

Cane News

CANEGROWERS Proserpine's
monthly member newsletter



WELCOME TO THE 2021 ISSUE # 8 OF 'CANE NEWS'

ARE YOU FOLLOWING US ON FACEBOOK?



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



Canegrowers Proserpine & Sugar Services Proserpine are using the 'Check In Qld' app to help keep you COVID safe the next time you visit. All you need to do is:

- visit www.covid19.qld.gov.au/check-in-qld for links to download the app from Google Play or Apple App stores
- enter your details once when you first open the app
- open the app when you next visit us
- select 'Check in Now' and scan or enter our code

Using this digital check in means your details will be stored securely by the Queensland Government for 56 days to assist with COVID-19 contact tracing (if needed). The Check In Qld app is safe, secure and private. QR code posters can be found at all points of entry to both buildings and staff are more than happy to assist you to download the app or sign in.



JEPPESEN FARMING CO.

Jake Mitchell - For all your agricultural contracting needs - Tony Jeppesen

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Laser levelling , truck & dog, surveys, earthmoving & more



REEF REGS FERTILISER PLAN IS CONDESCENDING

CANEGROWERS is opposing moves by the Queensland Government to force growers to seek external approval for some fertiliser use under its reef regulations.

Under the changes, all nitrogen and phosphorus use will have to be approved by an 'appropriate person', a situation CANEGROWERS says is condescending, insulting and unnecessary.

CANEGROWERS has made a formal written request for every Smartcane BMP accredited grower to be deemed an 'appropriate person' and for a review of the requirement by the end of the year in consultation with industry.

EVIDENCE TO BACK YOUR RIGHT TO REPAIR MACHINERY

CANEGROWERS has been asked to help ensure farmers get a 'right to repair' for farm machinery. The Productivity Commission has released a draft report on the Right to Repair in Australia, including a discussion of competition and barriers to repair for agricultural machinery and the potential to establish a right of repair for such machinery.

To assist with analysis for its final report, the Commission is seeking additional information about the repair experiences of agricultural machinery owners. The more evidence that can be provided that this right is needed, the more chance that this right will be established.

If you recently had agricultural machinery repaired, please fill out this 5-10 min questionnaire

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/agriculture_repair

ANALYSIS OF COUNCIL RATES CONTINUES

CANEGROWERS has commissioned further analysis of council rates in Queensland, reflecting the importance of the impact of rates bills on growers.

This work will update and build on the recent report which contained a comparative analysis of the rating practices of local governments with sizeable sugarcane farm areas. This report was provided to all CANEGROWERS district offices in June to facilitate discussions about rating practices at the local level.

CHECK-IN FOR FARM BIOSECURITY

A farm check-in app, complete with a QR code, is now available in Queensland. The State Government says the app is part of an on-farm biosecurity portal which includes information for biosecurity planning, and advice for industry and landholders about accessing shared agricultural land.

Scanning a QR code at a farm gate will give visitors access to an online checklist to help them understand their general biosecurity obligation and identify biosecurity risks including videos and information on good practices such as clean-down methods for clothing, vehicles and machinery. Property owners can install signs at their gate to encourage visitors to check-in, before entering an agricultural property.

To install 'Farm Check-In' on your device, visit www.daf.qld.gov.au/farmcheckin
For information about on-farm biosecurity, visit www.daf.qld.gov.au/onfarmbiosecurity

WORKING TO KEEP YOU MOVING

CANEGROWERS has successfully lobbied for a review of roads classed as 'critical roads' in Queensland as this has implications for the movement of agricultural machinery.

The review by the Department of Transport and Main Roads has started and already some roads near Ingham have been changed from critical to 'major'. The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator is in the process of updating its GIS maps to reflect the changes.

CANEGROWERS is also working with the Department to facilitate the application process for growers with stoll-tracked harvested who need registration and a permit to cross public roads.

ACCIDENTAL DAMAGE COVER Vs LISTED EVENTS COVER..... WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?



Accidental Damage Cover

Accidental damage: Coverage for the loss that occurs when your home or contents are damaged.

For example, accidental damage may provide coverage if your television is broken or dropped, a window breaks or some walls are damaged. Accidental damage is usually defined as events that are unforeseeable or unintended and are not deliberately caused. So you can't just drop your TV when you'd like a new one!

Listed Events Cover

Listed events: Are specifically mentioned, that is, "defined" or "listed" on your home and contents insurance policy.

Cyclone | Storm | Earthquake | Theft | Fire | Rainwater Damage | Wind Damage | Flood |

Check your home and contents insurance policy to determine what are the listed events that you have included and what might be excluded. Each insurer may include or exclude different listed or defined events on various insurance policies.

Please always read your Product Disclosure Statement for the full terms and conditions of your policy

*Proserpine District Canegrowers Co-Operative Limited (CAR 397943| ABN41 948 426 763)
Corporate Authorised representative of Community Broker Network Pty Ltd | AFSL 233750 |
ACN 096 916 184*



CANEGROWERS

MARKETING INFORMATION SERVICE

**Info, new video & new PDFs to
download & read**

**Prompt & forward sugar prices higher
in August**

With production in Brazil hit by frost, the short term outlook for the world sugar market is for a deficit. That means prices are climbing. For a closer look at what's at play and what it means for you, watch the August 2021 video & download the PDF information.

Log into the member services section at:
www.canegrowers.com.au using your
CANEGROWERS membership number.

FOR SALE - Cane planting equipment

1 x Populin billet planter
wide elevator \$3,500

1 x Populin 2-ton tipper bin
\$2,500 ono

1 x Refalo 2.5-ton tipper bin
\$2,500 ono

Phone: 0419 774 579

ERGON URGES EXTRA CARE AROUND POWERLINES

Ergon Energy is cautioning sugar cane industry workers to be extra careful around electricity infrastructure after a spate of recent collisions with powerlines. Ergon Energy's new *Look Up and Live* mobile app is designed to help reduce incidents and injuries at high-risk work sites, including Queensland cane farms during the crushing season.



After 146 incidents involving contact with overhead powerlines across the state in the last year, Ergon is encouraging machinery operators to plan and use the free app, which pinpoints the location of 1.7 million poles and 178,000 kilometres of overhead powerlines.

Community Safety Manager Aaron Smith says while people understand powerlines are dangerous, they don't always take them into account during their risk assessments. "The *Look Up and Live* app is a simple, lifesaving tool that will help you determine which control measures are needed to protect you and your mates on site, from safety observers to physical barriers or requesting a planned power outage.

"Before you do anything, you should have a look at the hazards so you can determine your next step. Contacting a powerline can be deadly, cause serious injuries and damage machinery—we've seen pieces of plant and heavy vehicles burnt to the ground," Aaron said.

Ergon is hoping to see more crews in the agriculture, construction, aviation and transport industries using the free app as part of their toolbox talks or worksite induction kits.

"There's a reason our powerline mapping tool has won multiple awards for innovation—all the information you need to save lives is at your fingertips on your mobile device and we have used feedback from various industries to design an app that works for them. We've had some fantastic feedback from the aerial application industry that the *Look Up and Live* app is the best thing since the advent of GPS. "It gives pilots another view before they do their own reconnaissance, particularly if it's a farm they're not familiar with, so they can have an informed discussion with the farmer about powerline safety," Aaron said.

The app allows users to order powerline markers and request safety advice tailored to their site.

"Part of what we're doing with the agricultural industry is encouraging farmers to take a step back and use the app to identify precisely where all the powerlines are on their properties, verify their heights and contact us for advice if they have any questions," Aaron said.

"One incident or injury is one too many and we are working with high-risk industries to keep everyone safe around powerlines by careful planning. The *Look Up and Live* app is a powerful addition to the toolkit."

Look up and Live

It pays to Take 5

1. Think through the task
2. Identify all electrical hazards
3. Assess the risks
4. Establish and introduce control measures
5. Do the job safely

Customer Service
13 10 46
7.00am - 6.30pm Monday to Friday
ergon.com.au

Faults only
13 22 96
24 hours a day,
7 days a week

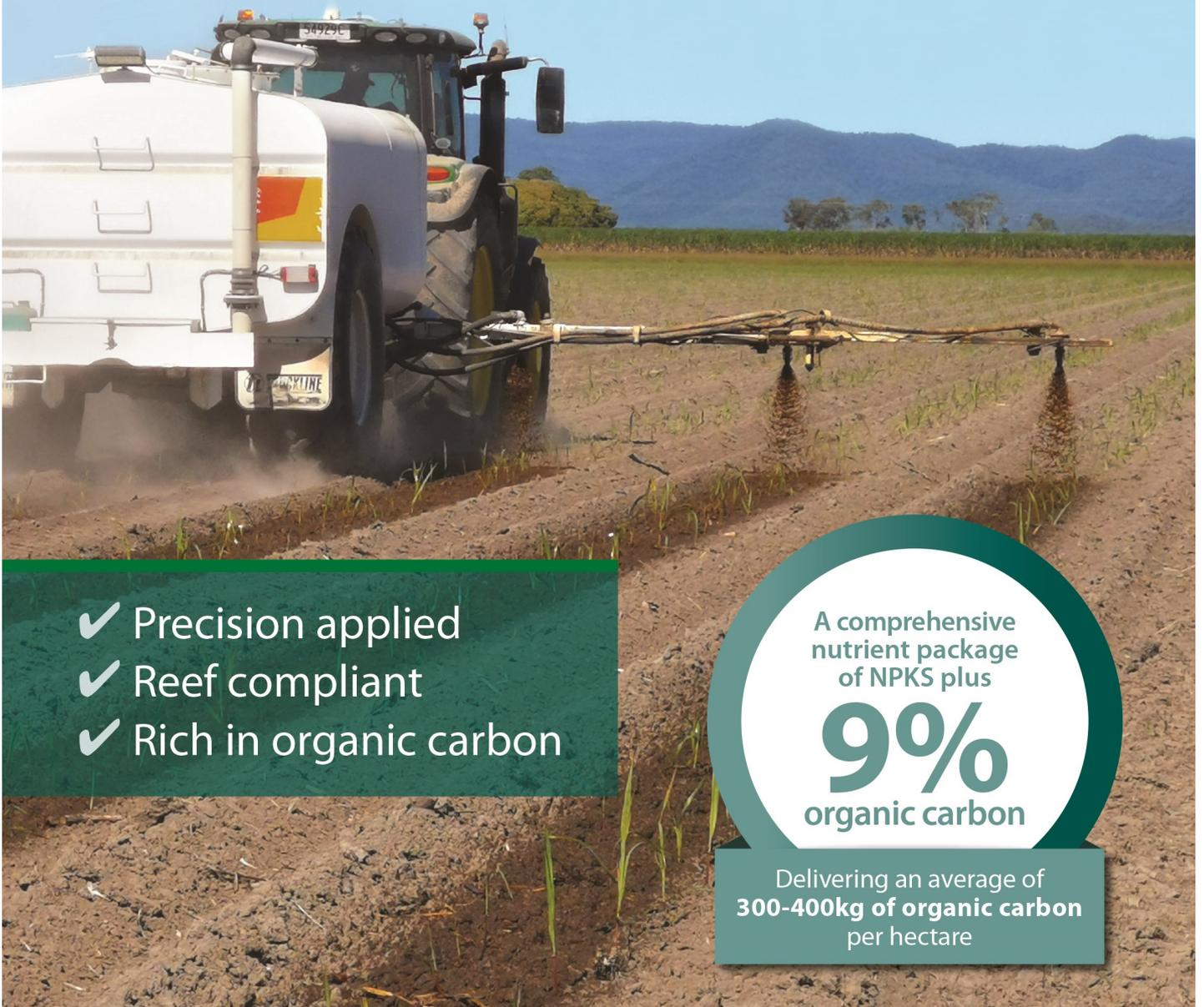
Life-Threatening
Emergencies only
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Ergon Energy Corporation Limited ABN 50 087 646 062
Ergon Energy Queensland Pty Ltd ABN 11 121 177 802

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organic carbon

Delivering an average of
300-400kg of organic carbon
per hectare



Get in touch:
GABRIEL PINHEIRO
0419 174 616



FOR SALE

Harvesting contract at end of 2020/21 crushing season. Includes:

- JD570 Fulltrack Harvester
- 3 x MAN TGA390 trucks w/ Griffcam 10T tippers
- 4 x CASE Powerhauls
- Miscellaneous harvesting equipment

To be sold with 50,000 tonnes plus cut. Harvesting 90,000 tonnes this season.

Contact Ian Considine for more information – 0410 664 890



FARM KIDS IN HI-VIS



Wilmar Sugar's new hi-vis vests have been a hit with farm kids, and the Valmadre siblings from Proserpine are no exception.

The vests were an essential item of clothing when they checked on the progress of the harvest with their dad and rode down the dirt headlands on their bikes.

Grower Luke Valmadre supplies cane to Proserpine Mill, which is about 40 per cent through this year's crush.

Proserpine Grower Marketing Consultant Shirley Norris connected these next generation farmers with their first hi-vis vests.

She still has some vests available. To score one, contact Shirley on 0437 803 019. First in, best dressed.



Today the National Farmers Federation (NFF) is teaming up with the Energy Efficiency Council (EEC) the peak body for experts in smart energy management – to launch a new guide for farms that are looking to slash their energy costs through smart energy management.

The new 'sector spotlight' on farms is the latest in the EEC's *Navigating a dynamic energy landscape series*, and shows how farms can cut costs, improve productivity and reduce emissions with energy efficiency, renewables and demand management. Tony Mahar, CEO of NFF, said the guide was timely: "Aussie farmers have seen their energy costs more than double in the last decade. The great news is we've seen leading farms avoid a big chunk of those extra costs by getting smarter with how they use energy."

"There are great news stories across our sector – from piggeries that are powering their whole operation with manure, to farms that have implemented efficient irrigation techniques that have boosted crop yield while cutting their energy costs by half. This guide is about getting those stories out there, and giving farmers the practical information they need to start reaping those benefits."

Luke Menzel, CEO of the EEC, agreed. "Agriculture is getting more energy intensive, as farmers look to boost productivity and deal with other challenges such as reduced rainfall. Put that together with volatile energy prices and farmers are more interested than ever in what they can do to manage their energy costs."

"This practical guide covers all the bases – energy efficiency, renewables, load shifting and procurement – so it is a great starting point for farms looking to roll up their sleeves and start reaping the benefits of smart energy management.

The complementary report can be downloaded at: www.energybriefing.org.au/sector-spotlights/farms



Take *more* control over your *final* price

We've made some changes to our pricing mechanisms to give you more control over your final sugar price.

- >> You can now set orders in \$5 increments when using our Target or GMPRS pricing mechanisms.
- >> You can price up to 70% of your nominated sugar tonnes for the 2022, 2023 and 2024 forward seasons.
- >> Talk to us about how the increased exposure limits can work for you.

Want to know more? _____



SHIRLEY NORRIS
OFFICE Proserpine Mill
PHONE 0437 803 019



NATIONAL FARMERS FEDERATION: FARMERS SHARE HOW THEY ARE PART OF THE CLIMATE SOLUTION

A new initiative launched during August is sharing stories of the climate action Aussie farmers are taking while continuing to produce the food and natural fibres we all depend on. Research commissioned by the National Farmers' Federation measured community sentiment towards agriculture, climate change and sustainability. Of those surveyed, 21% of Australians strongly believed farmers were committed to improving their environmental performance and adapting to a warmer, drier climate; while 44% somewhat agreed and 17% were neutral.

NFF Chief Executive, Tony Mahar said the survey results indicated the community recognised farmers were on the frontline of the climate solution and wanted to learn more about what action farmers were taking.

"Through *Australian Farms – Where REAL climate action happens* we're telling the stories of our farmers, who take seriously their responsibility as environmental stewards of 51% of the Australian landscape. "The good news is through research, innovation and on-farm management, farmers are world leaders in carbon abatement. In fact, agriculture is one large carbon cycle: generating emissions but also taking a significant amount of carbon from the atmosphere."

"Now mainstream practices such as rotational grazing; zero soil disruption when planting a crop and the conversion of livestock effluent to renewable energy have seen Australian agriculture reduce its direct greenhouse gas emissions by 65 per cent between 2004-05 and 2016-17. Farmers are on a journey and there is more work to do. Through new science and technologies, like feed additives that drastically reduce livestock emissions, agriculture is poised to continue being part of the climate solution."

West Gippsland dairy farmer and veterinarian, Tess Butler is one farmer featured in *Australian Farms: Where REAL climate action happens*. Tess runs 900 jersey cows with her partner Ben and three-year old son, Will. The family suffered catastrophic losses in the 2009 Victorian bushfires. In the build-back Tess transformed the farm so the family could, in their own way, respond to climate challenges. With changes to soil and pasture management Tess' cows now produce more milk with less methane emissions. Tess says producing milk that meets

the expectations and values of Australians is what gets her out of bed every day. "Sustainability is extremely important to me. The way we run this farm is about getting what we need without compromising the land for the future."

Dan Fox and his family from Marrar, in southern New South Wales are committed to continuous improvement. Dan grows cereal crops including wheat, sorghum and barley; pulses such as chickpeas and faba beans; and oilseeds including canola and sunflowers. Through reduced soil disruption and more fuel-efficient machinery, Dan is improving the sustainability of the farm for future generations. "The legacy I'd like to leave for my children is a farm on which the soils are functioning better than when we started. "We're custodians of the land, we should leave the land better than when we received it," Dan said.

The Wilmot Cattle Company in northern NSW, managed by Stuart Austin is in 2021, as Stuart says 'massively climate positive'. "Through soil carbon sequestration, we're taking more carbon out of the atmosphere than we are emitting each year, all the while producing nutrient dense beef," Stuart said. "I can put my hand on my heart and backed by an enormous amount of data to say that we are improving the ecological health of this farm." In the past three years, the Wilmot Team has planted 25,000 trees across their Ebor property.

Mr Mahar said the actions of Tess, Dan and Stuart were repeated on farms across Australia every day. "Australian farmers not only produce the world's highest quality meat, wool, cotton, grain, dairy, timber and more, but they are also a vital part of the climate change solution. "By hearing the overwhelmingly positive stories of our farmers, we want Aussies to continue to enjoy the Australian-grown food and fibres they love with the peace of mind and the confidence that farmers are part of the climate change solution."

To find out more about the real climate action happening on Australian farms everyday visit www.farmers.org.au

Australian Farms
where *real* climate action happens



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND
Centre for Agricultural Engineering

Modernisation of Furrow Irrigation in the Australian Sugar Industry



Background

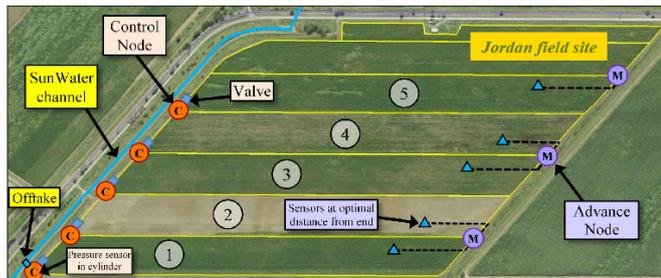
Furrow irrigation is a common choice for irrigation of sugar cane across the globe, due to low capital and energy costs. Almost all sugar in the Burdekin area (Australia's largest sugar region) uses this technique.

Although other systems may boast higher efficiencies, furrow irrigation can perform to the same level with appropriate and timely management but this usually comes at an increased labour cost.



The Problem

- Water and electricity prices are rising.
- Application efficiencies (AE) range from 30—95%
- Efficiencies can be increased with altered flows times, but this means changing sets in the middle of the night. Instead growers typically choose convenient time intervals (12hr, 24hr).
- Irrigations not occurring at the correct time, decreasing yield
- Poor irrigation efficiency can have adverse impacts on the Great Barrier Reef.
- **Automation offers a potential solution at low cost**

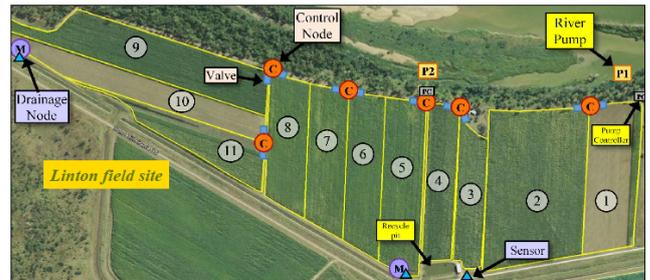


Project Methodology

- **Scoping study** – considering industry requirements, available technology and the potential costs of different systems.
- **Demonstration sites** - Three sites were chosen representing a range of water sources, soils and block sizes.
- **Monitoring and refinement** – The systems were closely monitored over 2 years, sensors were added so that irrigation event timing can adapt to field conditions in real time.
- **Cost Benefit Analysis** – of the demonstration sites considering the potential savings, yield increases and system costs.



Control nodes, actuators and valves



System Components

Is comprised of a series of WiSA nodes connected to a base station via a radio network

- **Radio Base station** - Connected to PC running control software
- **Control system** - Control nodes (can connect to two valves) with actuator and valve for each block.
- **Supply Monitoring** - Pressure (PST) & Flowmeter
- **Advance/Drainage Monitoring** – Drain Water level or advance detection within field. These sensors can be used to automatically trigger valves and pumps to stop or switch to next set
- **Other optional sensors** (e.g. wind, rain, soil moisture etc)



Buried advance sensor in field

Drain level sensors

Benefits of the system

- Water savings meaning less water purchased and a reduction in energy required for pumping
- reduction in runoff/deep drainage
- Reduction in labour costs and vehicle costs
- Ability to operate at off peak electricity times
- Social/Family benefits – less time required on farm
- Yield increases through better management
- Improved record keeping, system can record all applied volumes

Site	Pozzebon	Pozzebon Entire Farm	Linton	Jordan
Area (ha)	27	87	53	82
Number of blocks	8	24	11	5
Cost for full system (\$)	\$59,700	\$120,300	\$68,365	\$48,700
Cost for full system	\$2,211	\$1,383	\$1,290	\$594
Cost per year over 7 years	\$316	\$198	\$184	\$85
Labour Saving	\$197	\$184	\$149	\$58
Vehicle cost saving	\$10	\$10	\$70	\$16
Water Saving	\$86	\$80	\$1	\$70
Energy saving	\$25	\$23	\$36	--
Electricity tariff saving	\$0	\$0	\$122	--
Sum of benefits	\$381	\$296	\$378	\$144
Yield Increase (conservative estimate)	\$120	\$120	\$240	\$120
Sum benefits + Yield	\$438	\$416	\$618	\$264
Payback (yrs) with all benefits included	6.34	3.88	2.33	2.51

Dr Malcolm Gillies, malcolm.gillies@usq.edu.au

Steve Attard, steve@agritechsolutions.com.au

PROSERPINE QSL UPDATE



The market is rallying – get 'appy'!

With 2021-Season having reached \$600 and 2020-Season \$500, the ability to easily track market levels and quickly place or adjust a pricing order can really pay off. QSL Direct growers are reminded they can easily access their accounts and manage pricing on the go via the QSL App, available free from the App Store (for iOS devices) and the Google Play Store (for Android devices).

Detailed market reports

In addition to our daily price updates via the QSL App, text, email, and the website, QSL also shares detailed market reports within the QSL Direct portal. These reports provide information on each ICE 11 and London (refined) trading session as well as sales and trading commentary. QSL Direct growers can find these reports – updated daily – under the Market Reports tab on their QSL Direct account's homepage.

Transaction summaries

QSL Direct growers are reminded that they can find a handy summary of all their QSL transactions for the last financial year within the Financial Reports section of their QSL Direct accounts. Quarterly and Annual Grower Account Statements are provided for each season you have marketed with QSL.

Additional tonnage now available

As of 1 July 2021, QSL growers can access additional GEI tonnage to price in the 2023 and 2024 Seasons, with committed pricing levels now as follows:

2021 Season	2022 Season	2023 Season	2024 Season
70%	70%	70% 20% increase	50% 10% increase

Tax time reminder

QSL growers in Wilmar milling districts are reminded that our new GST arrangements came into effect from 1 July 2021. As a result, our previous tax treatment applies for any 2020 and 2021-Season QSL payments made in the last financial year.

Remember, the simple rule of thumb is:

Old Statement Format = Old GST Treatment
New Statement Format = New GST Treatment



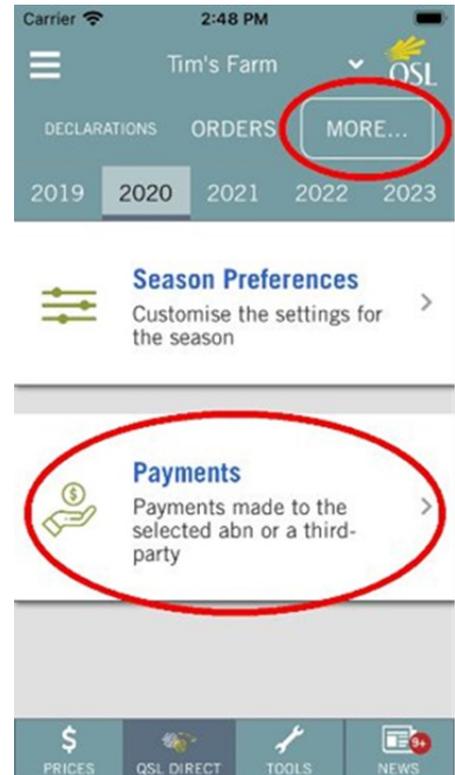
Payment notifications

QSL Direct growers using the QSL App can now receive a notification when QSL has processed a payment for their ABNs. To activate this feature, just ensure that you have:

1. Updated the app; **and**
2. Enabled notifications

You can check or change your notification status within the NOTIFICATIONS section of your phone's SETTINGS.

You can find your QSL payment information under the MORE tab within the QSL Direct section of the app.



**For more information please contact QSL
Grower Relationship Officer, Karen Vloedmans:**

Proserpine



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

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