

MAURITIUS SUGAR INDUSTRY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

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SUGAR CANE CROP 2010

Status: End November 2010

1. CLIMATE

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

Rainfall recorded over the sugar cane areas of the island in November 2010 was 104 mm and represented 125% of the long-term mean. November rainfall exceeded the long-term mean by 25 mm (53%) in the North and by 74 mm (86%) in the East. In the other three sectors, rainfall for the month was inferior to the long-term mean, by 5 mm (4%) in the South, 20 mm (63%) in the West and 10 mm (9%) in the Centre.

Cumulative rainfall for the months of October and November 2010 amounted to 153 mm for the island, i.e. 99% of the long-term mean of 155 mm. During that two-month period, 92 mm were recorded in the North, 205 mm in the East, 185 mm in the South, 12 mm in the West and 165 mm in the Centre. These cumulated rainfall represented 105%, 128%, 90%, 25% and 80% of their respective long-term means.

Table 1a Rainfall (mm) of November for crops 2010, 2011 and the long term means (LTM)

	North	East	South	West	Centre	Island
2010	133 (283)	234 (272)	182 (166)	177 (577)	201 (192)	186 (224)
2011	72 (153)	160 (186)	105 (96)	11 (37)	95 (91)	104 (125)
LTM	47	86	110	31	105	83

* figures in brackets are % of LTM

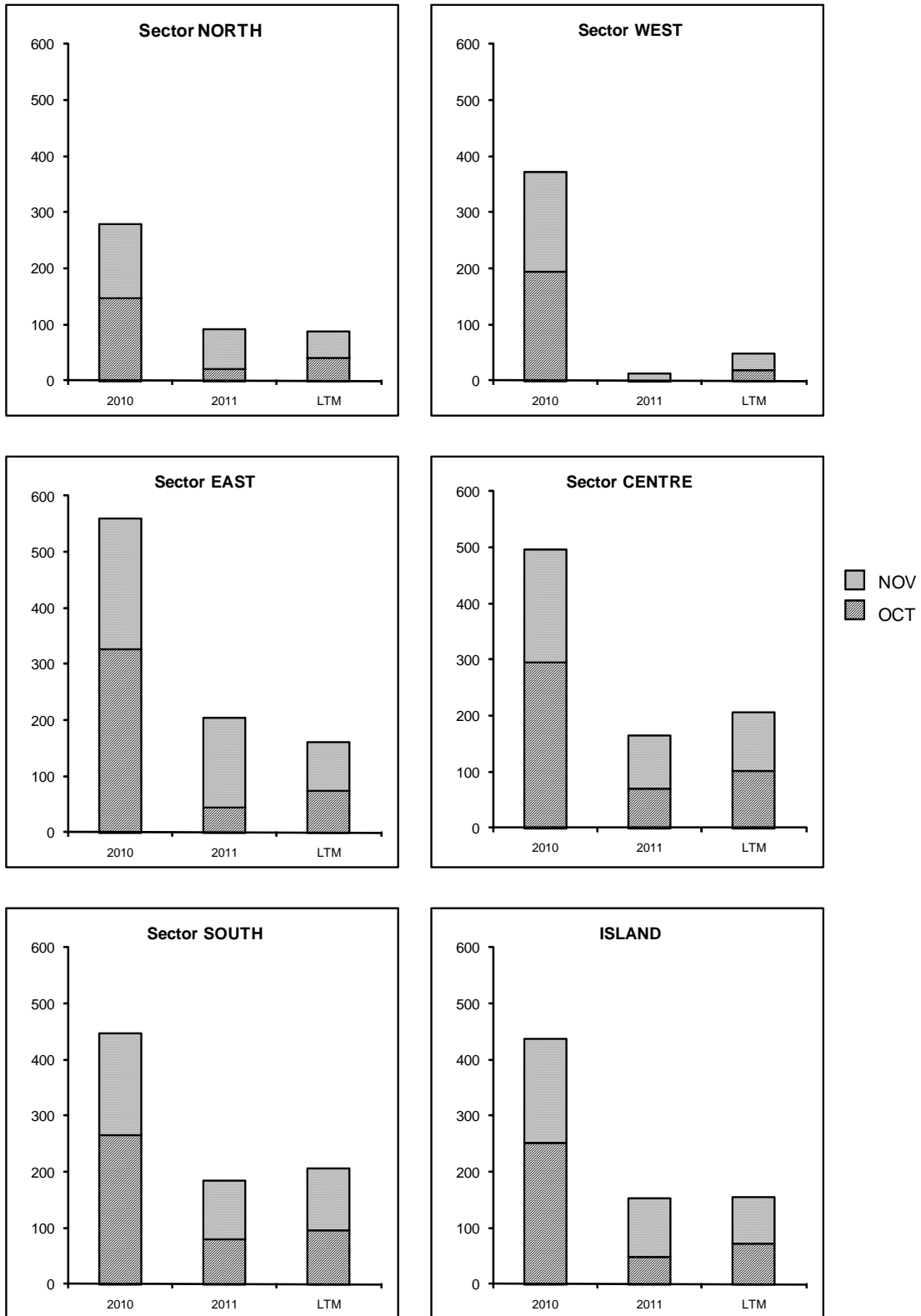
Table 1b Cumulative rainfall (mm) from October to November 2010 for crop 2011 compared to that of crop 2010 and the long term mean (LTM)

	North	East	South	West	Centre	Island
2010	280 (318)	560 (350)	448 (218)	372 (764)	497 (241)	438 (283)
2011	92 (105)	205 (128)	185 (90)	12 (25)	165 (80)	153 (99)
LTM	88	160	206	49	207	155

* figures in brackets are % of LTM

[Source : raw provisional data from Meteorological Services]

Figure 1 Monthly rainfall (mm) for the period Oct to Nov 2010 for the 2011 crop compared to the corresponding period of the 2010 crop and to the long term mean (LTM).



2. CROP 2010

As at 27 November 2010, 33 062 ha representing about 93% of miller-planters' land had been harvested compared to 30 786 ha (89%) at the same period last year. Sector-wise and for miller-planters only, harvested area reached 83% in the North, 95% in the Centre, and 96% in the East and South sectors while harvest has been completed in the West. An analysis of cane and sugar productivity based on the harvest statistics for miller-planters follows. Because of the centralization of milling activities and since 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 27 November 2010 was 81.4 TCH compared to 83.1 TCH recorded in 2009. It represented a shortfall of about 2% when compared to last year's performance. Sector-wise, the best cane productivity to-date has been recorded in the West with 95.5 TCH, followed by the North (82.3 TCH), the South (82.0 TCH), the East (78.6 TCH) and the Centre (69.7 TCH). Compared to the corresponding period in 2009, cane productivity to-date was higher in the North by 0.6 TCH and in the West by 3.1 TCH. In the other three sectors, cane productivity at the end of November 2010 was below that of 2009, the difference being 3.9 TCH in the East, 2.6 TCH in the South and 2.0 TCH in the Centre.

Table 2a Cane productivity (TCH) at end October and November for the 2009 and 2010 crops

Sectors	End October		End November	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
North	81.2	84.7	81.7	82.3
East	82.8	79.8	82.5	78.6
South	84.1	82.8	84.6	82.0
West	92.6	95.9	92.4	95.5
Centre	74.1	73.2	71.7	69.7
Island	83.3	82.8	83.1	81.4

2.2 Extraction (Table 2b and Figure 2)

The recorded cumulative island extraction rate of 10.37% at end-November 2010 was higher than that at the corresponding period in 2009 (10.14%) by 0.23°. Sector-wise, the cumulative extraction rates recorded at end-November 2010 were 10.08% in the North, 10.51% in the East-Centre, 10.11% in the South and 11.28% in the West. Compared to the corresponding period last year, cumulative extraction rate was higher in all the sectors, the advantage being 0.47° in the North, 0.16° East-Centre, 0.04° in the South and 0.56° in the West.

Figure 2. Evolution of extraction rate (%) for the 2009 and 2010 crops.

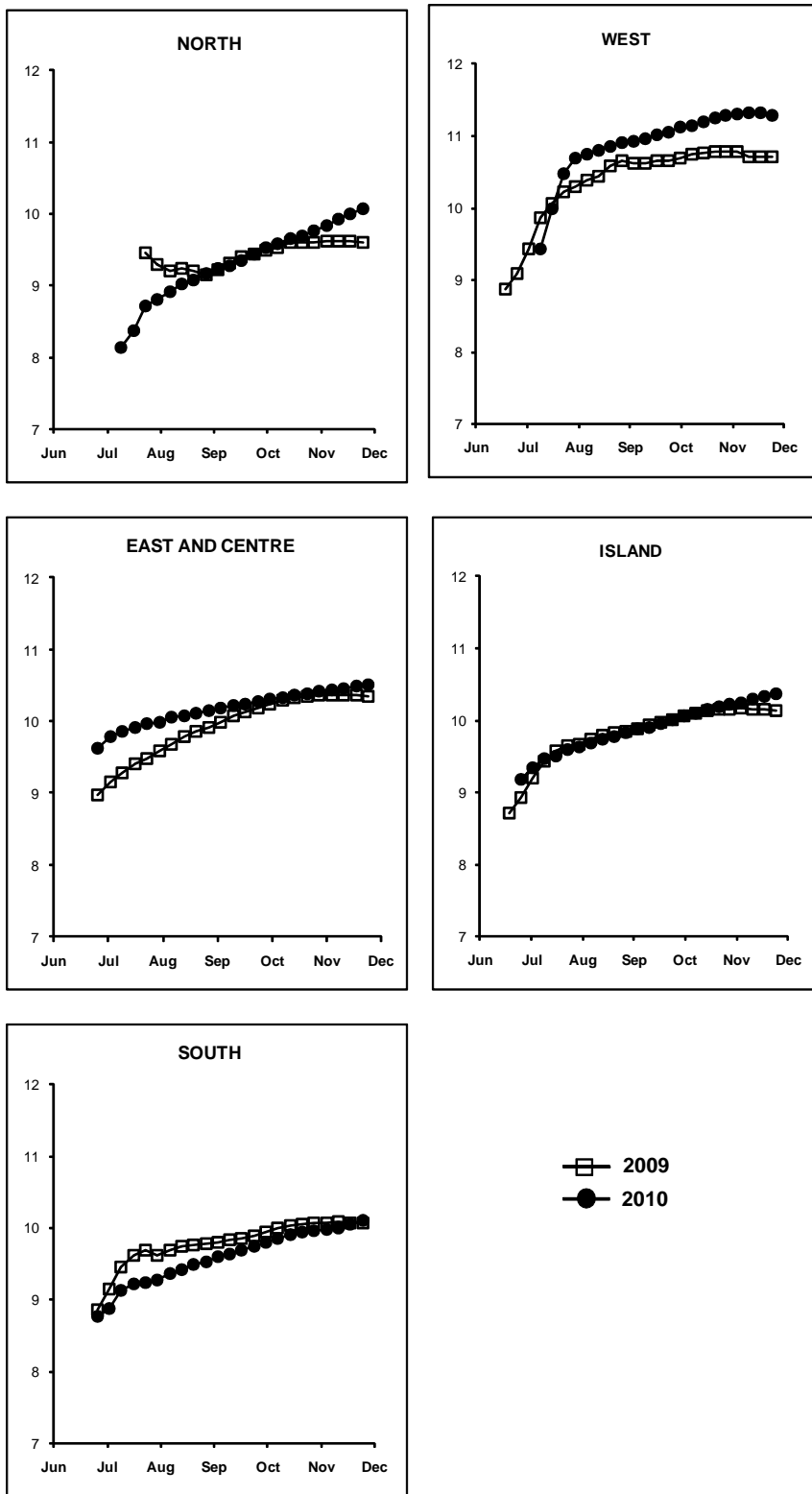


Table 2b Cumulative Extraction rates (%) at end October and end November for the 2009 and 2010 crops

Sectors	End October		End November	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
North	9.61	9.77	9.61	10.08
East /Centre	10.36	10.42	10.35	10.51
South	10.07	9.97	10.07	10.11
West	10.79	11.28	10.72	11.28
Island	10.16	10.22	10.14	10.37

2.3 Sugar productivity (Table 2c)

Island-wise, the recorded sugar productivity of 8.44 TSH at end-November 2010 was similar to that at the corresponding period in 2009 (8.43 TSH). Sector-wise, sugar productivity was 8.30 TSH in the North, 8.08 TSH in the East-Centre, 8.29 TSH in the South and 10.77 TSH in the West. Compared to the corresponding period in 2009, sugar productivity at end-November 2010 was higher by 0.45 TSH in North and by 0.86 TSH in the West whereas in the East-Centre and South it lagged behind by 0.16 TSH and 0.23 TSH, respectively.

Table 2c Sugar productivities (TSH) as at end October and end November for the 2009 and 2010 crops

Sectors	End October		End November	
	2009	2010	2009	2010
North	7.80	8.28	7.85	8.30
East / Centre	8.34	8.18	8.24	8.08
South	8.47	8.26	8.52	8.29
West	9.99	10.82	9.91	10.77
Island	8.46	8.46	8.43	8.44

3 CROP 2010 PRODUCTIVITY

Weather during November 2010 has been generally dry causing on the one hand some cane desiccation to result in lower cane yields when compared to those of end-October while on the other hand, extraction rate increased in all sectors apart from the West. This combination prevented a major decrease in sugar productivity that remained at 8.44 TSH compared to 8.46 TSH at the end of October 2010. No major changes in productivity are expected until the end of the season.

4 CROP 2011

Weather has been generally favourable for regrowth of crops harvested during the first half of the season with well distributed ample rainfall, above normal temperatures and a good sunshine regime over most of the sugar cane areas. The dry weather experienced during October and November will however delay germination and tillering of crops harvested during these two months. Nevertheless, these crops can still recover in the event of conducive weather in the next few months.