

Harvest Update for the Australian Sugar Industry

Fortnight Ending 22 August 2021

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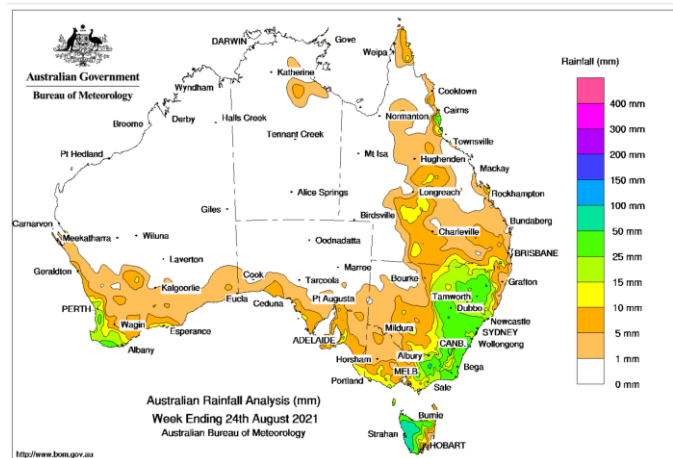
Editor: LINDSAY JOLLY

Wet Weather Again Slows Australian Crush Pace

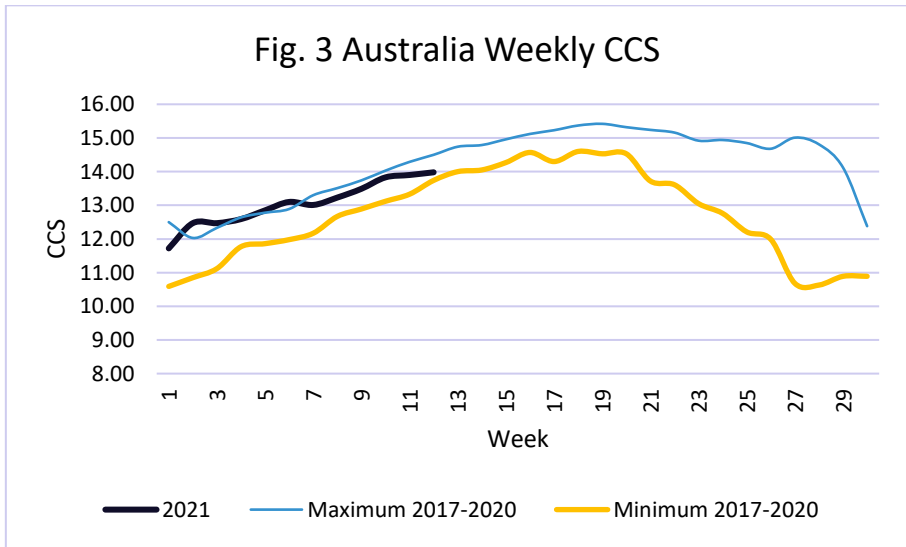
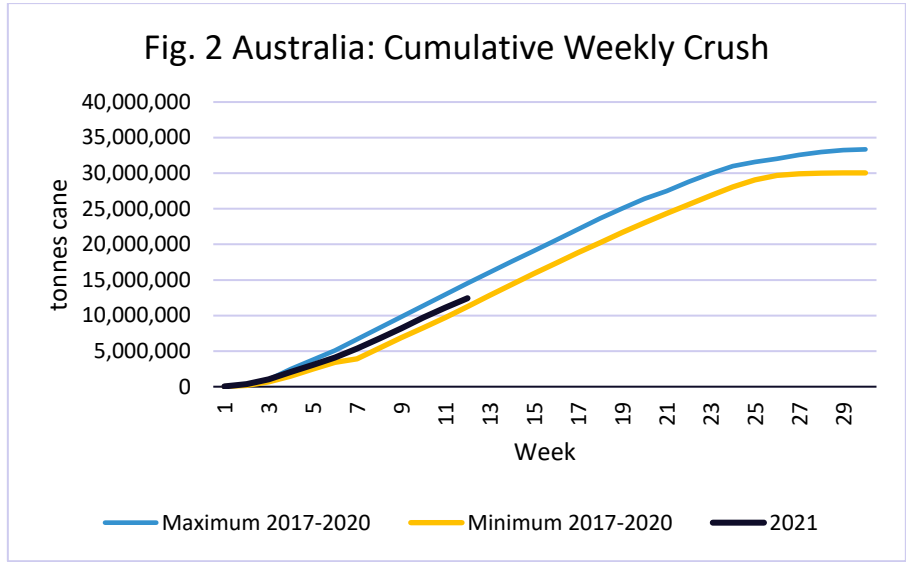
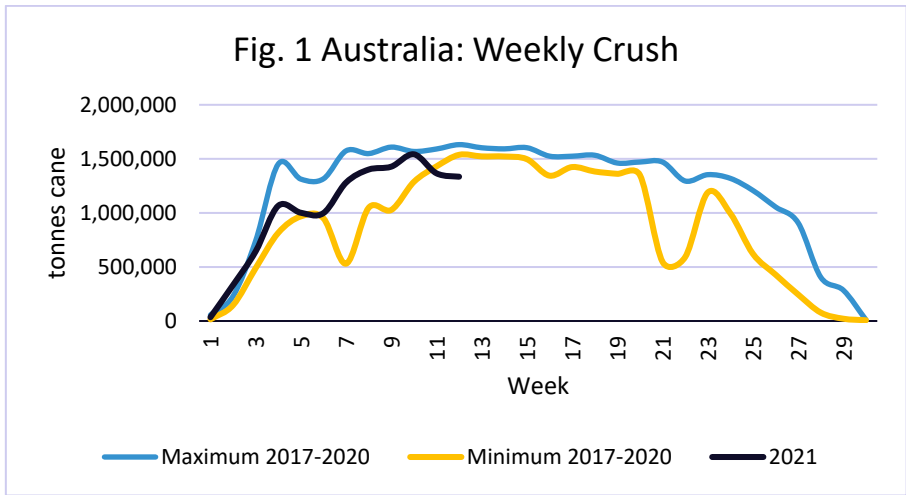
Wet weather has struck again, interrupting the cane harvest and slowing Australia’s crush pace during the fortnight ending 22 August (Week 12). The weekly crush tally for the industry’s 22 mills averaged **1.35** mln tonnes, **[REDACTED]** in the previous fortnight. Wet weather interruptions were centred in the Herbert, Central and Northern regions, whilst the Burdekin mills maintained high crush volumes and passed the 50% crush milestone. **[REDACTED]**. The sixth fortnight saw the cumulative Australian crush volume reach **[REDACTED]** mln tonnes – **[REDACTED]** of the expected cane supply. The comparable figure last season was lower at **[REDACTED]** mln tonnes, due to severe rain disturbances earlier in the season. Queensland’s to-date crush had reached **[REDACTED]** mln tonnes and NSW around **[REDACTED]** tonnes by the end of week 12. The to-date CCS level for the Australian industry remains comparatively high having averaged 13.30 units, well above 12.79 units associated with last season’s rain interrupted campaign.

Australia’s 22 sugar mills (2 mills fewer than last season with the closure of Maryborough and Bundaberg Sugar’s Bingara Mill – both in the South) are still expected to process close to 31.0 mln tonnes of cane, according to the ASMC, as against 31.1 mln tonnes last season. **[REDACTED]**

Rainfall totals map for the 7 days ending 9 am 24 August 2021



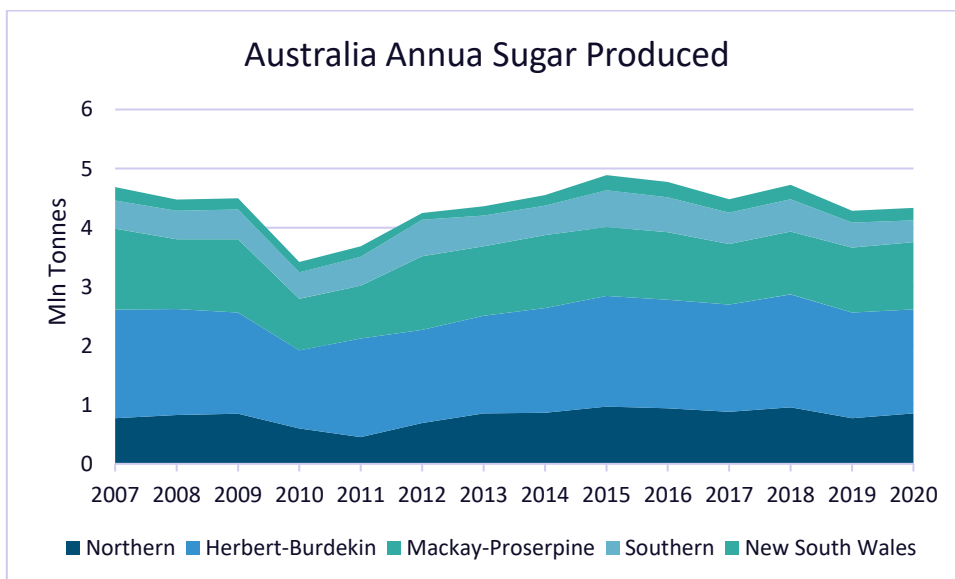
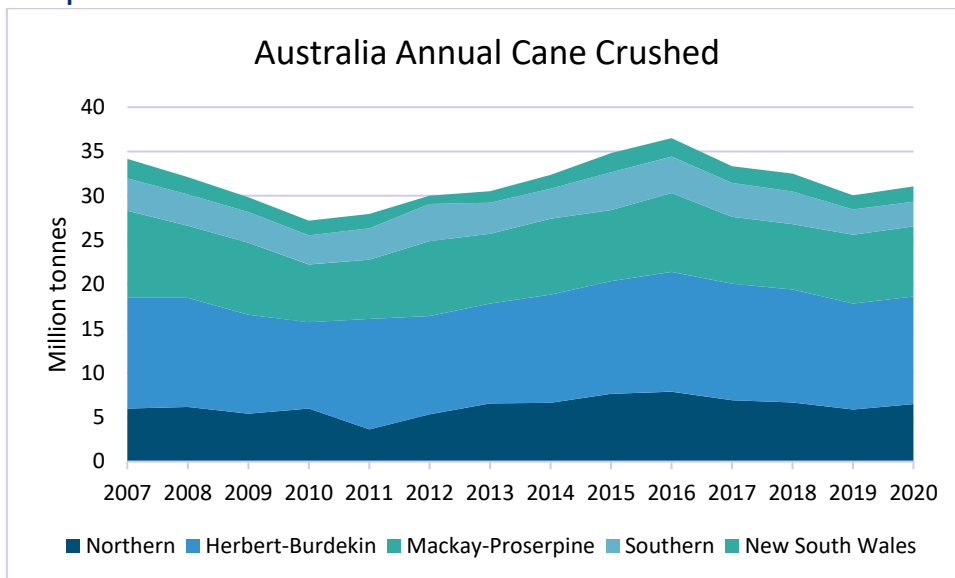
<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/rainfall/>



Why don't we report sugar production?

There are no sugar production data in the public domain issued in conjunction with the weekly cane crush for the Australian sugar industry. Considerable caution needs to be exercised if approximating actual sugar production from cane tonnage crushed and sugar content. Commercial Cane Sugar (CCS) is an estimate of the amount of recoverable sugar in sugarcane, measured as a percentage of the cane by weight. Importantly, sugar content needs to be taken together with mill recovery of sugar. Mill recoveries are improving along with improvements in technology. Some mills reportedly recover as much as 1.02kg sugar per kg of CCS. A rough estimate of sugar production (tonnes tel quel) can therefore be derived using the following formula: total sugar make = CCS x tonnes cane x 1.02. The actual number however can vary from this "theoretical calculation" depending on each mill's recovery rate which also reflects losses in bagasse, mud and molasses. In short, the Co-efficient of Work characteristics of sugar mills do vary quite significantly. Furthermore, the crush numbers are derived by totalling the crush across multiple mills, so using a simple theoretical formula can yield a distorted sugar production estimate as against the actual.

Historical Perspective 2021



STATISTICS

Table 1: Australia Weekly Crush (tonnes)

Week Ending	Weekly Crush	To-Date Crush	Weekly CCS	To-Date CCS
2021				
6/06/2021	35,151	35,151	11.72	11.72
13/06/2021	332,511	367,662	12.47	12.39
20/06/2021	643,916	1,011,578	12.47	12.44
27/06/2021	1,065,965	2,077,543	12.59	12.54
4/07/2021	1,001,447	3,078,991	12.85	12.59
11/07/2021	998,160	4,077,150	13.10	12.72
18/07/2021	1,280,541	5,357,693	13.01	12.79
25/07/2021	1,401,096	6,758,789	13.23	12.89
1/08/2021	████████	████████	██████	██████
8/08/2021	████████	████████	██████	██████
15/08/2021	████████	████████	██████	██████
22/08/2021	████████	████████	██████	██████
2020				
7/06/2020	14,891	14,891	12.28	12.28
14/06/2020	146,629	161,520	12.03	12.06
21/06/2020	507,354	668,839	11.74	11.81
28/06/2020	900,277	1,569,115	11.90	11.86
5/07/2020	1,032,063	2,601,178	12.22	11.91
12/07/2020	1,267,116	3,868,294	12.40	12.07
19/07/2020	1,410,548	5,278,842	12.84	12.28
26/07/2020	1,047,408	6,323,196	12.68	12.34
2/08/2020	1,027,462	7,350,657	12.89	12.42
9/08/2020	1,287,106	8,637,763	13.12	12.53
14/08/2020	1,455,860	10,093,546	13.33	12.64
21/08/2020	1,555,530	11,649,076	13.76	12.79

Source: ASMC, WKS Estimates.

Table 2: Australian Weekly Crush by Region (tonnes)

Week	North	Herbert/Burdekin	Central	South	Queensland	NSW	Australia
6/06/2021	19,602	-	15,549	-	35,151	-	35,151
13/06/2021	28,184	209,072	60,288	-	297,544	34,967	332,511
20/06/2021	156,244	330,223	104,392	-	590,859	53,057	643,916
27/06/2021	291,638	485,428	189,332	35,709	1,002,107	63,858	1,065,965
4/07/2021	139,852	495,902	273,673	46,345	955,772	45,675	1,001,447
11/07/2021	153,957	449,048	326,482	32,551	962,038	36,122	998,160
18/07/2021	228,340	513,877	368,724	98,371	1,209,312	71,229	1,280,541
25/07/2021	306,392	542,502	376,778	97,256	1,322,928	78,168	1,401,096
1/08/2021							
8/08/2021							
15/08/2021							
22/08/2021							

Source: ASMC, WKS Estimates.

Table 3: Australian Cumulative Weekly Crush by Region (tonnes)

Week	North	Herbert/Burdekin	Central	South	Queensland	NSW	Australia
6/06/2021	19,602	-	15,549	-	35,151	-	35,151
13/06/2021	47,786	209,078	75,831	-	332,695	34,967	367,662
20/06/2021	204,030	539,301	180,223	-	923,554	88,024	1,011,578
27/06/2021	495,668	1,024,729	369,555	35,709	1,925,661	151,882	2,077,543
4/07/2021	635,521	1,520,631	643,228	82,054	2,881,434	197,557	3,078,991
11/07/2021	789,479	1,969,679	969,709	114,605	3,843,472	233,678	4,077,150
18/07/2021	1,017,821	2,483,556	1,338,433	212,976	5,052,786	304,907	5,357,693
25/07/2021	1,324,213	3,026,058	1,715,211	310,232	6,375,714	383,075	6,758,789
1/08/2021							
8/08/2021							
15/08/2021							
22/08/2021							

Source: ASMC, WKS Estimates.

Table 4: Australian CCS Content by Region (%)

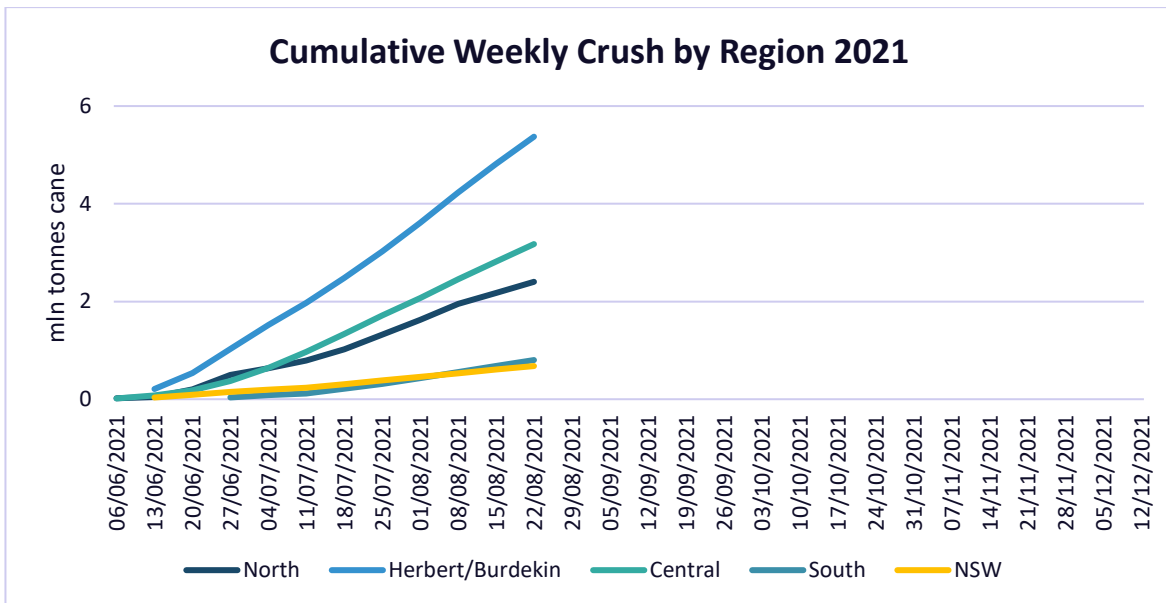
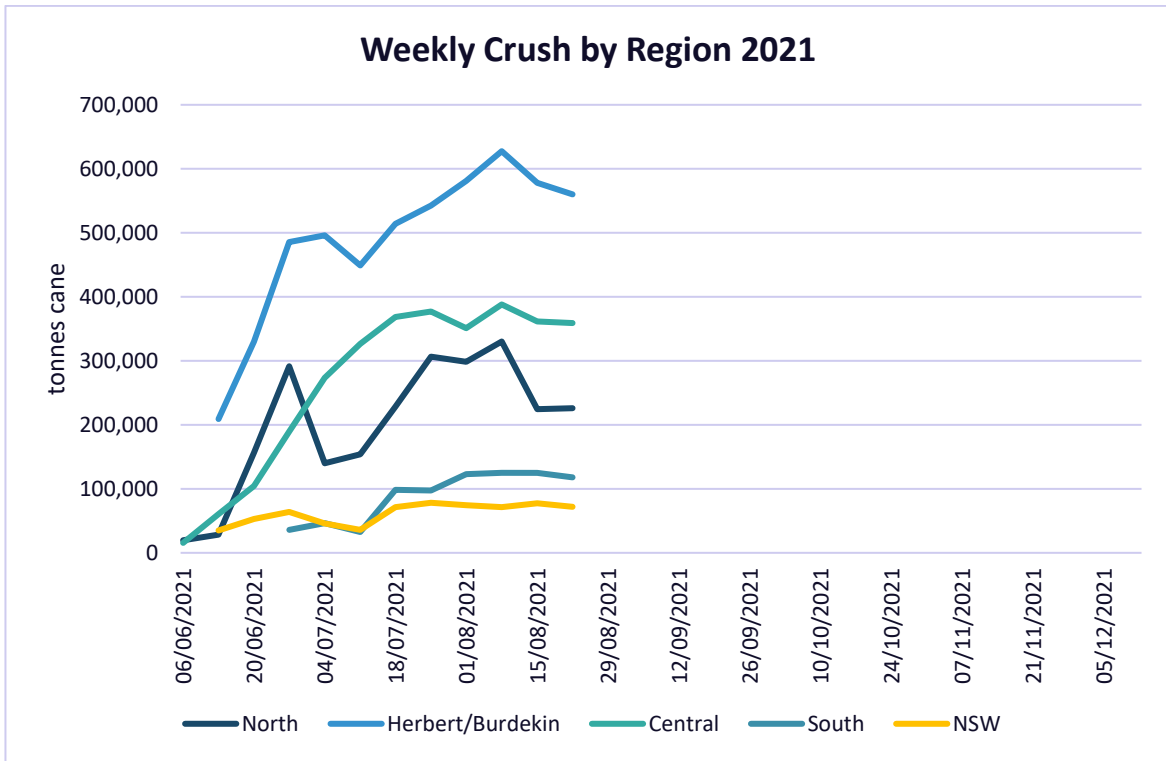
Week	North	Herbert/Burdekin	Central	South	Queensland	NSW	Australia
6/06/2021	12.35	-	10.93	-	11.72	-	11.72
13/06/2021	13.01	12.85	11.67	-	12.62	11.11	12.47
20/06/2021	12.11	13.00	11.84	-	12.56	11.51	12.47
27/06/2021	12.02	13.02	12.26	12.64	12.57	11.60	12.59
4/07/2021	12.32	13.33	12.59	12.74	12.95	10.89	12.85
11/07/2021	11.95	13.78	13.00	12.97	13.20	10.61	13.10
18/07/2021	11.71	13.66	13.32	13.04	13.14	10.91	13.01
25/07/2021	12.28	13.68	13.65	13.31	13.32	11.73	13.23
1/08/2021							
8/08/2021							
15/08/2021							
22/08/2021							

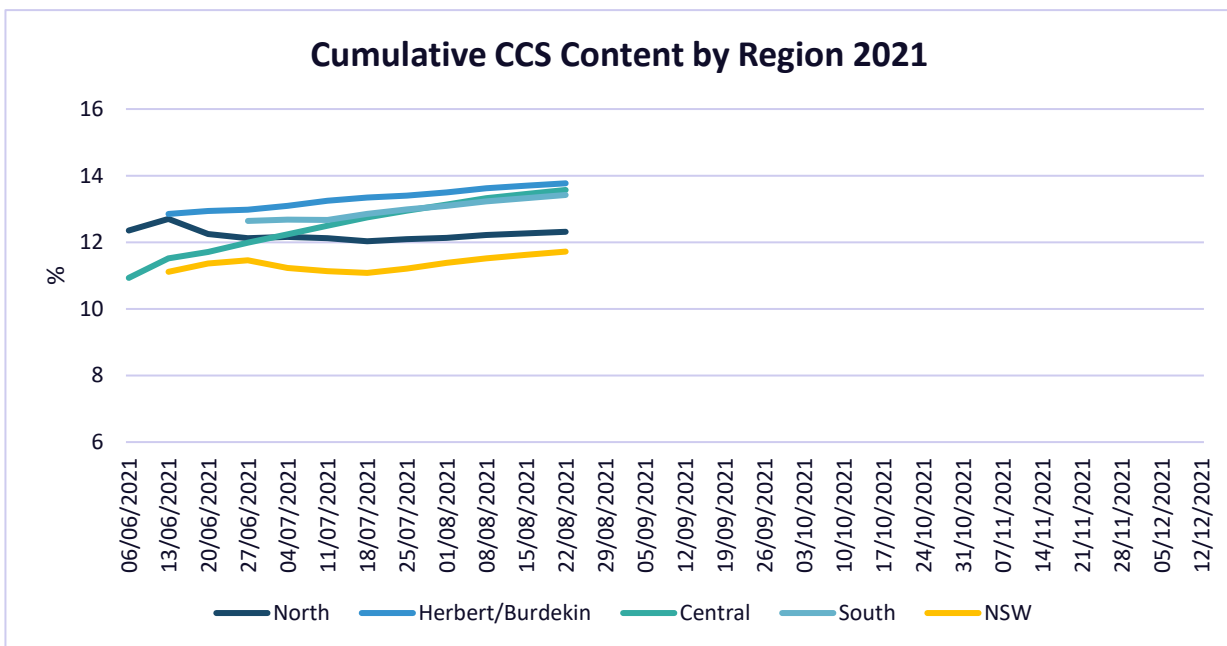
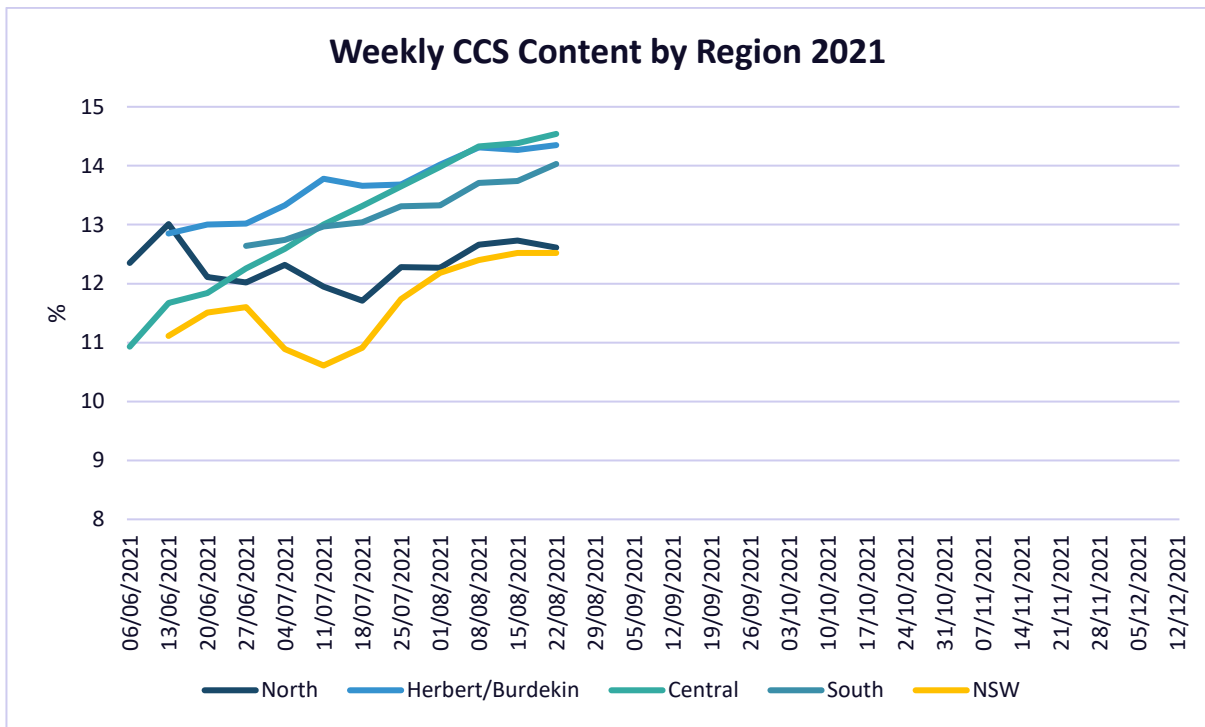
Source: ASMC, WKS Estimates.

Table 5: Australian Cumulative CCS Content by Region (%)

Week	North	Herbert/Burdekin	Central	South	Queensland	NSW	Australia
6/06/2021	12.35	-	10.93	-	11.72	-	11.72
13/06/2021	12.70	12.85	11.52	-	12.52	11.11	12.39
20/06/2021	12.25	12.94	11.71	-	12.55	11.36	12.44
27/06/2021	12.12	12.98	11.99	12.64	12.56	11.46	12.54
4/07/2021	12.16	13.09	12.24	12.68	12.69	11.23	12.59
11/07/2021	12.12	13.25	12.50	12.67	12.81	11.13	12.72
18/07/2021	12.03	13.34	12.75	12.85	12.90	11.08	12.79
25/07/2021	12.09	13.40	12.95	12.99	12.99	11.21	12.89
1/08/2021							
8/08/2021							
15/08/2021							
22/08/2021							

Source: ASMC, WKS Estimates.







PRESS REPORT

Sugar producing countries concerned at potential for more contentious Indian sugar subsidies

The Australian Sugar Milling Council (ASMC) says there is widespread concern amongst the world’s major sugar producing countries that the Indian Government might be contemplating further contentious export subsidies that will negatively impact world sugar prices. On top of the unrelenting climate and pandemic challenges already facing sugar producing countries, they fear that the estimated USD 10 bln damage already caused to the industry globally by India’s overproduction of sugar will continue to grow. The ASMC recently commissioned a report from Green Pool Commodity Specialists who estimated that India’s overproduction between 2017/18 and 2020/21 had reduced the Australian sugar industry’s revenue by AUD 1 bln. The Council stated there is no denying that the Indian sugar sector needs significant reform and have called on the Indian government not to introduce export subsidies for their 2021/22 season.

[Australian Sugar Milling Council](#) 10 August

Wilmar Production Reports

Burdekin

Weekly production figures		
Burdekin region mills		
Week 11, ending 21 August 2021		
Cane crushed	This week	Season to date
Invicta	150,343	1,601,856
Pioneer	77,460	861,518
Kalamia	73,704	794,502
Inkerman	85,347	694,699
Burdekin	386,853	3,952,575

The Burdekin mills have passed the 50% milestone for the 2021 crush, with just under 4mln tonnes processed. The mills crushed just under 390,000 tonnes of cane for week 11. This was achieved despite Kalamia, Pioneer and Invicta B side having cleaning stops during the week. Cane continues to be transferred out of the Inkerman area to Pioneer and Invicta mills for processing. Average weekly CCS was 15.00 which is still trending above budget.

[Wilmar](#) 23 August

Weekly production figures		
Burdekin region mills		
Week 10, ending 14 August 2021		
Cane crushed	This week	Season to date
Invicta	149,435	1,451,513
Pioneer	85,730	784,058
Kalamia	77,122	720,798
Inkerman	79,749	609,352
Burdekin	392,036	3,565,721

The Burdekin mills crushed just over 390,000 tonnes of cane for the week bringing the season total to just over 3.5 mln tonnes. All four mills exceeded the budgeted throughput for the week. Inkerman and Invicta mills both had cleaning intermissions during the week. Cane continues to be transferred out of the Inkerman area to Pioneer and Invicta mills for processing. Average weekly CCS was 14.90, which is still trending above budget.

[Wilmar](#) 16 August

Herbert

Weekly production figures		
Wilmar Sugar Herbert region mills Week 10, ending 21 August 2021		
	This week	Season to date
Cane crushed		
Victoria	108,875	952,349
Macknade	64,563	468,013
Total	173,438	1,420,362
Crop forecast	3.97M	

Just under 173,500 tonnes of cane was crushed for the week. Average CCS levels remain below budget at 12.91 units. Continued wet weather conditions persist across the Herbert region, impeding consistent harvesting operations. Maintenance crews have used these cane supply shortfalls to bring forward cleaning intermissions and perform early scheduled maintenance at the mills.

[Wilmar](#) 23 August

Weekly production figures		
Wilmar Sugar Herbert region mills Week 9, ending 14 August 2021		
	This week	Season to date
Cane crushed		
Victoria	125,972	843,474
Macknade	60,090	403,450
Total	186,062	1,246,924
Crop forecast	3.97M	

The Herbert mills have now processed just under a third of the estimated 2021 crop. Just over 186,000 tonnes of cane was crushed in a week impacted by rain. Average weekly CCS was 12.95 units for the second week running. The season-to-date CCS has risen slightly to 12.46 units, but remains below budget. Wet weather across the district in the later part of the week impacted harvesting operations, resulting in reduced milling

throughput. The wet conditions allowed for maintenance to be brought forward at Macknade Mill. Victoria Mill also utilised cane supply shortfalls to bring forward this coming week’s scheduled maintenance stop.

[Wilmar](#), 16 August

Plane Creek

Weekly production figures		
Wilmar Sugar Plane Creek Mill Week 10, Week ending 21 August 2021		
	This week	Season to date
Cane crushed	61,328	567,591
Average bin weight	4.03	3.94
CCS	14.95	13.64

Just over 61,000 tonnes of cane was processed for the week, bringing the season total to almost 568,000 tonnes. This was a reasonable weekly throughput, given there was a 14-hour planned maintenance stop on Tuesday. CCS figures improved by 0.47 of a unit over the previous week, to average 14.95 units.

[Wilmar](#) 23 August

Weekly production figures		
Wilmar Sugar Plane Creek Mill Week 9, Week ending 14 August 2021		
	This week	Season to date
Cane crushed	61,154	506,263
Average bin weight	3.98	3.93
CCS	14.48	13.48

Plane Creek Mill has passed the first half a million tonnes crushed milestone. Just over 61,000 tonnes of cane was processed for the week, bringing the season total to more than 506,000 tonnes. The major cause of lost time for the week was to carry out repairs to a gearbox on the bagasse bin hoist drive. Overnight showers mid-week had minimal impact on cane supply. However, the rain provided a welcome boost for recently planted crops.

[Wilmar](#) 16 August

Proserpine

Weekly production figures		
Wilmar Sugar Proserpine Mill Week 8, ending 21 August 2021		
	This week	Season to date
Cane crushed	74,169	576,657
Average bin weight	9.44	9.59
CCS	14.61	14.17

The weekly throughput of 74,000 tonnes was below budget due to a 24-hour planned stop on Wednesday 18 August. Boiler repairs and other jobs scheduled for the major maintenance day were completed successfully. This allows a three-week break until the next maintenance day, tentatively scheduled for Wednesday 8 September. Average weekly CCS was 14.61 – more than half a unit above budget, resuming its steady upwards climb following the previous week’s rain.

[Wilmar](#) 23 August

Weekly production figures		
Wilmar Sugar Proserpine Mill Week 7, ending 14 August 2021		
	This week	Season to date
Cane crushed	71,271	502,397
Average bin weight	9.67	9.61
CCS	14.56	14.10

Proserpine Mill has passed a major milestone, with more than 500,000 tonnes crushed so far this season. The weekly throughput of about 71,000 tonnes was below expectations due to rain. The mid-week wet weather event disrupted harvesting and crushing operations. However, many districts welcomed the good top-up rain. The operations team used the unplanned stop to do some factory maintenance. Average weekly CCS was 14.56 – more than half a unit above budget despite the rain.

[Wilmar](#) 16 August



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