

# MAURITIUS CANE INDUSTRY AUTHORITY

## MAURITIUS SUGARCANE INDUSTRY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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### SUGAR CANE CROP 2013 Status: End November 2013

#### 1. CLIMATE

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

The island's average rainfall over the sugar cane areas for November was 224 mm and represented 273% of the long term mean (82 mm). Rainfall recorded was well above the long-term mean in all sectors, with 123 mm in the North, 248 mm in the East, 246 mm in the South, 256 mm in the West and 299 mm in the Centre. These amounts represented 262%, 288%, 224%, 826% and 285% of the respective long-term means.

Cumulative rainfall for the months of October and November 2013 amounted to 373 mm for the island, i.e. 242% of the long-term mean of 154 mm. During that two-month period, 214 mm were recorded in the North, 440 mm in the East, 416 mm in the South, 301 mm in the West and 481 mm in the Centre. These cumulated amounts represented 243%, 275%, 202%, 614% and 232% of the long-term mean of the respective sector, which stands at 88 mm, 160 mm, 206 mm, 49 mm and 207 mm.

**Table 1a Rainfall (mm) of November for crops 2013, 2014<sup>+</sup> and the long term mean (LTM)**

	North	East	South	West	Centre	Island
<b>2013</b>	34 (72)	79 (92)	96 (87)	55 (179)	75 (72)	72 (87)
<b>2014</b>	<b>123</b> (262)*	<b>248</b> (288)	<b>246</b> (224)	<b>256</b> (826)	<b>299</b> (285)	<b>224</b> (273)
<b>LTM</b>	47	86	110	31	105	82

+ Crop year is from October to September

\* figures in brackets are % of LTM

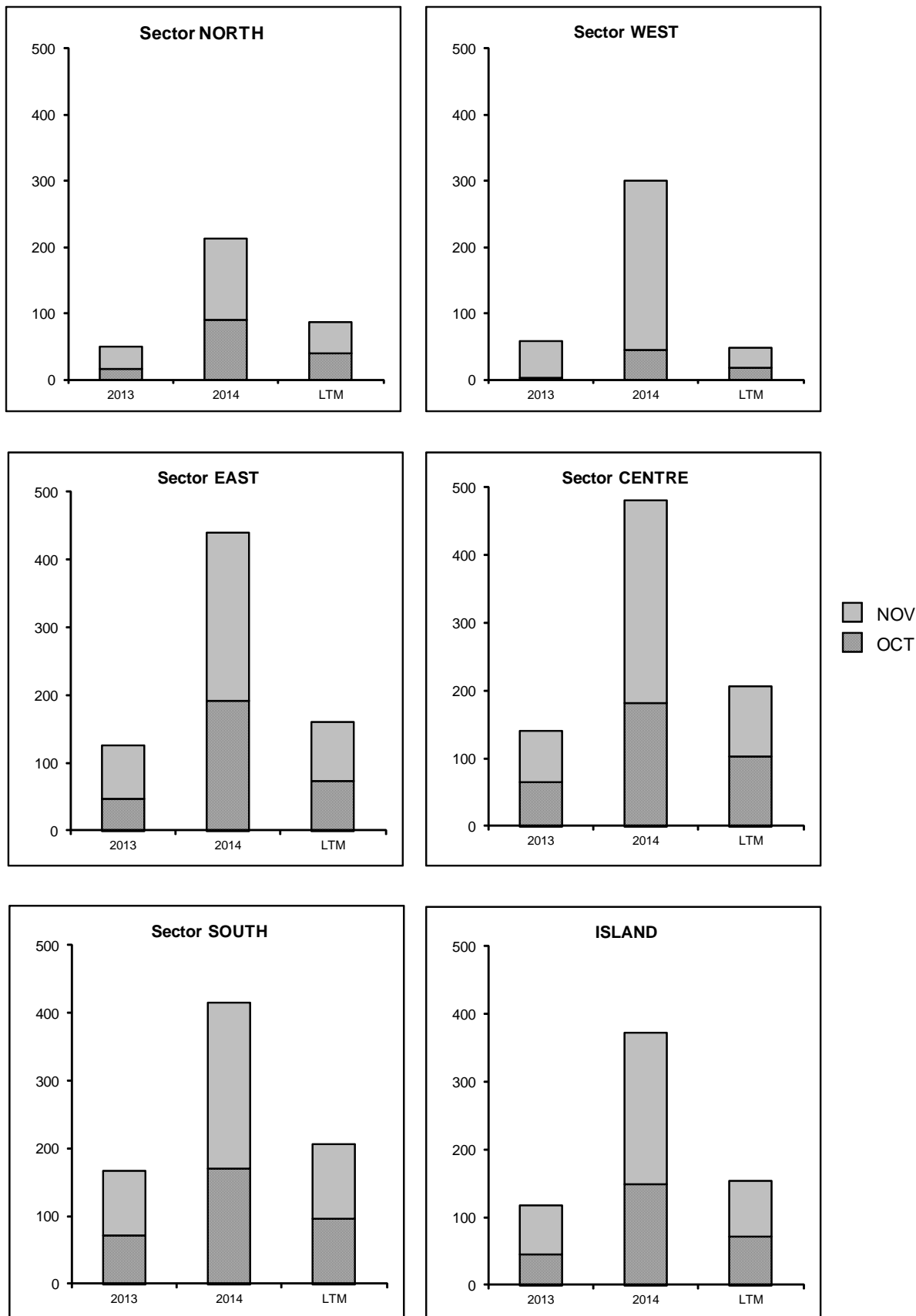
**Table 1b Cumulative rainfall (mm) from October to November 2013 for crop 2014 compared to that of crop 2013 and the long term mean (LTM)**

	North	East	South	West	Centre	Island
<b>2013</b>	51 (58)	126 (79)	167 (81)	59 (120)	140 (68)	118 (77)
<b>2014</b>	<b>214</b> (243)*	<b>440</b> (275)	<b>416</b> (202)	<b>301</b> (614)	<b>481</b> (232)	<b>373</b> (242)
<b>LTM</b>	88	160	206	49	207	154

\* figures in brackets are % of LTM

[Source : raw provisional data from Meteorological Services]

**Figure 1 Monthly rainfall (mm) for the period Oct to Nov 2013 for the 2014 crop compared to the corresponding period of the 2013 crop and to the long term mean (LTM).**



## 2. CROP PRODUCTIVITY 2013

As at 30 November 2013, about 92% (31 622 ha) of miller-planters' land had been harvested, an acreage slightly higher than the 31 290 ha harvested at the same period last year. Sector-wise and again for miller-planters only, harvest has been completed in the East and Centre whereas it reached 89% in the North, 85% in the South and 88% in the West.

An analysis of cane productivity based on the harvest statistics for miller-planters in all sectors follows. Owing to the centralization of milling activities and as all the canes from the Centre are crushed at FUEL, harvest statistics relative to extraction rate and sugar productivity have been combined for these two sectors.

### 2.1 Cane productivity (Table 2a)

Cane productivity for the island as at 30 November 2013 was 76.0 TCH compared to 78.1 TCH recorded in 2012, representing a shortfall of about 3% when compared to last year's performance. Sector-wise, the West recorded the best cane productivity to-date with 85.6 TCH, followed by the South (79.8 TCH), the East (75.7 TCH), the North (69.5 TCH) and the Centre (67.0 TCH). These figures compared to the same period in 2012 were lower in the North, East and Centre by 4.2 TCH, 3.0 TCH and 11.1 TCH respectively. But in the South and West, cane productivity at end November 2013 was higher than the corresponding period last year by 1.3 TCH and 2.0 TCH.

**Table 2a Cane productivity (TCH) as at end October and November for the 2012 and 2013 crops**

Sectors	End October		End November	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
North	75.2	70.7	73.7	69.5
East	78.4	75.6	78.7	75.7
South	77.6	78.8	78.5	79.8
West	82.4	84.7	83.6	85.6
Centre	77.3	67.4	78.1	67.0
<b>Island</b>	<b>77.9</b>	<b>75.9</b>	<b>78.1</b>	<b>76.0</b>

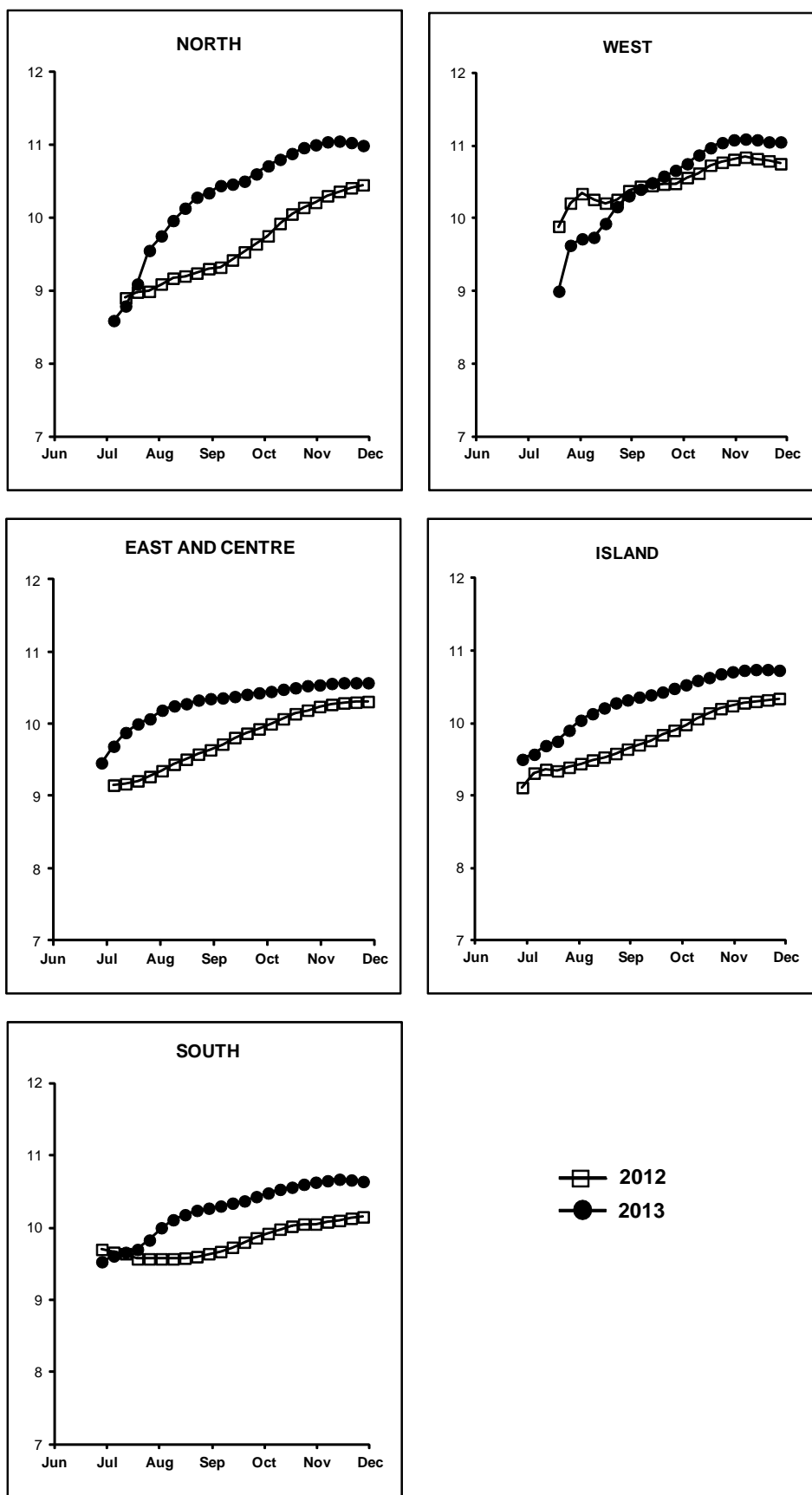
### 2.2 Extraction (Table 2b, figure 1)

The recorded cumulative island extraction rate of 10.73% exceeded that of the corresponding period in 2012 (10.34%) by 0.39%.

**Table 2b Cumulative extraction rate (%) as at end October and November for the 2012 and 2013 crops**

Sectors	End October		End November	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
North	10.14	10.96	10.45	10.99
East /Centre	10.19	10.53	10.31	10.57
South	10.05	10.60	10.15	10.64
West	10.77	11.04	10.75	11.05
<b>Island</b>	<b>10.20</b>	<b>10.68</b>	<b>10.34</b>	<b>10.73</b>

Figure 1 Evolution of extraction rate (%) for the 2012 and 2013 crops.



Sector-wise, extraction rates recorded to-date were 10.99% in the North, 10.57% in the East-Centre, 10.64% in the South and 11.05% in the West. Compared to the corresponding period last year, cumulative extraction rate was higher in all the sectors, the advantage being 0.54° in the North, 0.26° in the East-Centre, 0.49° in the South and 0.30° in the West.

From end October 2013 to end November 2013, extraction has increased marginally by 0.03° in the North, 0.01° in the West and 0.04° in both the East-Centre and South sectors. The average island increase for the same period for the present crop reached only 0.05° compared to 0.14° for 2012.

### 2.3 Sugar productivity (Table 2c)

Island-wise, the recorded sugar productivity of 8.15 TSH was higher than that at the corresponding period in 2012 (8.08 TSH) by 0.07 tonne (0.9%). Sector-wise sugar productivity was 7.64 TSH in the North, 7.84 TSH in the East-Centre, 8.49 TSH in the South and 9.46 TSH in the West. Compared to the corresponding period in 2012, sugar productivity to-date was lower in the North by 0.06 TSH and the East-Centre by 0.26 TSH, but higher in the other sectors by 0.52 TSH in the South and 0.47 TSH in the West.

**Table 2c Sugar productivity (TSH) as at end October and November for the 2012 and 2013 crops**

Sectors	End October		End November	
	2012	2013	2012	2013
North	7.63	7.75	7.70	7.64
East / Centre	7.97	7.80	8.10	7.84
South	7.80	8.35	7.97	8.49
West	8.87	9.35	8.99	9.46
<b>Island</b>	<b>7.95</b>	<b>8.11</b>	<b>8.08</b>	<b>8.15</b>

## 3. CROP PRODUCTIVITY 2013

Weather during the month of November did not further favour ripening. Thus, extraction started to regress after a marginal increase in the first week of November. Cane yield is maintaining itself as there has been no further cane desiccation as was the case during the dry weather experienced. Thus, sugar yield stayed more or less constant. With 8% of miller planters land remaining to harvest, no major changes in productivity are expected by the end of the season.

## 4. CROP 2014

Taking into consideration that the rainfall regime during the dry months of October and November are crucial for a good start of the annual cane cycle and that cumulative rainfall recorded to-date is well above the long-term mean, the initial conditions for the 2014 crop are considered very satisfactory.