



WELCOME TO SEPTEMBER 2024 ISSUE # 7 OF 'CANE NEWS'



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Be sure to 'like' our page to keep up to date with Proserpine cane industry news, events & information



CANEGROWERS
MARKETING INFORMATION SERVICE

Info, new video & new PDFs to download & read

Members can access current and previous updates by logging onto the NEW member services portal at www.canegrowers.com.au.

If you are unable to access the portal, please contact the CANEGROWERS Proserpine office on 4945 1844.



CANEGROWERS Podcast

CANEGROWERS advocates on behalf of sugarcane growers in Australia. This podcast series examines some key issues and challenges and celebrates the successes.

Are you looking for something interesting to listen to while you're in the tractor or car?

New CANEGROWERS podcasts are now available.

Podcasts can be heard by clicking the link below, or on any of these platforms:

Listen to this podcast on



Apple Podcasts



Spotify



Google Podcasts



Overcast



Castro



Castbox



Goodpods



Podfriend



RSS Feed

INSURANCE

Important Update: Changes to Your CANEGROWERS Insurance Service Team

At CANEGROWERS Insurance we recognise it is the service and efforts by our people that make us successful through the building of relationships with our clients.

To ensure you continue to receive the highest level of service we have made some changes to our CANEGROWERS Insurance Service Team.

Brad Hancock will be transitioning out of the Insurance Manager - Proserpine role, and we are pleased to introduce **Racheal de Koning** as your new point of contact. Racheal de Koning brings 30 years of Insurance Broking experience and is well-equipped to assist you with all your insurance needs.

Our Team is comprised of highly passionate industry professionals, who are committed to delivering our services professionally and consistently.

Our team are available to assist you Monday to Friday 8.30am – 5.00pm.



Name	Role	Email	Phone Number
Racheal de Koning AR 1242975	Insurance Manager	Racheal_dekoning@canegrowers.com.au	0408 638 518
Jess Harrison	Insurance Assistant	Jess_harrison@canegrowers.com.au	(07) 4945 1844

STL PRIVATE SHARE SALE & PURCHASE FACILITATION

With the recent correspondence received from Sugar Terminals Limited regarding the requirement of updating the STL G Class Members Register it has become evident that we still have some retired growers wanting to sell their shares.

We currently have STL shares listed available for purchase.

If you are interested in purchasing a portion of these shares, please contact the office on (07) 4945 1844.

CANEGROWERS Proserpine can help with the transfer paperwork.

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A MESSAGE FROM QUEENSLAND CANEGROWERS (QCGO) CHAIRMAN



Owen Menkens
Chairman, QCGO

It has been a frustrating period for the industry with the strike action continuing for a period.

Thankfully the workers agreed to a new agreement and the action has finally ceased. Hopefully we can get on with the crushing and get all the cane off.

The jump in the sugar prices was very welcome news with it looking likely there will be a shortage of sugar in the early part of next year.

There is strong talk of a world production deficit as well in the 2025 year which is also good news for prices.

LAST CHANCE TO NOMINATE

Choose Wilmar Grower Marketing for:



Better results

Our pools outperform QSL's on higher physical premiums



Lower costs

Our finance costs and marketing charges are lower than QSL's



More money sooner

Our Pre-season Payment puts more money in your pocket months before the crush



Personalised service

Our consultants provide personalised support, when and where you need it



Market insights

Our market insights help you make the best pricing decisions for your business



Global reach

Our local consultants connect you with Wilmar's global networks and expertise

2025 nominations can be made or changed until 31 October 2024.

If you aren't priced, you aren't locked in.



SHIRLEY NORRIS
0437 803 019

wilmar

Sugar and Renewables

SSP - SEEDLING ORDERS FOR 2025



Sugar Services Proserpine (SSP) has finished planting both OES and Tissue Culture seedlings for 2024, this year was very positive with over 60,000 seedlings planted.



Now is the time to start thinking about your clean seed orders for next year.

The following varieties are available for Tissue Culture seedlings, which will be available in August 2025.

Variety			
SRA32^A	Q253 ^A	Q247 ^A	Q226 ^A
SRA40 ^A	Q250 ^A	Q242 ^A	Q183
SRA26 ^A	SRA9 ^A	Q240 ^A	Q208 ^A
SRA22 ^A	SP80-1816	Q238 ^A	Q190
SRA21 ^A	Q252 ^A	Q232 ^A	
SRA13 ^A	Q138	Q200	
SRA12 ^A	Q249 ^A	KQ228 ^A	

If you have any queries or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact Stacey or Frank.

A reminder that as a service to members, Sugar Services Proserpine (SSP) offer soil, plant tissue and water testing, as well as CCS, RSD and pachymetra testing. Detailed recommendations are provided, and nutrient management plans (NMP) are also available upon request.

The service offered is basic sugarcane soil testing, at a cost to the grower of \$125.00 per test including GST and postage.

Please contact Stacey or Frank if you would like any samples collected.

Rural plant Code of Practice 2024



As per previous email (dated 22 August 2024), members are reminded of the recently released new **Rural Plant Code of Practice 2024** which commenced on the 23rd of September.

This new Code replaces the 'Rural Plant Code of Practice 2004' and 'Safe Design and Operation of Tractors Code of Practice from 2005'.

NOTE: It is the minimum work health & safety (WHS) standards that every grower needs to know and adopt when it comes to on-farm safety issues.

The purpose of the Code is to help reduce the risk of injuries and fatalities by providing guidance on working safely with rural plant. Updates to the Code are expected to have significant positive impacts on work health and safety outcomes on Queensland farms.

Excerpts from the Code:

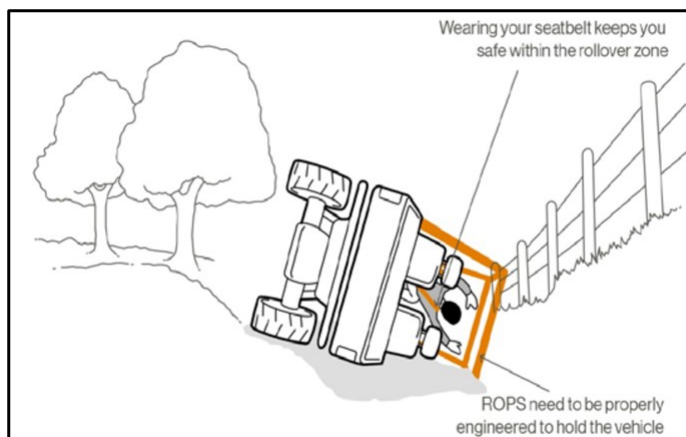


Fig 1. SSV seatbelts and ROPS

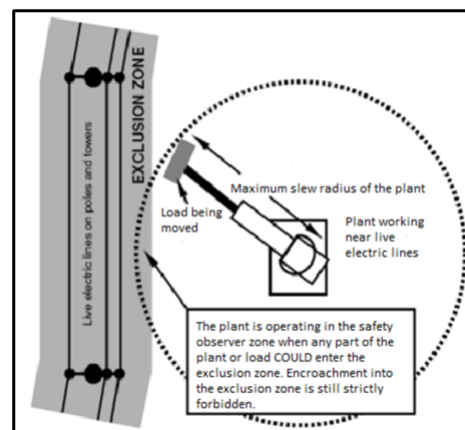


Fig 2. Overhead electric lines and safety observer zones

As tractors are rural plant and a common source of fatalities and serious injuries on farms, they are now comprehensively covered under the new Code.

Other key updates to the Code include:

- guidance on technology including the use of drones, quad bikes and side by side vehicles
- modernised content to remove outdated information (such as references to discontinued Australian Standards) and to include new diagrams and pictures
- guidance on how to consult, cooperate and coordinate activities with other duty holders and requirements for high-risk work licenses for certain plant.

Read more at: www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice/rural-plant-of-practice-review

QSL Proserpine Update

23 September 2024



Advance Rate Default Payment increase

QSL's Standard Advance Rate Default Payment increased by \$17 to \$416 per tonne IPS Net this month, based on increased pool values as of 30 August 2024. The QSL Standard Advance Rate remains at 65% and will be reviewed ahead of the scheduled October increase.

The full 2024-Season Indicative Advances Program can be found at www.qsl.com.au.

2024-Season pricing commitments

Concerned about meeting your pricing commitments? QSL has a range of mechanisms available to help address overcommitment, including washing out positions or rolling pricing forward into the next season.

Growers who are worried about delivering enough sugar to satisfy their 2024-Season orders can contact their local QSL Proserpine team to discuss their options.

Harvest Pool Opt Out now available

Growers in the Proserpine region can now leave the 2024-Season Harvest Pool at any time and price more themselves via QSL's Harvest Pool Opt Out.

Just choose to Opt Out and any of your 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.



Pictured | QSL Grower Relationship Officer Karen Vloedmans with Proserpine grower Russell Biggs

Key Dates

31 October | Last day to nominate QSL as your GEI Sugar Marketer for the 2025 Season

30 November | Last day to nominate to QSL's 2024-Season Accelerated Advances Program.

Central Region



Grower Relationship Manager
James Formosa
0437 645 342
james.formosa@qsl.com.au



Grower Relationship Officer
Karen Vloedmans
0429 804 876
karen.vloedmans@qsl.com.au



Grower Relationship Officer
Brad Dunn
0418 978 120
brad.dunn@qsl.com.au

Disclaimer: The information in this document does not constitute financial advice. Growers should seek their own financial advice and read the QSL Pricing Pool Terms in full (available at www.qsl.com.au) before making any pricing and pool selection decisions. QSL does not accept any responsibility to any person for the decisions and actions taken by that person with respect to any of the information contained in this document.

GETTING THE MOST FROM CANEGROWERS MEMBERS PORTAL



Matt Kealley
Senior Manager Membership Engagement & Innovation

CANEGROWERS has launched a new member portal that is exclusive to members. Once inside you will have access to specifically designed tools, member specific material including legal advice articles, marketing information updates, transport guides as well as exclusive membership offers.

The member portal will make it easier for members to set up your own easy-to-remember login details. Invites to set up a login have been sent out by email, but in case you missed it, you can log in at the CANEGROWERS website www.canegrowers.com.au and click on the Member Login tab on the top right-hand corner.

Once logged in, you can get access to all sorts of useful information for your business, the industry and CANEGROWERS.

Cost of Production Tool - CANEGROWERS has developed an easy-to-use tool to help you calculate your own cost of production. Knowing your cost of production and potential revenue will help you make informed business decisions, set production and business goals to increase farm profitability and it can assist with marketing and forward pricing decisions.

Sugar Price Ready Reckoners - Three ready reckoners to help with pricing including:

- Sugar price ready reckoner with different US c/lb and exchange rates,
- Sugar price ready reckoner with different \$/t cane and CCS and
- Cane price ready reckoner with different \$/t sugar price and CCS

Member Resources – There is plenty of useful information and member benefits

- **Marketing Information Services** – this provides education and information to members and doesn't favour one marketer over another. There are Weekly Notes on market movements, a monthly video update and downloadable documents and reports.
- **Transport** – Includes the recent webinar on load restraint with NHVR, and guides from moving agricultural equipment on public roads
- **Legal** – information and articles from CJ Cooper and Associates
- **Membership** – Access to the latest edition of the *Australian Canegrower magazine*, corporate rates for Qantas Club membership, BOC and health insurance through Queensland Country Health Fund as well as QFF member deals with Mitsubishi motors, Mobil and Telstra.
- **Guides and Publications** – Tailor-made guide to Workplace Health & Safety for sugarcane farms and exclusive access to the Electricity tariff selection tool

Your CANEGROWERS website and member portal is a great resource for your business.

Check it out and feel free to let me know if you have ideas for new benefits.

PARAQUAT USE UNDER FIRE: APVMA'S NEW RECOMMENDATIONS SPARK INDUSTRY CONCERN

The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) has released its much-anticipated recommendations following a 30-year review into the use of paraquat. In a decision that has raised eyebrows, the APVMA now restricts paraquat application in cane fields to a maximum rate of 231g/ha, and only once per season. Effectively, this move bans rates that growers have relied on for decades to be effective.

The decision was based on a European model, which was populated with European data – a choice CANEGROWERS will argue does not reflect the environmental conditions of Australia. According to this model, higher application rates are deemed a threat to local birds and wildlife as there is a chance they may ingest seeds treated with paraquat.



However, not everyone agrees with these findings. CANEGROWERS, is collaborating with Sugar Research Australia (SRA) to challenge the recommendation. Together with the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC), the Cotton Research and Development Corporation (CRDC), and Hort Innovation, we have enlisted a specialised environmental consultant to analyze the APVMA's conclusions, and early findings suggest the ecotoxicity threshold used in the review may be inaccurate. The consultant believes that a higher paraquat application rate could be permissible without posing a significant environmental risk.

In response, CANEGROWERS, along with the Research and Development Corporations (RDCs), is preparing a formal submission based on the consultant's report. The submission will highlight: the inappropriateness of European model for Australian contexts, the economic fallout from the paraquat restrictions, and the environmental consequences of alternative weed control methods. These alternatives, such as increased tillage and the use of pre-emergent herbicides, will have their own detrimental impacts.

CANEGROWERS and SRA are actively seeking data on bird and wildlife populations in cane-growing areas, aiming to demonstrate that paraquat use has minimal impact on local fauna. Please contact Jess Harrison on (07) 4945 1844 or jess_harrison@canegrowers.com.au if you have data on bird or wildlife assemblages in your local area or on your farm.

The battle over paraquat is far from over, as industry groups rally to ensure that Australia's farming practices remain both sustainable and economically viable.

Elisa Westmore
QCGO, Policy Officer - Environment & Sustainability



Marketing Nomination Date approaching

Simon Hood

Wilmar Manager Grower Marketing

By nominating Wilmar as your GEI marketer for the 2025 season, you are choosing to work with a leading global sugar trader. This gives you direct exposure to insights to the world sugar trade backed by in-depth analysis of international supply and demand fundamentals that ultimately determine price outcomes.

For growers who use Call and Target pricing, access to this research and analysis is a comparative advantage when making pricing decisions for forward crops.

This is backed up by an experienced and educated Grower Marketing team who can assist you with understanding the nuances of price determinants. A highlight of the marketing year is the presentation from our global sugar traders, Peter Bingham and Neil Foo, who always draw a large crowd to their events.

For growers who prefer to price their GEI exposure through the pooling mechanisms, Wilmar provides a couple of options. The most popular is the Production Risk Pool which allows growers to commit some, or all, of their GEI tonnes without the concern of washouts if they can't deliver due to unforeseen circumstances.

For the past three years, our Production Risk Pool has returned excellent results, outperforming the QSL Harvest Pool by an average of \$38.74/t IPS. The 2024 season is shaping up the same way with the current forecasted price approximately \$30/t IPS ahead of QSL's Harvest Pool.

We also offer a Managed Pool, enabling growers to participate in the same pool Wilmar uses to market the GEI exposure from its own farms' production.

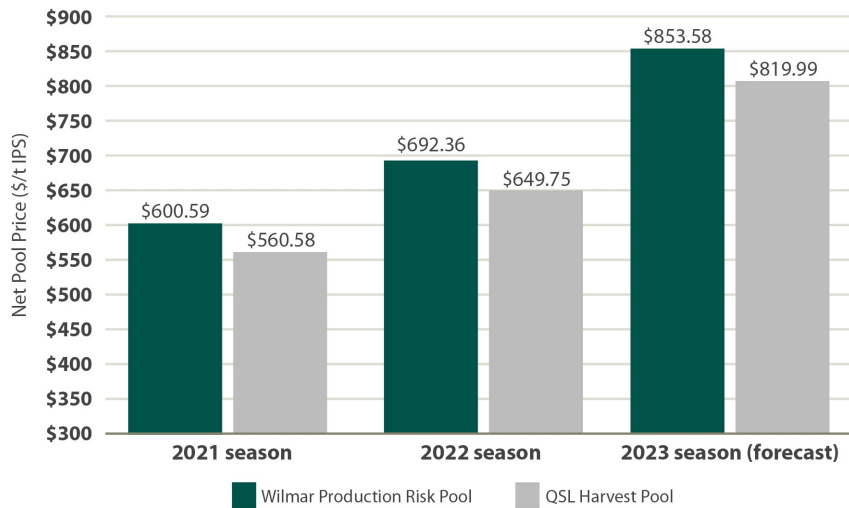
Another popular tool used by growers who market with us is the Pre-Season Payment. This facility allows growers to receive a pre-payment of the 2025 crush proceeds from mid-January 2025. The standard advance is \$5/t of nominated cane tonnes. So, from 10 January 2025, a 20,000 tonne grower can nominate to receive the payment by checking a box on GrowerWeb and, 10 days later, \$100,000 is deposited in their bank account. Interest is currently advised at 6.00% but will be reviewed on December 1, 2024. The facility is repaid as your 2025 season crush income is generated.

Remember you have a choice of marketers, or you can split your nomination. You are not locked into your current marketer until after 31 October each year.

To find out more, please contact a member of our Grower Marketing team.

Wilmar Production Risk Pool and QSL Harvest Pool

30 June 2024



Wilmar's Production Risk Pool has outperformed QSL's Harvest Pool for three consecutive seasons.



Wilmar's Grower Marketing team, from left, Owen Richards, Shirley Norris, Angus McKerrow, Franco Zaini, Megan Hawke, Fiona Villis, Meghan Wilson and Simon Hood.

SRA - 2024/2025 VARIETY GUIDES

Have you received your SRA Central Variety Guide this year?



**Sugar Research
Australia**

The latest SRA Central Variety guides were delivered to mailboxes during July.

If you didn't receive a copy, please contact Dylan Wedel at SRA to ensure your contact details are correct.

Mob: 0490 029 387 Email: DWedel@sugarresearch.com.au

DAF UPDATE - NO-SPRAY WINDOWS



REMINDER: No-spray windows are in place now!

Usage restrictions, commonly referred to as ‘no-spray’ windows, affect the use of several agricultural chemical products used in sugarcane production.

No-spray windows are often in place to prevent certain agricultural chemicals being applied during times of greater risk, such as adverse weather conditions or when waterways have low dilution capacity.

Details of no-spray windows can be found on product labels, usually under ‘directions for use’.

Some of the agricultural products commonly used in sugarcane production that have no-spray windows include those containing:

- **Diuron (e.g. Diurex 900)**
- **2,4-D (e.g. amine 625, or 75D)**
- **Amicarbazone (e.g. Amitron)**
- **Imidacloprid (e.g. Confidor).**

Always check your product label—the timing of the no-spray window may change with application rates, application method, location, or product type.

What to look for (example of product label)

Appendix 3: Timing Restrictions for spraying SUGARCANE		
Rate (L/ha)	Region	Timing Restriction
		DO NOT APPLY DURING THE MONTHS
Up to 2.2L/ha	Wet Tropics	No timing restriction
	Burdekin	No timing restriction
	Mackay/Whitsunday	October to November
	Mary/Burnett	October to November
	Northern NSW	No timing restriction
Up to 4.4 L/ha	Wet Tropics	October to December
	Burdekin	September to October
	Mackay/Whitsunday	August to December
	Mary/Burnett	April to January
	Northern NSW	October to November



Scan here to find out more!

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PROPERTY OWNER INSURANCE | EARTH MOVING EQUIPMENT | MANAGEMENT LIABILITY
MOBILE PLANT & EQUIPMENT | PROFESSIONAL INDEMNITY | TRADIES PUBLIC LIABILITY
TOOLS | HOME & CONTENTS | BOAT | PRIVATE MOTOR | COMMERCIAL MOTOR**

↘ FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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E: racheal_dekoning@canegrowers.com.au



www.canegrowers.com.au/page/insurance



CANEGROWERS
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We'd love to share how our members are filling their days, new technologies or methods being used, photos of our beautiful area and any feel good or funny situations that you find yourselves in, but we need your help!



If you have something to share on the CANEGROWERS Proserpine facebook page – Proserpine Director, Bessie Orr, wants to hear from you!

Need a little help taking some photos to share or putting together your story – no trouble – we'd love to help.

Email your stories, photos etc to Bessie at: proscgmedia@gmail.com or phone Bessie: 0437 538 044.

CLASSIFIEDS & NOTICES

Closing date for classified advertisements is the close of business of the second 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 .