

MAURITIUS CANE INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

MAURITIUS SUGARCANE INDUSTRY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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10 June 2026

SUGAR CANE CROP 2026

Status: April 2026

1. CLIMATE

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

In April 2026, the amount of rainfall recorded over the sugar cane growing areas of the island was 183 mm which represented 81% of the long-term mean (LTM, 225 mm) for the month. Below normal rainfall was recorded in sector North with 77 mm, the East with 255 mm, the South with 198 mm and the Centre with 249 mm. In the West, the 110 mm of rainfall was 38% above the normal.

Cumulative rainfall from October 2025 to April 2026 amounted to 950 mm for the island, i.e. 63% of the LTM. During that period, 619 mm were recorded in the North, 1257 mm in the East, 944 mm in the South, 447 mm in the West and 1327 mm in the Centre. These figures were lower than their respective LTM in all sectors.

Table 1a. Rainfall (mm) for the month of April for crop 2025, 2026 and the long term mean (LTM)

Crop	North	East	South	West	Centre	Island
2025	194 (153)	344 (121)	243 (90)	113 (141)	352 (131)	259 (115)
2026	77 (61)	255 (90)	198 (74)	110 (138)	249 (93)	183 (81)
LTM	127	284	269	80	269	225

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

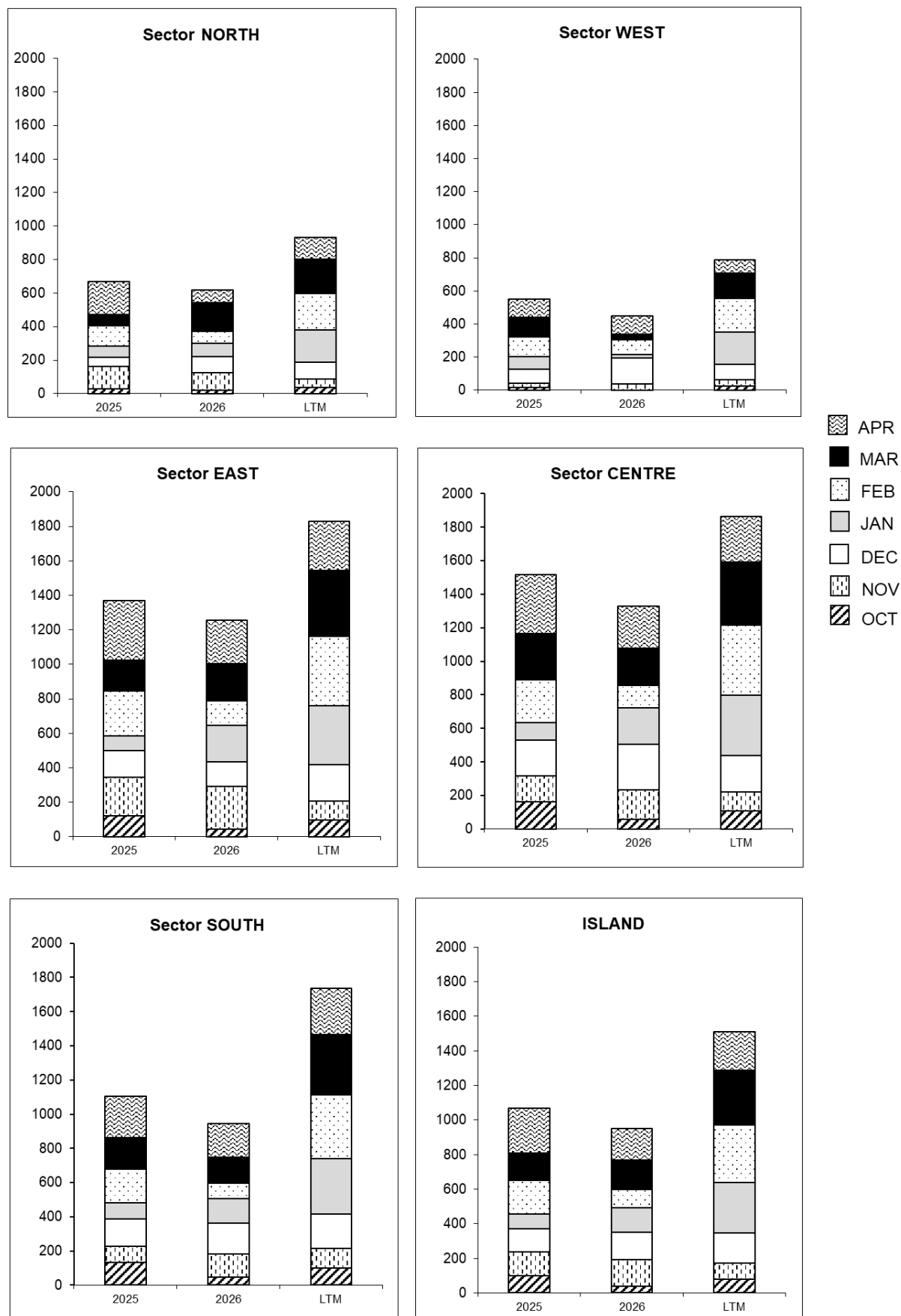
Table 1b. Cumulative rainfall (mm) from October 2025 to April 2026 for crop 2026 compared to that of crop 2025 and the LTM

Crop	North	East	South	West	Centre	Island
2025	667 (72)	1369 (75)	1105 (64)	551 (70)	1518 (82)	1070 (71)
2026	619 (67)	1257 (69)	944 (54)	447 (57)	1327 (71)	950 (63)
LTM	930	1827	1735	788	1862	1510

figures in brackets are % of LTM

[Source: Mauritius Meteorological Services]

Figure 1. Monthly rainfall (mm) for the period October 2025 to April 2026 for the 2026 crop compared to the corresponding period of the 2025 crop and to the long term mean (LTM).



1.2 Air Temperature and sunshine duration (Table 2)

Data on air temperature and sunshine duration recorded during the month of April 2026 on the MSIRI agro-meteorological stations are given in Table 2.

Table 2. Air temperature and sunshine hours recorded on MSIRI agro-meteorological stations in April 2026

Stations	Maximum (°C)		Minimum (°C)		Sunshine hours	
	Apr 2026	+ / -	Apr 2026	+ / -	Apr 2026	% Normal
Ferret	30.9	+1.2	22.0	+0.9	236	100
Réduit	28.2	+1.1	20.7	+0.5	199	93
Union Park	27.7	+1.4	21.0	+1.1	172	110

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

The mean maximum temperature during April 2026 exceeded the normal at all stations. Similarly, the mean minimum temperature was above normal at all stations. Sunshine duration recorded during that period was above normal at Union Park, equal to the normal at Ferret, but lagged behind the normal at Réduit.

2. STALK HEIGHT (Table 3a, 3b and Figure 2)

Measurement of stalk height was carried out during the last week of April 2026 at 57 sites in the five sugar cane sectors of the island. These selected sites are representative of the various agro-climatic zones, different varieties and crop categories. Data collected were compared with that of last two years and the mean of the five best cane yielding crops for the period 2016 to 2025 in each sector (referred to as normal).

2.1 Stalk elongation

Stalk elongation recorded during the month of April 2026 was 30.4 cm in the North, 28.2 cm in the East, 31.8 cm in the South, 30.3 cm in the West and 21.2 cm in the Centre. These growth values were lagging behind those recorded at the same period in 2025 in all sectors. Compared to the normal for the corresponding period, cane growth in April 2026 was inferior in all sectors.

Table 3a. Stalk elongation during the month of April 2026

Sectors	Stalk elongation (cm)			April 2026 as % of	
	Apr 2026	Apr 2025	Normal	2025	Normal
North	30.4	44.2	38.1	69	80
East	28.2	33.5	33.8	84	83
South	31.8	36.1	38.3	88	83
West	30.3	34.8	33.4	87	91
Centre	21.2	29.3	30.3	72	70
Island	29.6	36.7	36.1	81	82

The island stalk elongation of 29.6 cm in April 2026 was lower than both of April 2025 and the normal by nearly 18%.

2.2 Total stalk height

At end-April 2026, total stalk height stood at 169.6 cm in the North, 210.4 cm in the East, 200.7 cm in the South, 162.3 cm in the West and 164.3 cm in the Centre giving an island average of 188.8 cm. These figures were higher than those recorded at the corresponding period in 2025 in the East and South, comparable in the West but lagged behind in the North and Centre. Stalk height at end-April 2026 was inferior to the normal in all sectors. At island level, the total stalk height of 188.8 cm at end-April 2026 was comparable to that in 2025 but was below the normal by 4%.

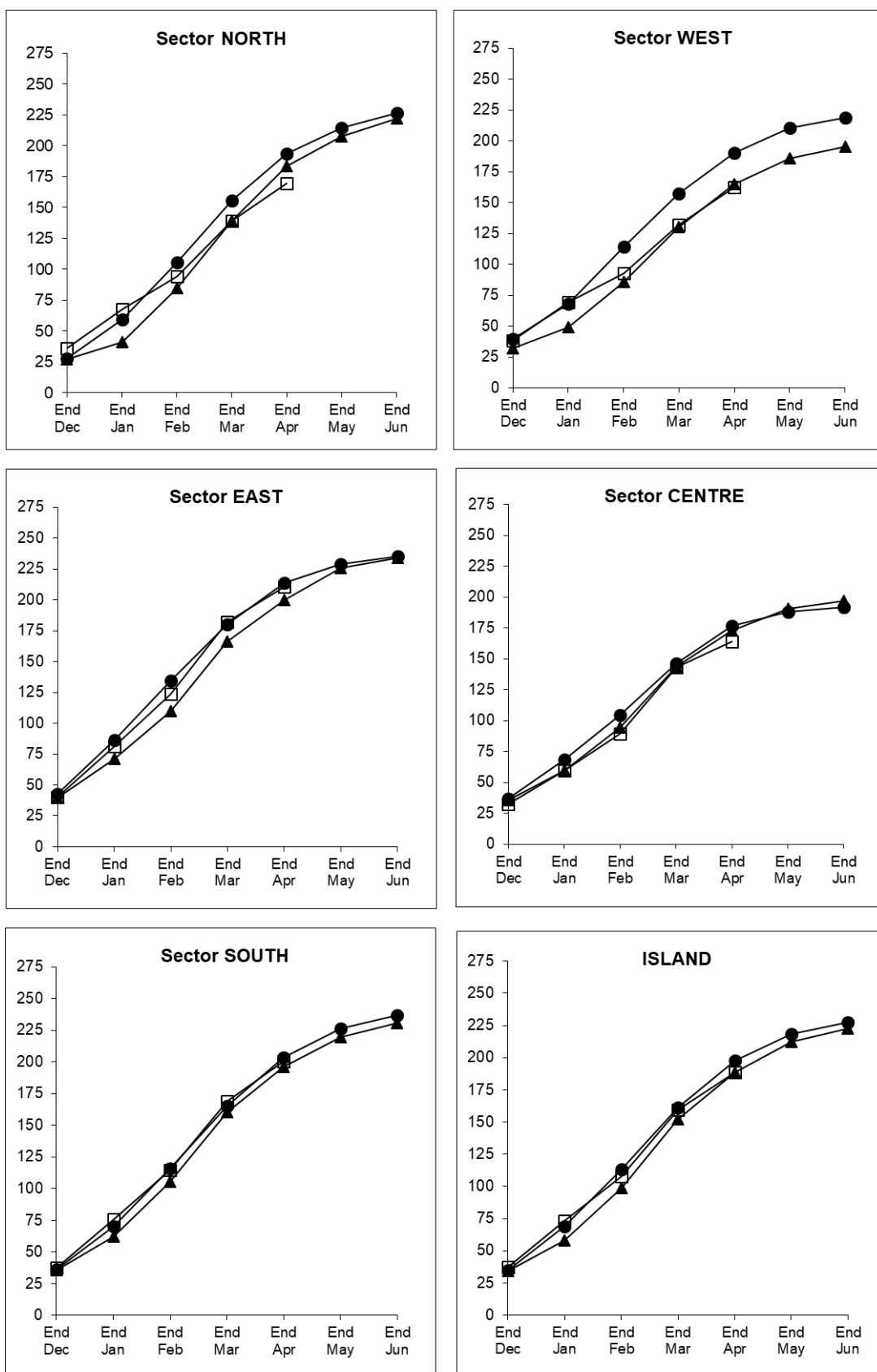
Table 3b. Total stalk height at end-April 2026

Sectors	Stalk height (cm) at end-April			End-April 2026 as % of	
	2026	2025	Normal	2025	Normal
North	169.6	183.6	193.4	92	88
East	210.4	199.9	213.6	105	99
South	200.7	196.4	203.6	102	99
West	162.3	164.7	190.6	99	85
Centre	164.3	173.1	176.9	95	93
Island	188.8	188.9	197.7	100	96

3.0 CROP 2026

The month of April was characterised by below normal rainfall in most sectors, except the West, coupled with above normal temperature and near normal solar radiation. These climatic conditions were not conducive to optimum stalk growth which was clearly seen from the elongation data of April 2026 which lagged behind those of 2025 and the normal in all sectors. Thus, stalk elongation during April 2026 over the island lagged behind the normal by 18% while total stalk height over the island at the end of April 2026 was below the normal by 4%.

Figure 2. Stalk height at end-April



□ 2026 ▲ 2025 ● Normal