Sugar Industry vote deferred
Cane Farmers Defend Sugar Code Threat In Canberra
Loss of sugar code would expose growers to multinational monopoly
HANDS OFF OUR CODE

The above are just some of the headlines from media reports on the controversial disallowance motion introduced by NSW Senator David Leyonhjelm which has now been deferred till the 17th of October.

CANEGROWERS Chairman Paul Schembri and CEO Dan Galligan travelled to Canberra earlier this week to lobby as many Senators as possible to convince them not to support the motion.

The following comments which have been reported were made by Paul Schembri prior to and after receiving the news that the vote on the disallowance motion had been deferred.

Paul said that he is confident they’ll have the numbers to defeat the motion. ’…. But in the political art in Australia anything can happen between now and when the vote is taken so we’ll leave nothing to chance and we’ll do everything we can to shore up the vote’

CANEGROWERS Chair Paul Schembri said there would be “commercial chaos” if the disallowance motion succeeded and the code of conduct was removed.

He said Labor’s position on the disallowance motion - that he expects will be defeated at a vote next month but urged the need to retain lobbying efforts - was “a matter for them to consider the ramifications of”.

But he said he was disappointed the Opposition were voting for it, because the multi-party Senate inquiry of 2015 was chaired by WA Labor Senator Glenn Sterle and came up with a single, unanimous recommendation for a sugar industry code of conduct.

“The Labor party will need to weigh this up - are they going to sell-out 4500 Queensland cane farmers for the sake of big business?” he said.

“They’d need to consider the political outcomes of that and there is a Queensland state election coming up.”
Crushing Stats

Comments:
A total of 369,000 tonnes was crushed in a week where all mills had scheduled cleaning stops.

Inkerman and Invicta’s A side will both stop for scheduled cleans this Thursday.

With school holidays due to commence at the end of this week, I’d like to remind everyone to be extra vigilant and watch out for children when operating vehicles or machinery.

Parents and guardians are urged to reinforce the importance of staying well clear of train corridors and agricultural operations.

Steve Postma
Cane Postma
Cane Supply Manager
Burdekin Region

Suppliers & Spreaders of:
- Earth Spreader
- Winton Gypsum
- Fertilizer Spreading
- Pulverized Lime &
- Rock Phosphate
We also do a variety of blends to suit your individual specific needs

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Home Hill, QLD 4860
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Fax: 4782 1038
Mobile (Phil): 0418 833 148

We provide a variety of spreading services with computerized direct drop Augers, Spinners, Orchard Spreader Applicators & variable rate Spreaders, all fitted with GPS navigational systems for a more accurate application

We run a fleet of vehicles to help minimize delays

Pick up the phone and give us a call to discuss your needs
Draft Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan available for comment

Comments are being sought on the draft Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan 2017-2022 available here.

The renewed five-year plan details how industry, government and the community will continue to work together to improve the quality of water flowing to the Great Barrier Reef. It is an update of the Reef Water Quality Protection Plan 2013 and supports delivery of the Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan.

Water quality targets defining the required reduction in nutrients and fine sediment by 2025 have been set for the catchments adjacent to the Great Barrier Reef.

To provide feedback complete the survey (here) or email feedback to officeofthegbr@ehp.qld.gov.au

Reef Alliance Awards nominations open

Outstanding land managers and extension officers have the opportunity to be recognised through the 2017 Reef Alliance Reef Awards.

The Reef Alliance is seeking nominations from farmers and extension officers working to reduce their off-farm impact on the iconic Great Barrier Reef, with entries open until 2 October 2017.

Chair of the Reef Alliance Joanne Grainger said that farmers play an essential role as land managers and it is important to acknowledge and celebrate those who are excelling in their role as environmental stewards.

“The awards provide industry and the broader community the opportunity to celebrate farmers, for the first time, extension officers who work to change practices for the better,” said Ms Grainger.

“The Australian Government’s Reef Programs have been very successful in supporting and delivering mutually beneficial outcomes for farmers and the environment. The government should be commended for investing in the collaborative and productive partnerships forged between industry and Natural Resource Management (NRM) groups.

Nominations are being sought for the following awards:
⇒ Reef Nutrient Management Award
⇒ Reef Sediment Management Award
⇒ Reef Pesticide Management Award
⇒ Reef Conservation Award
⇒ Reef Extension Officer’s Award
⇒ Prince of Wales Environmental Leadership – Reef Sustainability Award

“The Reef Alliance is excited to be partnering with The Prince’s Trust Australia to offer the Prince of Wales Environmental Leadership – Reef Sustainability Award.

“This award will recognise an individual or group’s exemplary efforts to raise awareness, foster knowledge-sharing, and engage local communities in sustainable natural resource management to protect and preserve the Great Barrier Reef.”

“Farmers continue to change their farming practices, improve on-farm infrastructure and implement best management environmental practices. These positive actions are making huge improvements to the quality of the water leaving the farm, significantly contributing to the health of the Reef.”

The awards are sponsored by the ‘Reef Trust: Reef Alliance – Growing a Great Barrier Reef’ project, which is funded by the Australian Government Reef Trust.

Details and nominations at www.qff.org.au/projects/reef-alliance/awards/

Australian Women in Agriculture conference

The Australian Women in Agriculture (AWiA) 2017 Conference will be held in Brisbane from 22nd to 24th September. Securing Australian Agriculture - Sustaining families, farming and our future will focus on the diversity of skills and contributions made by women in agriculture.

The program is available here. Costs and registration information is available on the AWiA website here.

TropAg2017

TropAg2017 is the world's leading tropical agriculture event bringing together the best in research and innovation, across plant, animal and food sciences.

It will be held in Brisbane from 20 - 22 November 2017. The sugarcane symposium will focus on the theme of constraints on production. Find out more here.
Workplace Health & Safety Qld ride ready competition

Think you know everything about quad bike safety?

Being Ride ready means being aware of the risks and mindful of how easily things can get out of control.

Enter Workplace Health & Safety Qld’s competition to see how Ride ready you are! It only takes five minutes and you’ll be in the draw for one of five new Shark X16 ATV ROV helmets.

The challenge is now open and closes 5pm, Friday 13 October 2017. Click here to enter.

Cane Firing Guidelines

The cane firing guidelines prepared by CANEGROWERS Qld has been updated. CANEGROWERS members can access the document via the members resources section on the CANEGROWERS website here.

Energy Efficiency Gains for Irrigators project revived!

BBIFMAC’s extremely popular Energy Efficiency for Irrigators project has recently gained funding from Canegrowers Burdekin Ltd and Ergon to extend the farm energy use benchmarking for the past two financial years.

For those farms who are CBL members and participated in the BBIFMAC project previously, this means up to 5 years of data can be graphed so that the impact of dry years and rising energy prices can be quantified.

If you are interested in participating please contact BBIFMAC or CBL now!

Fourth Burdekin Grower Representative Member appointed

The final QSL Grower Representative Member position for the Burdekin has been declared, after a tie necessitated a second round of voting earlier this month.

Roger Piva joins Mark Vass, Owen Menkens and Russell Jordan as the fourth elected Grower Representative for the Burdekin.

Click here to see a full list of the 21 QSL Grower Representative Members.

National Agriculture Day

At the beginning of the month the National Farmers Federation (NFF) along with the Deputy Prime Minister Barnaby Joyce launched National Agriculture and Related Industries Day.

Nicknamed AgDay, it will be a celebration of Australian agriculture on 21 November. In the lead up to National Agriculture Day a photo competition is being held. Share the best food and farming photos with the hashtag #AgDay on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook or upload via the AgDay website with win prizes www.agday.org.au.

For the next Smartcane BMP workshop contact Terry on 0437 553 149
Forum Program

The aim of this forum is to provide an insight into best practice management of irrigated agriculture in Great Barrier Reef Catchments. The forum will provide practical demonstrations and presentations that showcase projects and initiatives that have been developed in various communities and enterprises to manage irrigated agriculture. Delegates of the Burdekin Water Forum will hear from a range of local, state, national and international speakers including Professor Dr. Anthony Turton from the Centre for Environmental Management, University of the Free State, South Africa, Dr. Turton is one of South Africa’s leading water experts in integrated water resource management.

Monday 9 October 2017

9.00am Welcome and Welcome to Country

9.30am Government Addresses
- Local Government Address and Welcome from the Burdekin Shire Mayor Lyn McLaughlin
- Federal Government Address
- State Government Address

10.30am Questions from the Floor

11.00am Keynote Speaker
- Dr. Anthony Turton - Environmental Management, University of the Free State, South Africa

1.00pm Lunch

2.00pm Session: Current and the History of the Lower Burdekin
dr. justin elsin - centre for environmental management, university of the free state, south africa

2.40pm The Agricultural Water Use: Past, Present and Future
- Dr. Robert Nortje - Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

3.00pm The Great Barrier Reef
- David Huxley - Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

3.20pm The Award - the national winners - reef, water and fisheries
- Tony Underhill - Great Barrier Reef

3.30pm Afternoon Tea

4.00pm Certification Framework and Water Infrastructure Improvement - Surf Murray - Irrigation Training

4.30pm Water accounting and monitoring system and how we can improve water monitoring in the Lower Burdekin
- Dr. Robert Nortje - Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

4.50pm Environmental levy to fund the Great Barrier Reef
- Alice Warner - Farmwater

5.10pm Topics to be confirmed
- Guest speaker - Rabobank

5.30pm Day 1 closing summary

6.15pm Networking Function - refreshments, canapes and entertainment
- Guest speaker - D&M Dining

Registration Information

The Burdekin Water Futures Group was established in 2006 to facilitate a science-based approach to water management in the Burdekin River catchment. Burdekin Water Futures believes the Burdekin Water Forum will be of significant interest and benefit to government, communities, industry, businesses, farmers and all others. The Burdekin Shire Council one of the best regions to host such a Forum, as it provides a diverse range of irrigation practices including flood and furrow irrigation, ground and surface water storages, water delivery infrastructure and established irrigation areas. It also has an environment that can sustain wetlands and the Great Barrier Reef.

Delegates Cost:
- Day 1 and Day 2 Woven shirt  $288 per person
- Day 2 Golf and Wine lunch  $140 per person
- 3 Day Registration  $1195 per person

Register online at www.burdekinwaterforum.com
Please be advised booking fees of $59 per delegate will apply unless booking by 10.00am Friday 30 September 2017

Burdekin Water Futures

PO Box 974, Ayr QLD 4807
169 Wang Street, Ayr QLD 4807

Phone: 07 4783 9831
Email: burdekinwaterforum@burdekin.qld.gov.au

Tuesday 10 October 2017

7.30am Breakfast in the Function Room

9.00am Welcome

9.15am Breakfast in the Function Room

9.30am Environmental challenge - water quality, water security and reuse - Anna Mayne - Guardian Water - CQ Consulting

9.45am Innovative BMPs and irrigation systems for the future - How can the irrigation industry respond to the water quality challenges through the smart farm pilot programs - Paul Beal - Capricorn

10.15am Infrastructure modernisation
- Steven Barney - Lower Burdekin Water

10.30am Irrigation management and automation in super cane - Roger Anderson - AGRF Irrigation

11.15am Irrigation management and automation in horticulture - Russell Underhill - Sustainable Water Strategies: Responses to challenges and what are they doing in other regions?

11.45am Lunch

1.00pm Keynote Speaker - Developing Northern Australia: Speakers to be confirmed

1.30pm All day tea to allow for a break

2.00pm Integrated Projects
- Dr. John Coathett - NQEC Projects

2.30pm Transfer of irrigation management to the private sector - benefits and results from around the globe - Tim Underhill - Dryland Agriculture Pty Ltd

3.00pm Afternoon tea

3.30pm Rice irrigation: An opportunity to examine irrigation
- Matthew Morgan - ACBR Agriculture and Farming

3.50pm Earnings from the Herbert Water Quality Monitoring Program and initiatives with the Burdekin Catchment - Warner Huxley - Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

4.30pm Case studies: enterprise to ecosystem sustainability
- Speaker to be confirmed

5.00pm Conference Close
- Dr. Keith Rowland - CDQ

6.15pm Dinner and Dancing

Wednesday 11 October 2017

7.45am - 8.00am Field trip
- The field trip will tour the Burdekin district showcasing some of the best practices in irrigation management, water storage and supply infrastructure.
Executive

✓ Attended ASA Board and Trade Committee meetings. The meetings focused on the review of trade policy functions and the establishment of an industry good funding mechanism.
✓ Meeting with union officials to discuss and explain federal marketing code of conduct.
✓ Teleconference to update and review the ASA sugar and nutrition program which is funded until the end of October.
✓ Several teleconferences with politicians and advisors to seek support to vote against the Code of Conduct disallowance motion by Senator Leyonhjelm.
✓ QFF CEO’s meeting to discuss election positions and strategy and scheduling of the LNP electricity and water committee meeting.

Irrigation Forum

✓ CANEGROWERS attended a SRA irrigation forum which was designed to provide information to inform the SRA Board of priorities for irrigation to enable the development of an irrigation program. Some of the main outcomes were:
  ⇒ Improvements in water productivity through overcoming barriers to water use (adoption).
  ⇒ Increasing use of measurements (existing and new - modelling, sensors) to provide monitoring and better use of what already exists.
  ⇒ Automation and variable rate application research.

Workplace Health and Safety Queensland (WHSQ) Rural Industry Standing Committee (RISC)

✓ CANEGROWERS attended the RISC quarterly meeting. The main items of interest were the Best Practice Review recommendations which emanated essentially from the Dream World fatalities. The thrust is a movement away from advisory work to more compliance and ensuring very senior officers are held more responsible. There is however at this stage no plan to change the way the Rural WHSQ sector provides the balance between advisory and compliance.

Reef Regulations Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS)

✓ The Queensland Government has released the Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) on the costs and benefits of the Reef Regulatory proposals.
✓ The RIS provides the costs and benefits for implementing the proposed regulation package. The proposed reef regulations respond directly to the Great Barrier Reef Water Science Taskforce (the GBR Taskforce) recommendation to use regulations as part of a mix of tools to reduce nutrient and sediment pollution from reef catchments to accelerate progress towards meeting the reef water quality targets.
✓ Two options are considered in order to accelerate improved reef water quality:
  ⇒ Option 1 – The current approach – no additional legislation
  ⇒ Option 2 – Enhance and broaden reef protection legislation
✓ Government prefer option 2 and the proposed regulations seek to manage pollutant loads from key industries across all reef catchments that contribute to poor reef water quality.
✓ New agricultural activities will be required to apply at least the minimum regulated standards as well as meet higher standards for farm design. New agricultural and point source activities will also be required to offset any significant residual loads following the implementation of required standards.
✓ The RIS has been released for a two-month consultation period, finishing on Friday 3 November 2017. Queensland Government are not proposing to undertake formal regional meetings, and will meet with stakeholders on request.
✓ Next steps
  1. QCGO takes an active lead on the RIS and Reef Regulations and will coordinate a submission to Queensland Government.
  2. QCGO will prepare an overview of the RIS including a gap analysis of the proposed regulations against the Smartcane BMP, seek legal opinion on the RIS and advice on the Cost Benefit Analysis costings supporting the RIS.
  3. QCGO will provide further information and actions to progress this matter shortly.

Reef Water Quality Improvement Plan 2017 submission

✓ The Queensland Government is seeking feedback on the draft Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan 2017-2022. CANEGROWERS is preparing a submission to this plan and is seeking your input and comment to the submission.
✓ QCGO will be coordinating and providing a CANEGROWERS submission back to the Queensland Government. QCGO request each District to review the draft Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan (plan) and provide comment to the sections in the plan that affect your district and provide the feedback for collation into the final submission.
The draft plan sets targets for reducing water pollution at the catchment, regional and whole-of-reef scale, which means actions can be prioritised by catchments. The plan is based on the best available independent scientific advice, as provided by Scientific Consensus Statement 2017.

The new five-year Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan (the plan) now aligns with the Australian and Queensland governments’ Great Barrier Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan (Reef 2050), agreed in 2015. The plan builds on previous reef water quality plans developed in 2003, 2009 and 2013 by including all sources of land-based water pollution; incorporating the human dimensions of change; and setting individual targets for reducing water pollution from the catchments, enabling better prioritising where the most management action is needed.

Key dates for QCGO submission:

- 29 September 2017 - QCGO request District feedback by Friday 29 September. The feedback will be collated and to prepare the first draft of the submission.
- 4 October 2017 - QCGO will collate comments and draft submission.
- 6 October 2017 – QCGO will finalise submission to Queensland Government.

Reef Alliance Project

QCGO attended the Reef Alliance Project – Cane Working Group Meeting chaired by QFF.

The meeting focused on project implementation, updates on innovation and grant components, linkages to Smartcane BMP, QFF database and communications.

The innovation component has 10 projects approved with 3 pending approval from Australian Government. There is still funding available in the innovation project and options to expend the remaining funds have been considered including innovative engagement methods (that has the potential to increase adoption), transfer funds and putting them back into ‘normal’ grants/extension projects.

NESP

QCGO attended the National Environmental Science Program committee meeting.

The meeting received an update on Project 25, the monitoring project occurring in the Cairns region from project leader Aaron Davis. Results to date indicate excellent engagement with growers and early data is showing differences in nitrate in the various parts of the catchment between cane, rainforest and developed areas.

The meeting reviewed additional projects put-up for funding for the next round. The proposals focused on crown of thorns, reef adaptions and monitoring projects.

Cane Changer Project

John Pickering attended the Major Integrated Project launch and visited some growers in Tully and Innisfail.

The Women and Families workshop was held in the Cairns region. 30 growers/spouses/family members attended across 2 workshops. The project received great testimonials from the workshop from growers and spouses.

A shed meeting was held at Peter Jackson’s shed on the project

EEF60

The stage 1 report for the EEF60 project was submitted to the Department of Environment and Energy. When accepted $1.14 million in funding will be received.

Marketing

CANEGROWERS assisted CANEGROWERS Rocky Point in relation to their CSPA negotiations with the mill.

Electricity

The Energy Consumers Australia (ECA) funded project empowering irrigators is getting underway, CANEGROWERS coordinated a meeting with project consultants Sapere Research Group and the National Irrigators Council. The project is looking at options to secure lower and more sustainable electricity prices for irrigators.

In a newly formed coalition on electricity in the lead up to the state election, CANEGROWERS has joined forces with QFF, CCIQ and Arc Up bringing agriculture and business together to collaboratively advocate the need for a reduction in electricity price rises at the State and Federal level.
CANEGROWERS Queensland … taking up the fight on all issues affecting cane farmers

Trade
- CANEGROWERS met with representatives of Itochu during their visit to Queensland on opportunities to improve access for high pol sugar to Japan.
- The Indonesian government has confirmed that implementation of its decision to reduce the tariff faced by Australian sugar sold is imminent, with the final parliamentary processes in train.
- CANEGROWERS manages the industry’s trade policy and market access activities.
- The ASA Trade Committee considered the broad range of trade issues, opportunities and challenges facing the industry, including in relation to Indonesia, Japan, China, Peru, TPP-11, Pacific Alliance, EU-FTA, UK-FTA, Global Sugar Alliance and WTO Ministerial meeting.
- Indonesia is moving closer to reducing the tariff it imposes on Australian sugar. This will restore Australia’s competitiveness in that important export market.
- CANEGROWERS briefed the Peru’s Agricultural negotiator on the opportunities and benefits that would arise to both Peru and Australia from including sugar in the FTA.
  ⇒ Peru, Latin America’s fastest growing economy, imports 150kt of raw sugar annually. This import task is expected to increase to 300kt by 2020.
- CANEGROWERS briefed DFAT and Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR) officials on the range of sugar trade issues.

Transport
- A meeting with the Queensland Police Services (QPS) organised by CANEGROWERS Isis was attended. Although the meeting was more specific to Bundaberg/Isis issues, QPS reiterated their role in approving access to agricultural vehicles (permits or notices) was to ensure safety and although the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator (HNVR) had an obligation to consult QPS the final decision to issue a permit or notice was made by NHVR.

Regional Investment Corporation (RIC)
- The Hon. Barnaby Joyce MP has announced the establishment of the Regional Investment Corporation to deliver up to $2 billion in Commonwealth farm business concessional loans and the $2 billion National Water Infrastructure Loan Facility. the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (DAWR) is in the process of establishing operating principles so that the RIC Board, when appointed, can be functional as soon as possible. CANEGROWERS had a phone hook-up with DAWR to discuss issues around:
  ⇒ Streamlining delivery
  ⇒ Characteristics and assessment of “in financial need” and “finical viability”
  ⇒ Evidence to demonstrate eligibility
  ⇒ Eligible loans
  ⇒ Terminology that resonates with farmers

Smartcane BMP
- District visits in the past 3 weeks have highlighted the benefit of having BMP integrated into local extension activities, as this greatly assists growers to see the value of particular BMP practice standards. It also helps build a commitment to the BMP process, rather than it being perceived as just a chore.
- Meeting with Mark Poggio, DAF economist, on BMP delivery, especially information on the economics of the various practice standards.
- Meeting with Farmacist staff in the Burdekin on improving linkages between their various project work with growers and Smartcane BMP.
- Meeting with Suzanne Oxford, of New Word Order, who is leading development of a new marketing and communication strategy for Smartcane BMP. Suzanne will be in contact with BMP facilitators and other district contacts in the coming weeks to discuss ideas.
- Briefing from Peter Thorburn of CSIRO on progress with refining nitrogen management by accounting for season X soil type interactions in the Wet Tropics. The Tully component of this work is nearing its final stages.
- Meeting with EHP to discuss recent developments including development of a BMP delivery agreement for 2018-2022.
- Participation in a debrief session, hosted by Mackay Sugar, for growers and organisations involved in recent Bonsucro audits of district farms and mills. Mackay Sugar plans to further increase the tonnage of Bonsucro-certified sugar from the district. The experience from the recent audits will help streamline the preparation of growers for audit, including for BMP accredited growers who use BMP Module 8 to become ‘Bonsucro ready’.
1. QFF industry member CANEGROWERS has welcomed the extension of Cyclone Debbie recovery assistance until 12 January 2018. CANEGROWERS statement HERE. Apply for Category C grants HERE.

2. The Queensland Government has released a new discussion paper on enhanced reef protection regulations for public consultation. Have your say by 3 November. Details HERE. Discussion paper HERE.

3. Grants of up to $100,000 are now available for Queensland food producers looking to break into new overseas markets. Minister for Agriculture’s statement HERE.

4. The Queensland Rural Jobs & Skills Alliance (RJSA) latest e-news including details on Workplace Essentials workshops, the Reef Extension Work Placement Initiative and the Seasonal Worker Programme can be seen HERE.

5. The latest edition of the Reef Alliance’s ‘Reliable 5’ is out now! View HERE. Sign up for Reef Alliance updates HERE (form at the bottom of page).

6. The first National Agriculture and Related Industries Day (AgDay) is being held on 21 November to celebrate the nation’s farm sector. Details HERE.

7. Nominations are open for the Reef Alliance Awards including the Prince’s Trust Reef Sustainability Award which recognises those who engage local communities in sustainable natural resource management. Apply HERE.

8. The Lower Burdekin Groundwater Strategy Project Discussion Paper has been published and is open to feedback until 29 September. Discussion Paper HERE. Have your say HERE.

9. In the latest QFF Energy Savers video case study, Lower Burdekin Water explains how it reduced energy consumption by 40% by adding variable speed controls to a 130kW fixed speed pump. Video HERE.

10. Australian Women in Agriculture is providing seven student scholarships and three Future Farmers Network member scholarships for the 2017 AWiA Conference. Details HERE.

Queensland irrigators welcome water efficiency funding

Queensland’s irrigated agriculture industries will benefit from continued productivity improvements and responsible management of water thanks to the State Government investing another $2 million in a critically important program.

The 2017-18 Rural Water Use Efficiency Initiative (RWUEI) will provide grants and assistance for farmers across a number of industries to help with keeping water on-farm and also meeting natural resource management outcomes.

Queensland Farmers’ Federation (QFF) President Stuart Armitage welcomed the continuation of funding for RWUEI, but expressed the sector’s concern over funding uncertainty post 2017-18 with farmers being subject to increasing water-use challenges from climate change.

“Queensland irrigators have been subject to and continue to implement wide scale reform to water use that has seen structural adjustments in the irrigation sector. This has included significant capital investments by farmers and the adoption of water saving infrastructure and practices, and the importance of metering,” said Mr. Armitage.

“Farmers understand the simple economic benefits that come from minimising costs, increasing efficiencies and improving productivity.

“Governments must accept and acknowledge the role of irrigated agriculture in supplying food, fibre, foliage and increasingly fuel; and the income it generates, particularly in regional communities post 2017-18.”

“For an efficient and viable agricultural sector in Queensland to continue to operate and grow, it needs to be supported through a continuation of policy and projects like RWUEI long into the future.”

QFF industry member CANEGROWERS received $709,500 in funding to work on rising groundwater challenges across the Lower Burdekin, Arriga Plains and on-farm irrigation assessments in the Pioneer and other irrigated areas.
Pricing information

**2017 Season Advances Schedule**
As at 31 August 2017

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Default</th>
<th>Advances</th>
<th>Status</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Jul -18</td>
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Advance Rates are based on a grower’s individual estimated final sugar price.

For more information growers can access Wilmar’s monthly Pool Reports, Allocation Account Amount Reports, their applicable Advance Finance Charge via the reporting page of the Pricing and Payments section of the GrowerWeb. The cashflow forecast tool is also available in the Pricing & Payments section.

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**Wilmar Indicative Future Sugar Prices**
as at 15 September 2017

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop Year</th>
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<td>2017 Season</td>
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<td>2018 Season</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019 Season</td>
<td>449.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>2020 Season</td>
<td>454.26</td>
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</table>

Calculation using ICE Closing Prices or equivalent Bank Swap Rates and prevailing AUD/USD exchange rates

Refer to [https://www.wilmarsugarmills.com.au](https://www.wilmarsugarmills.com.au) for additional Pricing Information and trends

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**2017 Season Advances Schedule**
as at 31 August 2017

<table>
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<th>Applicable from</th>
<th>Fixed Price/Target Price/Guaranteed Floor</th>
<th>Other Pools % Rate</th>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 Mar 18</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>87.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 Apr 18</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 May 18</td>
<td>92.5%</td>
<td>92.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Jun 18</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 18</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Percentage rate approved by QSL Board

The program above is indicative only in its entirety and should not be taken as a commitment by QSL with regard to either the advance rate or date of increase.

The program may change during the season depending on movements in the marketing and shipping plans, sugar price and currency movements and timing of cash flows. Suppliers’ positions in relation to any pricing elections may also impact the timing and size of advance payments.

**QSL Indicative ICE 11 prices**
as at 15 September 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEASON</th>
<th>AUD/MT</th>
<th>CHANGE SINCE PREVIOUS CLOSE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017 - OCT17</td>
<td>393.17</td>
<td>-0.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 - MAR18</td>
<td>407.02</td>
<td>0.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017 - MAY18</td>
<td>410.16</td>
<td>0.42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>431.17</td>
<td>0.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>450.24</td>
<td>1.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>451.33</td>
<td>1.20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The figures quoted above are indicative of available ICE 11 prices as at the current date and reflect the weighted average AUD/mt price. The prices have been adjusted to include Over-the-Counter (OTC) margin fees charged by banking institutions and, therefore, may differ from daily prices quoted by the ICE #11 Exchange and/or other Marketers of Growers’ Economic Interest in Sugar (GEI Sugar). Values also do not account for any adjustments resulting from local grower-miller pricing arrangements. For more information, view the latest QSL Market Snapshot here.

**Estimated QSL Pool Prices**
As at 25 August 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$/Tonne IPS GROSS 2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QSL Harvest Pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL Actively Managed Pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL Guaranteed Floor Pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL US Quota Pool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL 2-season Forward Pool</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Growers can monitor QSL pool performance via the Price Pool Matrices published on the QSL website (www.qsl.com.au). This information is updated regularly and provides a sense of how the QSL-managed pools are performing over the current season.
Canenews is read by the majority of Burdekin cane farmers and their families in the Burdekin. Copies are also circulated to all CANEGROWERS Offices, businesses, industry, politicians, Government Agencies and members of the community.

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Burdekin Cane Auditors—Workplace Coordinators

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Invicta</td>
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<td>4782 1020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>