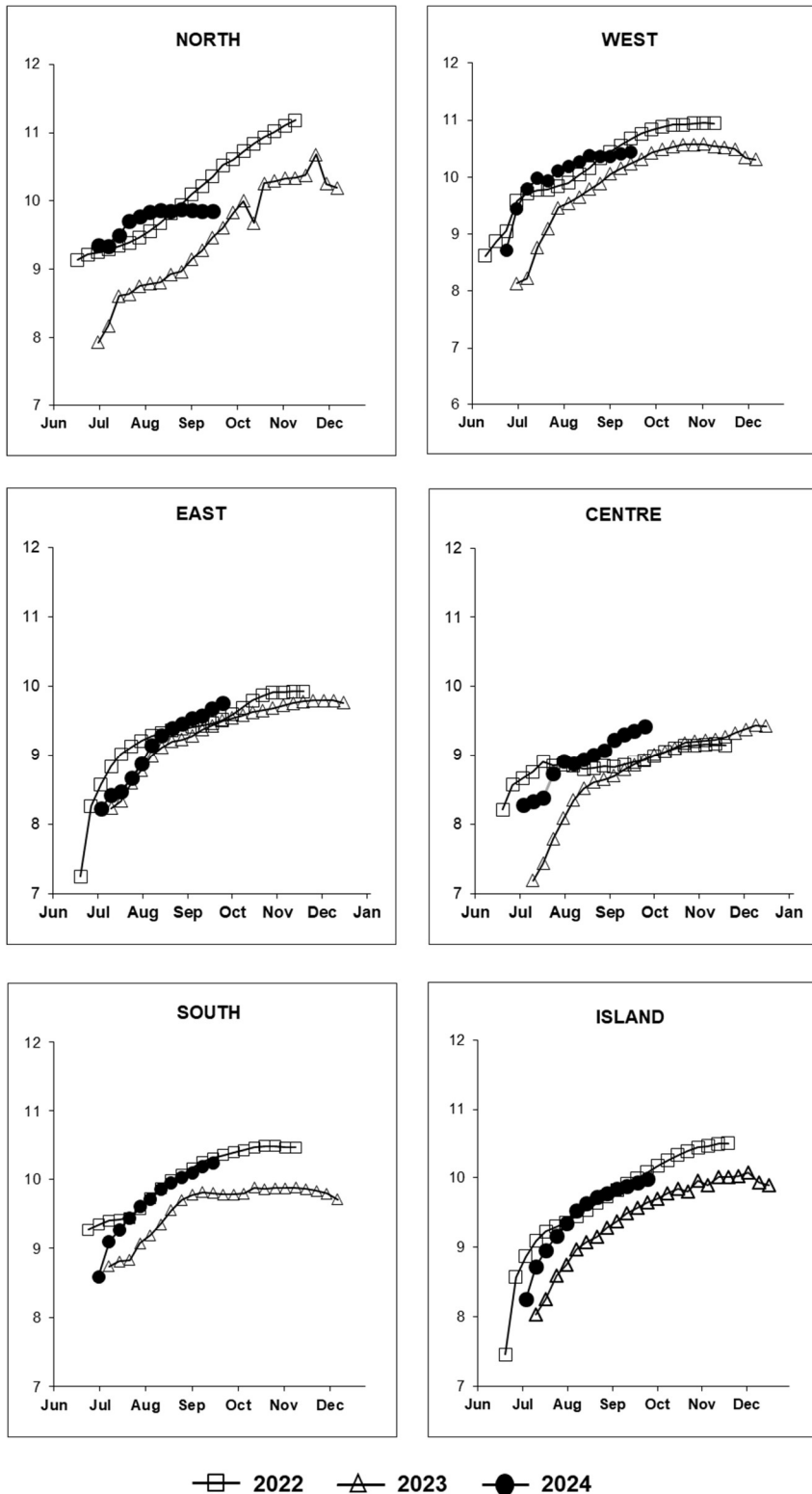
### 2.3 Sugar productivity (Table 4c)

Island-wise, the recorded sugar productivity of 7.31 TSH at end-September 2024 was higher than that at the corresponding period in 2023 (6.74 TSH) by 0.57 tonne (9%). Sector-wise sugar productivity was 8.23 TSH in the North, 6.83 TSH in the East, 7.58 TSH in the South, 6.84 TSH in the West and 5.93 TSH in the Centre. Sugar productivity to-date was higher than that at the corresponding period in 2023 in all sectors except in the East where it was comparable. Moreover, sugar productivity at end-September 2024 was superior to that at end-September 2022 in all sectors except in the West.

**Table 4c. Sugar productivity (TSH) as at end August and September for the 2022, 2023 and 2024 crops**

Sectors	End August			End September		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
North	7.23	6.27	8.18	7.61	6.54	8.23
East	6.73	6.76	6.75	6.43	6.84	6.83
South	6.52	6.77	7.50	6.60	7.01	7.58
West	7.47	6.62	7.15	7.62	6.79	6.84
Centre	4.24	5.28	5.85	3.91	5.43	5.93
<b>Island</b>	<b>6.73</b>	<b>6.53</b>	<b>7.30</b>	<b>6.74</b>	<b>6.74</b>	<b>7.31</b>

**Figure 2 Evolution of extraction rate (%) for the 2022, 2023 and 2024 crops**



## 5. CROP 2024

The months of August and September 2024 were characterised by below normal rainfall, above normal solar radiation and higher temperature amplitude. These conditions were favourable to sucrose accumulation. So far with 51% of the crop on corporate planters' land harvested as at 28 September 2024 and based on milling data at island level, cane productivity at island level exceeded that recorded during the same period last year by 4%. Moreover, the higher extraction rate recorded at the end of September 2024 over the island compared to that of last year has resulted in an overall sugar productivity of 7.31 TSH which was superior to that of the past two years.