

CROP 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

1. Registration of Factories and Plantations

- 1.1** As provided for under section 40 of the SIF Act, all sugar cane planters who intend to harvest their canes for Crop 2024 have had to register their cane plantations with the SIFB at latest by 31st May 2024.
- 1.2** The SIFB in collaboration with all Millers and MCIA-CAD decided to offer a full-fledged one-stop shop service to all sugar cane planters and métayers for Crop 2024:
- (i) Registration of cane plantations with the SIFB;
 - (ii) Signing of cane contracts with the Millers; and
 - (iii) Registration of cane contracts with MCIA-CAD.
- 1.3** Small planters and métayers were invited to register their respective cane plantations for crop 2024 by way of an individual letter of invitation. A press communiqué was also published throughout the registration period from end April to end May 2024 in daily and weekly newspapers. A3 sized posters were also distributed to all stakeholders (CCS, MCAF, SFWF) to be affixed at their respective regional offices and public places.
- 1.4** Crop 2024 registration started on 2nd May 2024. The Board approved to extend the delay for registration from 31st May 2024 until the 7th of June 2024 without any late registration fee being applicable. The extension of registration period was also published in the daily newspapers.
- 1.5** For Crop 2024, a total of 8,140 accounts of planters/métayers and millers were registered for harvest, inclusive of late registrations.

2. Crop Harvest & Milling Operations

- 2.1** The total area under cane plantation (plant, virgin and ratoon canes) stood at **39,282** hectares for Crop 2024. Crop 2024 witnessed an effective drop in extent under cane of **1,178** hectares of cane land from that of the previous crop year. **Figure 1** below depicts the trend in extent under cane and harvest extent since Crop 2010.

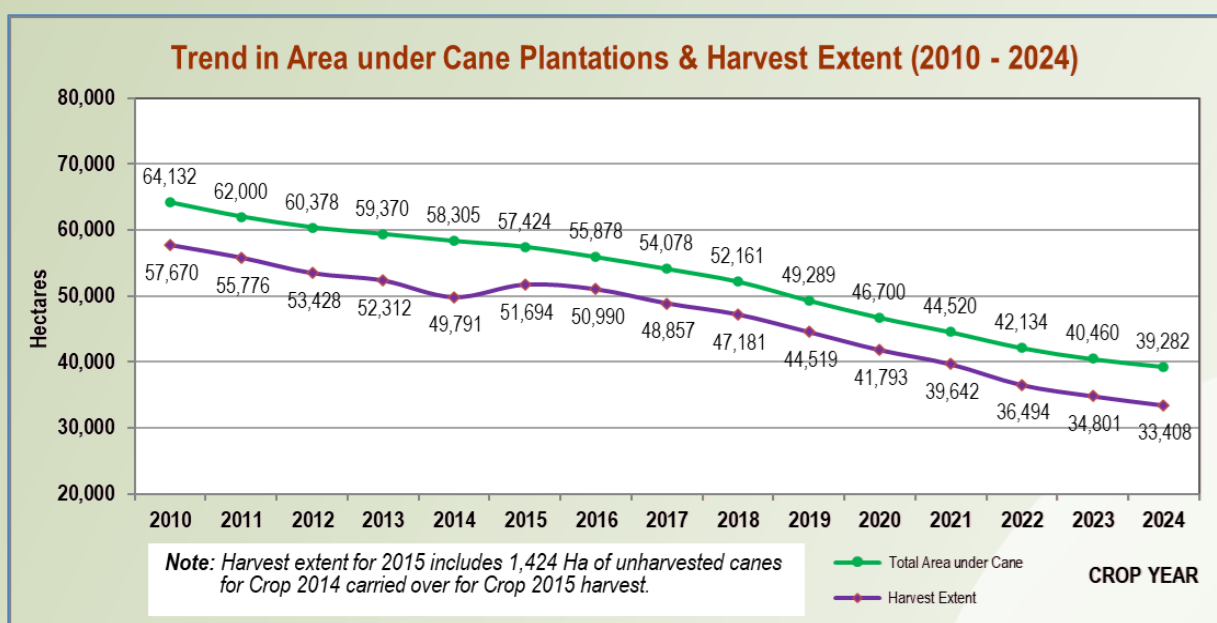


Figure 1

- 2.2 Milling operations for Crop 2024 first started at ALTEO factory on the 1st July 2024 to end with TERRA sugar factory on 20th December 2024.
- 2.3 The total area harvested for Crop 2024 for milling purposes stood at **33,408** hectares as compared to 34,801 hectares for Crop 2023. The highest harvest extent is seen in ALTEO enlarged factory area with 13,175 hectares under cane harvested for milling whilst TERRA enlarged factory area had the lowest (9,624 Ha).
- 2.4 The highest cane yield per hectare recorded at enlarged factory level is 70.6 T/Ha for TERRA, whilst ALTEO had the lowest cane yield (60.0 T/Ha). **Table 1** shows the harvest extent, cane weight and cane yield for each enlarged factory area.

Table 1 – Harvest Extent and Cane Yield

Enlarged Factory Area	Harvest Extent (Ha)	Cane Weight (T)	Cane Yield [T/Ha]
TERRA	9,624	678,996	70.6
OMNICANE	10,609	726,073	68.4
ALTEO	13,175	790,732	60.0
TOTAL	33,408	2,195,802	65.7

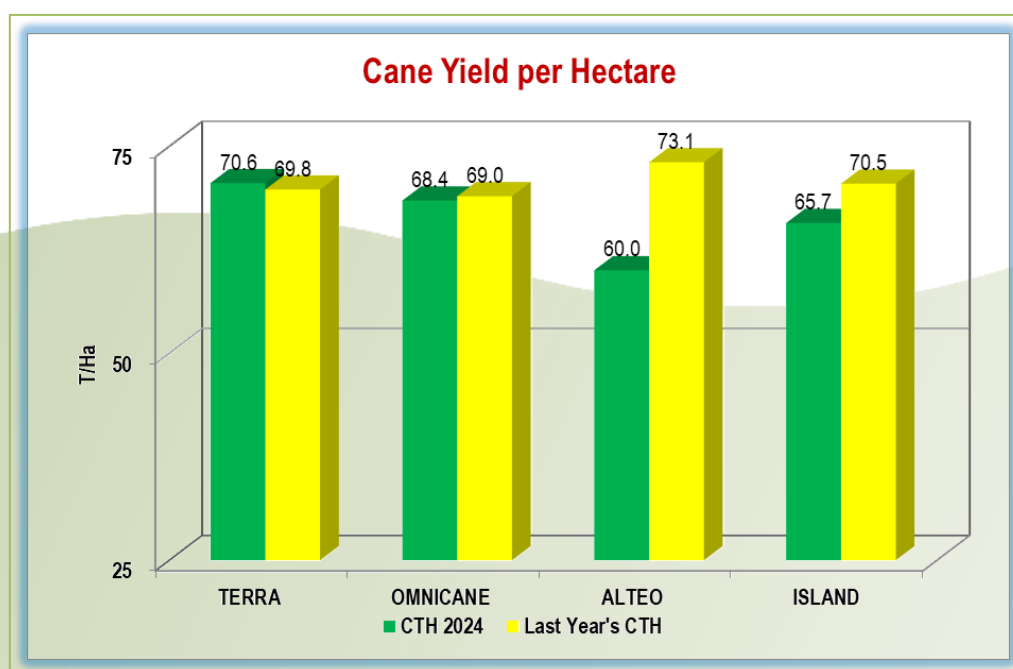


Figure 2

3. Sugar Production

- 3.1 For Crop 2024, the total tonnage of canes harvested and sent to mills for sugar production island-wide by planters was **2,195,802** tonnes, as compared to 2,452,653 tonnes for the previous crop season.
- 3.2 For Crop 2024, the amount of sugar produced at 98.5° pol was **226,972** tonnes as compared to 240,011 tonnes manufactured in 2023.

- 3.3** Island average sugar extracted per tonne of cane for Crop 2024 was **10.34%** at 98.5° pol as compared to 9.79% in 2023, a decrease by 0.55 percent. The highest sugar extraction per tonne cane was recorded at TERRA (11.07%) and the lowest at ALTEO (9.79%).

Table 2 – Final Sugar Extraction

ENLARGED FACTORY	Crop 2024	Crop 2023
TERRA	11.07%	10.26%
OMNICANE	10.26%	9.67%
ALTEO	9.79%	9.54%
ISLAND AVERAGE	10.34%	9.79%

4. Number Of Sugar Producers

The total number of insured accounts for Crop 2024 stood at **8,143** compared to 8,725 for the previous year. However, the total number of accounts of sugar producers for Crop 2024 stood at **7,470** as compared to 8,022 for Crop 2023. The insured accounts consist of:

- (i) **8,140 planters/métayers** having harvested canes for milling (as compared to 8,019 for Crop 2023); and
- (ii) **3 millers** each having a sugar accruing corresponding to 22% of sugar share from all canes consigned to mill by cane growers.

5. General Insurance

5.1 Sugar Price for Insurance Purposes

- 5.1.1** In accordance with Section 47 of the Sugar Insurance Fund Act, the sugar price for insurance purposes in respect of Crop Year 2024 was determined at the rates of:

- (i) **Rs. 24,060** per metric ton of sugar for the growing side, inclusive of added value of molasses.
- (ii) **Rs. 23,000** per metric ton of sugar for milling side.

- 5.1.2** These rates were published under General Notice No. 1755 of 2024 in the Government Gazette.

5.2 Declaration of Event Year

- 5.2.1** Section 25 (1) of the Sugar Insurance Fund Act provides for the declaration of an Event Year by the Board on account of the occurrence of cyclone, drought or excessive rainfall where, in any crop year, the total sugar accrued is not more than the prescribed percentage of the total insurable sugar for any prescribed area.

- 5.2.2** Under the current insurance terms:

- (i) the prescribed area basis for the declaration of event year is the Island of Mauritius;
- (ii) the prescribed area is categorised in two groups of planters, namely (i) planters and métayers of all the Growing Units in the island of Mauritius, and (ii) all the large planters cultivating sugar cane on at least 300 Ha in the island of Mauritius; and
- (iii) the prescribed percentage of the total insurable sugar is 80 per cent.

- 5.2.3** Since none of the two groups of planters has its Total Sugar Accruing being 80% or less than the Total Insurable Sugar i.e. a crop loss percentage of at least 20%, no declaration of event year was warranted with respect to Crop 2024.

5.3 General Assessment

5.3.1 For Crop Year 2024, the total amount of sugar accruing was:-

- (i) 40,344 T against a Total Insurable Sugar of 42,620 T for Growing Unit planters island-wide representing a crop reduction of 5.3% only.
- (ii) 136,706T against a Total Insurable Sugar of 145,618 T for Large Planters island-wide representing a crop reduction of 6.1% only.

5.3.2 Since no Event Year has been declared in respect of any of the two groups of planters in the island, no general compensation was payable.

5.3.3 By virtue of Section 24 (4) of the Sugar Insurance Fund Act, the Board had until 30th April for claim of final general insurance premium from the MSS.

5.3.4 Premium Waiver

- (i) Paragraph 99(a) of the 2024-2025 Budget Speech reads as follows:

***“For planters producing up to 60 tons of sugar, Government will: -
(b) Continue to pay the premium to the Sugar Insurance Fund Board;”***

- (ii) On 28th March 2025, the Minister made regulations under section 51 of the SIF Act for the implementation of this Budget measure to cater for reduced general and fire premiums in favour of small planters/métayers having not more than 60 T of sugar accrued for Crop Year 2023 (GN 32 of 2025).
- (iii) In line with Paragraph 99(a) of the 2024-2025 Budget Speech and Section 51 of the Sugar Insurance Fund Act, the premiums for crop 2024 for small planters/métayers having not more than 60 T of sugar accrued was paid in full by the Government from the Consolidated Fund in favour of the SIFB for a total amount of Rs 62.1 Million.
- (iv) This concerns **8,067** accounts of small planters/ métayers having a total of **30,952 T** of sugar accrued having benefitted from this Budget measure for Crop 2024.

5.3.5 The total General Premium Income (GPI) receivable for the crop year 2024 was **Rs 426.4 Million** from all insureds, inclusive of a Government grant of Rs 62.1 Million for reduced general and fire premiums in favour of small planters/métayers having not more than 60 T of sugar accrued.

6. Fire Insurance

6.1 Inter-crop Fire 2024

6.1.1 For Crop 2024, the total number of compensated fire cases caused by inter-crop fire was **90** representing a total extent of **150.4** hectares of canes destroyed island-wide.

6.1.2 An increase in number of compensable cases has been observed compared to Crop 2023 which stood at 53 eligible insureds for a total extent of 81.8 hectares. However, the inter-crop fire compensation paid amounted to Rs 6.44 M, compared to Rs 3.75 M for Crop 2023. This increase in amount paid is attributable to the fact that compensable extents burnt were higher than the last inter-crop season.

6.1.3 The number of compensable fire cases was more prominent in the NORTH sector.

6.2 Fire during Harvest 2024

A total amount of Rs 0.09 M was disbursed to **9** eligible planters as road transport allowance for transportation of burnt canes for milling at another sugar factory outside their respective enlarged factory areas, compared to Rs 0.14 M for the last harvest season.

6.3 Fire Insurance Account

- 6.3.1 The loss ratio under the Fire insurance Account for Crop 2024 was **92%**, representing an island-wide compensation of **Rs 6.56 M** against an island-wide premium of **Rs 7.2 M**, inclusive of a Government grant of **Rs 0.71 M** for reduced fire premiums in favour of small planters/métayers having not more than 60 T of sugar accrued for Crop Year 2024.

As a result of the claims experience with respect to Crop 2024, the balance in the Fire Fund has increased from Rs 13.68 M as at 30 June 2024 to **Rs 14.31 M** as at 30 June 2025.

Disclaimer: The contents of this document, such as text, graphics, images, and other material contained on are for informational purposes only. The document will form part of the Annual Report 2024/2025 which shall be subject to auditing.