Milling company MSF today announced they are joining Wilmar in giving notice to exit QSL

It was no real surprise when Mike Barry announced today that MSF Sugar Ltd is also giving notice to exit QSL on 30th June 2017. MSF mills 500,000 tonnes of raw sugar and is wholly owned by Mitr Phol Sugar Corp Ltd. Mitr Phol is the largest sugar producer in Asia. (Overview of MSF)

This announcement occurred days after a meeting of all cane industry participants convened by Agriculture Minister John McVeigh on Tuesday thereby the Minister was endeavouring to broker a solution to the ongoing marketing issue. At this meeting, the various Mill representatives were asked to provide an indication of their support or otherwise of remaining with QSL. The 30th June has always been an important date as this is the date by which millers must give notice if they plan on exiting QSL. The notice period is three years.

CBL Chairman Phil Marano advised “This issue is not about pricing. It’s about protecting growers rights and it is about protecting QSL who provides growers with a transparent independent third party to price and market their roughly 2/3rds interest in the raw sugar. It is about preventing growers from being forever at the mercy of large corporate milling companies. These large corporates have the goal of extracting value for their shareholders from every part of the supply chain with growers being seen as just one part of that supply chain. If this proposal goes ahead and QSL is lost, growers will be at the bottom of this supply chain forever.”

Burdekin Shire Council announces a shocker of a rates budget

On Tuesday Burdekin Shire Council announced its budget for the coming financial year with a whopping 6.5% overall increase in General Rates for the 2014/15 year. Cane farmers (Category D) were allocated a 5.51% increase.

As the only cane grower collective represented at the meeting Canegrowers Burdekin aired our views strongly and stated that we were extremely disappointed that the Council continues to treat cane farmers unfairly. We pointed out that even though cane farmers are already slugged with close to double their fair share of General Rates the Council has once again made the decision to hit cane growers with a higher increase than what has been allocated to residential properties.

We disagree that the Council has delivered a sustainable budget with an increase of 6.5% for general rates at a time when the CPI is running at only 2.7%. We are not convinced that the Council has made the hard decisions it needs to make to cut costs.

Debra Burden being interviewed by WIN News following the council budget announcement.
Milling company MSF today announced they are joining Wilmar in giving notice to exit QSL Cont

Phil went on to state “We now have two large foreign owned milling companies picking apart a 100 year old Australian industry. We fully support foreign investment but all foreign investors must respect growers’ rights and must respect the way things are done here in Australia”.

CANEGROWERS Qld says while regulation is seen by the industry as the last bastion, the issue is of such grave importance to the industry that growers could and would push hard for it, if it became the last recourse in its fight to protect the thousands of family farmers against the large corporate millers they supply.

“For now, the ball is now firmly in the court of government,” says Paul Schembri, Chair of QCGO. “Government has the support of growers to find a solution to ensure they get a continued say in marketing structures – a say in their future.”

Immediately following MSF announcement Canegrowers Burdekin met with local member Rosemary Menkens MP to discuss potential solutions to retain industry-owned and fully transparent QSL.

Click the names below to listen to the ABC Country Hour on Friday 27 in response to MSF’s notice to QSL.

Those interviewed included: Mike Barry (MSF), Joe Marano (CANEGROWERS Innisfail), Greg Beashel (QSL) and Allan Dingle (CANEGROWERS Bundaberg).

REMINDER

Burdekin Shire Council’s Environment and Health Project Officer, Anne McLaughlin advises the Home Hill waste transfer station will be used for the temporary storage of fluming. Farmers may deliver fluming to the Home Hill waste transfer station in Bojack Road Home Hill during normal operational hours which are 10am to 5pm daily. Fluming can be delivered between the dates of 1 July to 20 July which will give a three week opportunity to deliver the fluming from farms. But will only be accepted between these dates. RDT will bale the fluming on site and remove this for reprocessing. Burning or other illegal disposal of this material causes the release of toxins and environmental harm. Farmers bringing fluming to the Home Hill waste transfer station will need to

Reminder—LBLCA Meeting

LBLCA Committee Meeting is this TUESDAY, 1st July 2014, 5.00pm Burdekin Shire Council’s John Hy Peake Room. The John Hy Peake Room is located on the corner of Young and MacMillan Streets and entry is via the Heritage Doors to the left (MacMillan Street) of the Main Council Offices.

For further information please phone Linda Kirk, Secretary on 0415 307 364
I am writing to urge growers to consider all elements involved in pricing when weighing up pricing options or comparing sugar prices. This involves carefully examining risk parameters and timelines applied to pricing decisions.

This comes off-the-back of Wilmar’s recent pricing claims that they achieved a higher price than the average payment their growers achieved for the 2012 and 2013 seasons. Sugar pricing is highly complex and there are a variety of options available in our system that results in a wide range of prices achieved by individual growers and millers.

Wilmar may have achieved a greater price compared to an average of their growers however, some of their growers may have also achieved individual higher prices through their Forward Pricing or a single QSL-managed pool. The key point is that Wilmar’s price was achieved through the current collaborative industry system.

QSL offers a range of pricing options including QSL-managed pools, individual Forward Pricing or miller-managed pricing pools. If a pool doesn’t exist, millers are welcome to discuss their needs with QSL and a pricing pool can be created.

When looking at pricing pools, an important element to consider is the risk parameters set around the pricing decisions to be undertaken. Each pricing pool that QSL operates has set risk parameters to provide growers and millers with a level of comfort as to what risk our pricing team will take when pricing their sugar on the ICE11 futures market. Each grower and miller has different risk appetites. Like superannuation funds, the higher the risk in sugar marketing pools, the greater the potential for higher returns. However, higher risk also means greater potential for loss when conditions are less favourable, as has also been seen with superannuation funds.

In addition to risk parameters placed around pricing, it’s important to consider timing of pricing. Traditionally, QSL-managed pools have been priced over a single season (12 month period). In recent years, QSL has introduced Forward Season pools which allow millers and growers the opportunity to participate in the market over a longer timeframe with pricing decisions made as far out as three years. QSL also provides growers and millers with the opportunity to conduct individual Forward Pricing.

I make these points around risk and timelines for pricing approaches because it’s important that like-for-like comparisons are made when comparing prices as world prices for raw sugar fluctuate and can be highly-volatile depending on supply, demand, weather and a range of other market influences.

In the end, pricing is complex and it comes down to the level of risk an individual is willing to take. That is why QSL provides the wide range of pricing options that it does and transparently outlines the risk involved in each pricing option so growers and millers can make informed decisions. We also transparently provide updates on how each of our pricing pools are tracking throughout the season so growers and millers can see how the pools are performing.

At the heart of this issue are the principles of value, risk, trust and transparency. Price is one aspect of the value proposition and should not be considered in isolation. Pricing is one of the four pillars of our industry system along with financing, marketing (selling) and logistics. We believe that if Wilmar truly believes they can achieve a better price for their growers than they should be willing to stand up and compete against QSL and offer their growers a choice over who markets their sugar; QSL or Wilmar.
Grower choice is both a solution to the Wilmar-grower impasse and a viable option for the entire Queensland sugar industry that will encourage increased competition and deliver the fairest outcome for both growers and millers alike, Queensland Sugar Limited CEO, Greg Beashel, said today.

Speaking after an industry meeting held today with the Queensland Minister for Agriculture, John McVeigh, Mr Beashel said providing growers with a choice of marketer would provide the fairest outcome for all while creating stability and transparency for the entire industry. “Competition is important to drive innovation and the best price outcomes. Providing a transparent and stable system for competition in marketing of grower economic interest sugar that allows pricing outcomes to be fairly compared is the best option,” Mr Beashel said.

Mr Beashel praised the Minister for taking an active role in bringing all parties to the negotiating table to discuss the details of a grower choice model and said QSL welcomed further industry meetings.

“QSL is owned by the industry – millers and growers – and therefore has the best interests of both at its core,” Mr Beashel said. “We believe that providing growers with a choice in who markets their sugar, would be the most competitive model for the entire Queensland sugar industry. While grower choice would represent change for growers, it would simply mean greater choice of marketing options than was currently available.”

Mr Beashel said grower organisations were unified in their support of the concept of having choice about who markets their sugar and the next step would be to work with industry to agree on the specific details. “QSL sees that grower choice could operate in a similar way to how miller economic interest currently works where millers have the option to sell their one-third economic interest sugar or have QSL sell it on their behalf,” Mr Beashel said.

“For those millers who didn’t want to compete to market grower economic interest sugar, and their growers, there would be little change from the current arrangements.”

Mr Beashel said grower choice would be highly achievable and could be implemented if Wilmar retracts its notice to QSL and the rest of the industry agreed to the change.

“We are committed to working with the Government, growers and millers to develop a model that will work fairly in each group’s favour and encourage competition.”

Grower choice the answer to sugar industry impasse

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Grower choice still on the table; QSL urges MSF to engage

Queensland Sugar Limited (QSL) today called on sugar miller, MSF, to continue to engage in the industry discussion around grower choice of marketer, despite its decision to exit collaborative sugar marketing and export arrangements.

MSF today gave formal notice to QSL that it would exit the industry-owned system, which returns all profits to millers and growers and provides financing, pricing, marketing (selling) and logistics services to the industry.

QSL CEO, Greg Beashel, said that, while he was disappointed with MSF’s decision, he understood that the industry wanted change and needed time to discuss and determine its future after June 2017.

“Grower choice is still very much on the table as a viable solution for the future sustainability of the industry,” said Mr Beashel.

“We would encourage MSF to continue the industry conversation begun by Queensland Agriculture Minister, John McVeigh, around a model that we believe will encourage innovation while providing choice, competition and the fairest outcome for both millers and growers.

“Grower choice would allow growers to choose who markets their sugar – QSL or their mill – and would encourage increased competition and deliver the fairest outcome for both growers and millers alike.”

Mr Beashel said QSL Raw Sugar Supply Agreements (RSSAs) were in place for the next three years, so there was time to work out a solution for MSF and the entire industry.

“MSF has decided that there is enough uncertainty around industry settings for the 2017 season that it doesn’t want to roll over its agreement. We respect that decision and will work with MSF to address its concerns,” Mr Beashel said.

“QSL is owned by its members and therefore has the best interests of both at its core. We have adapted to change to meet the needs of the Queensland sugar industry over our 90 year history and will continue to work with the industry to come to an agreed model.”

MSF’s decision follows the withdrawal of international sugar trading business, Wilmar, from the system on 21 May – a decision which has been met with strident opposition from cane grower representative groups.

Mr Beashel said he feared that, if an industry agreed grower choice model was not developed, there could be serious consequences for all growers and smaller millers.

QSL has always provided the balance between growers and millers ensuring value is appropriately distributed between the two and has protected growers from what is essentially a miller monopoly situation,” Mr Beashel said.

“A collaborative industry approach, such as QSL, allows growers and millers to share in the benefits of economies of scale and combined value in a transparent and fair manner.

“We still have a job to do for the industry to manage the 2014, 2015 and 2016 season crops and we will continue to be focused on maximising returns for our members during this time.”

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CANEGROWERS media release
Bitter pill for sugar growers: calls mount on government to intervene

The fight for the rights of Australia’s cane growers against multinational interests has escalated quickly today with news that Australia’s second largest milling interest, MSF, has now also served notice to withdraw from industry owned marketing group QSL.

The transparency and confidence of having an industry owned marketer is the envy of farmers worldwide, but this structure is now under threat as large tonnages which have made the group so successful on the competitive world market are being assumed by large corporates, whose shareholders, unlike QSL, are not the growers themselves.

Cane growers across Australia, concerned about the spiralling influence of multinationals intent on pursuing corporate profits, even if that comes at the expense of growers, are now calling on the government to take action to protect farmers before it’s too late.

“The government must now determine if it is prepared to have large decisions which affect the Australian economy and key industries within it, made by large multi-national companies,” says CANEGROWERS Chairman, Paul Schembri.

“The future of QSL is being determined in the boardrooms of six milling companies, not the broader industry, with decisions taken by faceless men and women in dark suits around board tables far removed from the cane fields of Queensland.

“The harsh reality of these decisions is that whilst growers own 50% of QSL, they are being denied any formal say in its future, with millers taking unilateral decisions which have widespread and lasting impacts on the future structure and confidence of the Australian sugar industry.

“By making decisions contrary to what the groundswell of farmers want, these companies are thumbing their noses not just at growers, but at the government. Is government going to let them run roughshod over nearly 100 years of history and the governments’ own efforts led by Minister McVeigh and supported by CANEGROWERS to find a workable solution which looks after the rights of Australians and Australian industry? It would be untenable to allow corporates to control the agenda, stripping growers of their rights and allowing them to extract monopoly rents at the expense of growers.

“By intervening, government would be sending a strong signal that large corporates and multi-nationals can be part of the strength of Australia, but they must respect the views and investments of Australian cane growers.

“Our growers are angry and are prepared to fight with everything they have. They want the choice to stay within their industry-owned marketing structure which gives the many thousands of family cane farmers’ undeniable transparency into how their sugar is priced and their confidence in their future.”

CANEGROWERS says while regulation is seen by the industry as the last bastion, the peak group says the issue is of such grave importance to the industry that growers could and would push hard for it, if it became the last recourse in its fight to protect the thousands of family farmers against the large corporate millers they supply.

“For now, the ball is now firmly in the court of government,” says Mr Schembri. “Government has the support of growers to find a solution to ensure they get a continued say in marketing structures – a say in their future.”
CANEGROWERS & ACFA propose alternative model to the Wilmar’s NO CHOICE proposal

CANEGROWERS has written to all members in Wilmar areas with CANEGROWERS and ACFA’s proposed alternative approach, Pathways to Market for GEI Sugar, which is designed to give growers real choice over how their GEI sugar is priced and sold. The letter also included a fact sheet showing the proposed model. The proposed model factsheet can be found here.

If you would like to talk through this model contact Debra or Wayne on 47903600.

Landline story on Wilmar exiting QSL

CANEGROWERS CEO Brendan Stewart talked about Wilmar’s marketing proposal on ABC-TV’s Landline:

“This is about confidence going forward and not confidence just for the next 12 months, but confidence for the next 5, 10, 15, 20 years - in fact, for the next generation of cane farmers.”

Click here to view the interview.

CANEGROWERS submission to the review of national competition policy

CANEGROWERS has filed a submission into the government’s review of Australia’s competition policy including the Competition and Consumer Act 2010. This review presents an important opportunity to inform the government of the importance CANEGROWERS places on Australia having an effective competition policy framework. Click here for the CANEGROWERS submission.

MORE INFORMATION ON WILMAR EXITING QSL

⇒ CANEGROWERS Burdekin articles click here >
⇒ SAY NO TO WILMAR petition click here >
⇒ SAY NO TO WILMAR on facebook click here >
⇒ SAY NO TO WILMAR handle for twitter #saynotowilmar
⇒ What it means for growers more information from CANEGROWERS click here >
⇒ Information from QSL click here >
⇒ Information from Wilmar click here >
Minister McVeigh marriage counsellor to the sugar industry

Comments from Agricultural Minister John McVeigh to the ABC Rural Report following a meeting of industry representatives held in Brisbane Tuesday 24 June between 10am to 12 noon.

Minister McVeigh advised the meeting was the first step in endeavouring to broker a solution to the marketing issue. All key industry players had representatives in attendance and agreed to accept the Minister’s offer to chair this meeting.

In brokering the meeting Minister McVeigh advised he had asked all parties to “come back to the table”, everyone was at the table so he felt this meeting was a positive first step.

Although Wilmar maintained at the meeting that they are commitment to their alternative marketing model and indicated they were not prepared to compromise they did state that it is early days.

Minister McVeigh felt ground was made due to the fact that the offer to meet was accepted and a first discussion held. He advised he felt this was a positive first step and he had no interest in the past and he said/she said type comments. He was looking forward and looking for all to participate in meetings over the coming weeks.

The Minister stated he recognised that Wilmar has a legal and commercial right to exit QSL but Wilmar’s actions have created significant angst in the industry. He is keen to broker middle ground and provide support to the industry to come together. Feels his role will be like the role of a marriage counsellor and he has the goal of finding a mutually beneficial solution.

Attendees at the meeting have a week to go back and talk to their colleagues and then to advise the Minister if they want him to broker future meetings over coming weeks.

CANEGROWERS urges further sugar marketing talks

CANEGROWERS Chairman Paul Schembri has welcomed the Agriculture Minister John McVeigh’s offer to broker further discussions towards developing a mutually beneficial and financially sustainable future for the sugar industry.

“Farmers have been angered by milling company Wilmar’s move to exit the single desk marketing arrangements with the industry-owned body QSL and lock its cane suppliers into a structure which strips them of any choice in how their sugar is marketed,” Mr Schembri says.

“At an industry-wide meeting today, hosted by the Minister, CANEGROWERS was able to state its strong support for the continuation of a single desk and our concerns about conflict of interest and a lack of transparency in the Wilmar proposal.

“We want long term certainty in marketing arrangements that give growers choice and confidence in their future.

“We welcome the Minister’s offer to host further talks and urge all millers to come to the table again with goodwill to resolving this dispute and a willingness to find a genuine path forward.”

CANEGROWERS has this week written to all of its members outlining a positive plan for the future of marketing in the sugar industry – one that will benefit farmers and millers.

“Our plan would allow Wilmar to market its share of the sugar it mills however it decides. Most importantly, it guarantees growers the right to choose to market their share of the sugar either through QSL or any other structure.

“Growers should not be locked into something they don’t want and thousands of sugarcane businesses are telling CANEGROWERS they do not support Wilmar’s proposal.

“CANEGROWERS will work to ensure that future Cane Supply Agreements between growers and mills contain a guarantee that farmers have a two-third economic interest in the 4 million tonnes of sugar produced in Australia each year,” Mr Schembri says.

The CANEGROWERS Pathways to Market for GEI Sugar document sets out a structure which puts Grower Economic Interest sugar beyond any doubt.
Cane Auditors Pre Season Review

Cane auditors for 2014 season met with growers representatives, wilmar production managers and laboratory coordinators prior to season commencement to review the action taken in addressing the issues raised by the Cane Auditors at the 2013 season review meeting held last year.

All of the 38 items raised by the auditors after the 2013 season had been addressed by wilmar to the satisfaction of the grower representatives with only 4 being nominated as no action required.

There were still 6 items still outstanding as being either work in progress to be completed prior to commencement of crushing operations or to be addressed once the newly formed Burdekin Cane Auditing Services becomes operational.

All auditors did stress to those at the meeting to advise growers the importance of having correct and legible information indicated on consignment notes and also that logistics officers should ensure that farms maps are correct and that any corrections or amendments that have been advised by growers are actioned promptly.

In charge auditors and seconds at each mill site for the 2014 season are indicated in the table below as well as the relevant contact phone number for each mill auditor.

### 2014 CANE AUDITORS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MILL</th>
<th>IN CHARGE</th>
<th>SECONDS</th>
<th>PHONE NUMBER</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Marie Watson</td>
<td>Vicki Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pioneer</td>
<td>Mark Saunders</td>
<td>Susie Jordan</td>
<td>4782 5346</td>
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<td>Kalamia</td>
<td>Geraldine Cantarella</td>
<td>Jane Gambino</td>
<td>4783 0319</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inkerman</td>
<td>Richard Bond</td>
<td>Bev McDonald</td>
<td>4782 1020</td>
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**NO DRY TROPICS**

Invites you to the 2 day

**SOIL & FARM FERTILITY - THE BIOLOGICAL WAY WORKSHOP**

Clare Club 9am - 5pm daily
Tuesday 1 & Wednesday 2
July 2014

If you are working to learn how to change from pure conventional farming, to a system more sympathetic to soil biological activity, this course allows you to address issues specific to your property and situation. Course will be delivered in a flexible, fun and hands on way.

**Speakers**

- build skills in soil health and farm fertility management.
- assessing soil fertility.
- identifying soil management constraints and
- managing fertiliser nutrients.
- soil & land monitoring strategies.

A professional farmer for 36 years, Geoff Bassett, successfully adopted biological, organic and holistic principles, after experiencing the problems associated with chemical farming practices. Geoff has practical knowledge on how to regenerate soils using easily implemented and financially viable methods. These methods have been applied to many crops and soils with great success.

David Marschall is an agricultural ecologist and rural trainer with many years experience in agronomy, soils and fertilisers. He has worked for Landcare in both NSW and Queensland and teaches Agriculture at TAFE in NSW. He is currently working with cane farmers in north Queensland to improve sustainability and profitability.

Registration closes Monday 30 June
Cost $50.00 per enterprise
FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER - Contact Diana O’Donnell on 4722 5728 or diana.odonnell@nodrytropics.com.au

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**CROP CRUSHED TO DATE**

Week 3 - as at 21/06/2014

- 251,330 tonnes
- 3%
- 2014 estimate
- 7,900,000
Payroll & HR update by Tiffany

At the beginning of the new financial year there will be changes for employers. There will be a change in the tax tables, changes to the Sugar Industry Award and superannuation guarantee will increase from 9.25% to 9.5%.

The new tax tables can be found on the ATO website [here](#).

Below is the Sugar Industry rates as at 1 July 2014.

**SUGAR INDUSTRYAWARD Modern Award 2010**

**Classification Structure and Wage Rates effective from 1st July 2014 for 38 hour week**

**All Employers**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>$ Week</th>
<th>$ Hour</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Inductee / Trainee (Youths under 18 years)</td>
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<td>Grade 1</td>
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</table>

***Important note***

*Superannuation contribution* - must be calculated at 9.50% of each individual employee’s Ordinary Time Earnings.

*Calculation of Ordinary Hourly Rate* - for all purposes of the Award, the Ordinary Hourly Rate for each of the Classifications contained herein shall be the Weekly Rate divided by 38 with rounding on the second decimal place. The Fair Work Statement refers to weekly wages will be rounded to the nearest 10 cents.

*Single Contract Hourly Rate* - Employees engaged on a single contract hourly rate shall be paid the number of hours worked per day at 115% of the applicable classification ordinary hourly rate irrespective of the number of hours worked per day or per pay period or the days of the pay period on which work is performed. Employees engaged on this basis shall be entitled to personal/carer’s leave, compassionate leave and annual leave entitlements.

*Piecework Rate* - Employees engaged on a piecework basis shall be paid a minimum piecework rate sufficient to equal the payment for actual hours worked at both ordinary time and overtime in the relevant pay period plus a loading of 20%. This 20% loading is in lieu of personal/carer’s leave and annual leave entitlements.

*Casual Rate* – The pre-modern award did not provide a casual employment category, wage rates for these employees will phase from the National Minimum Wage and the casual loading phase in from zero. This loading is instead of entitlements to paid leave (e.g. personal/carer’s leave and annual leave entitlements).
ICE11 will soon call Singapore home

Singapore is soon to play host to three major clearing houses by way of Eurex, Intercontinental Exchange and domestic incumbent, the Singapore Exchange. The presence of all three could transform the major offshore financial centre into one of the world’s largest clearing hubs.

The US group Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) is the exchange that hosts the ICE11. It is the ICE11 that provides pricing for over 95% of the raw sugar that is exported from Australia.

To make this transition ICE purchased an established Singapore exchange called SMX and its clearing house, SMXCC, this provided the US group with the necessary infrastructure to get its operation up-and-running in Singapore in a shorter timeframe.

“ICE has had a presence in Singapore for more than a decade and in recent years we have seen increased participation from Asian market participants across our global energy markets”, said Jennifer Ilkiw, vice president, ICE, Asia Pacific.

“A period of business transition is currently in place in order for ICE to implement technology and platform changes at both SMX and SMXCC in consultation with the market and regulator. ICE expects to transition SMX and SMXCC from existing technology to the ICE trading platform and ICE clearing technology and expects to relaunch the exchange and clearing house in the second half of 2014”. added Ilkiw.

Extracted from FOW (Futures & Options World) media release. Click here for the entire article.
Safety requirements for Cane Harvesters on public roads

General requirements:

- **Must** operate under the conditions set out on the Registration label affixed to a conditionally registered vehicle (Access provisions)
- The height of the cane harvester must not exceed 5.0m
- The length of the cane harvester must not exceed 14.5m
- The rear overhang of the cane harvester in the stowed position must not exceed 7.8m.

Warning Devices - (Day time and Night time)

- Warning sign (OVERSIZE) at its front
- Warning sign (OVERSIZE) at its rear no further forward than the rear overhang line
- A warning light (as required under registration condition SL1)
- Four flags- positioned each side front and rear
- A warning pattern
- A warning light fitted to any projection that exceeds 5.5m

Travel in Daylight Hours

A cane harvester with a rear overhang which exceeds 5.5m up to 7.8m may travel in daylight hours when accompanied in the manner shown in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Road or Area</th>
<th>Rear overhang of cane Harvester</th>
<th>Overhang exceeds 5.5m up to 7.8m</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Road or Critical Area</td>
<td>1 Agricultural Pilot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossing Critical Road and Roads in Critical Area</td>
<td>See note 1 below</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any Major Road</td>
<td>1 Agricultural Pilot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossing Major Road (by Direct Route)</td>
<td>nil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Any Minor Road</td>
<td>nil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossing Minor Road (by Direct Route)</td>
<td>nil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note 1

The driver of a cane harvester crossing any critical road or road in a critical area must ensure the following conditions:

- Driver has clear vision for 350m in both directions (**no Ag pilot or escort needed**)
- Driver has clear vision of 350m in one direction and at least 100m in the other direction. (**MUST be assisted by One Agricultural Pilot**)  
- Driver has only 100m of clear vision in both directions (**MUST be assisted by two Agricultural Pilots - one on each side of the cane harvester at a distance of 350m**)

Travel in Night time Hours

A cane harvester is permitted to operate at night time provided it is accompanied by an agricultural pilot travelling behind the cane harvester whilst displaying or operating the following

- Two red lights (rear markers) one fitted on each side
- A warning light (as required under registration condition SL1)
- A warning light fitted to any projection that exceeds 5.5m
- Headlights or forward projecting lights which satisfactorily illuminate the ground

A warning light must only be switched on when the vehicle is travelling or is stationary in a position that may cause danger to other road users.

Warning Devices for Agricultural Pilot Vehicle

An agricultural pilot vehicle must have the following warning devices:

- A warning sign on its roof
- A warning light

Any warning light must be operating when the vehicle is accompanying an oversize vehicle or combination.

Definitions:

A “Critical Road” is a road marked in red on the “Critical Areas and Roads in Queensland” Map this includes the **Bruce Highway** in its entirety.

A “Critical Area” includes the shaded areas indicated on the “Critical Areas and Roads in Queensland” Map. It also includes any place that is a built up area within the city limits of the township of **AYR**.

A “**Major Road**” is a road marked in blue on the “Critical Areas and Roads in Queensland” Map. This for the Burdekin district includes **Kirknie Road** and **Ayr-Dalbeg Road**

A “**Minor Road**” is a road that is not a major road or a critical road

“**Day time**” means the period beginning at sunrise and ending at sunset, where visibility is no less than 250m due to natural light.

“**Night Time**” means the period beginning at sunset and ending at sunrise.

An “**Agricultural Pilot**” is a person directly associated with primary production who has held an open or provisional license for at least 12 months or is an accredited pilot vehicle or escort vehicle driver. Primary producers, primary producer employees, contractors and people involved in the sale and repair of agricultural vehicles are all directly associated with primary production.
Sugar
At last there’s some good news on the sugar front, with recent prices rallying by more than a cent per pound. Futures are now approaching 18 cents per pound in the July contract and 20 cents per pound further down the curve. There were no major developments to explain this move.

Physical traders remain bearish based on the continuing availability of sugar. Other market participants state we are heading towards a tighter demand/supply equation in 2015. Weather events are also a real possibility and may erode sugar supply even further. These core themes have contained prices in relatively tight ranges for some time.

The price strength last week was driven by a flurry of activity in the physical market. These sales saw refining premiums jump, followed by strong gains in raw sugar futures. With more downgrades to the Brazilian crush and an El Nino event remaining on the radar, we find it not surprising prices have firmed.

The question now remains, where to from here? Prices are now comfortably above ethanol parity and clearly have more of a weather premium built in. Accordingly, we feel the market will lose some momentum after the July expiry. We expect more price consolidation in the 17.50-19.50 cents per pound range, as we await more updates from Brazil and the El Nino weather trackers. At Queensland Sugar Limited we believe the risks remain for further price strength into 2015.

Currency
In currency, we note less positive news. Despite rather downbeat commentary from the RBA last week, the Australian dollar now frustrates exporters by breaching resistance at the 94 cents level. Stronger data from China and a generally low market volatility have attracted more investors to Australian dollar based assets. We note more analysts have now raised their year-end expectations for the Australian dollar.

The recent currency strength comes at a time when the prices of our main mining exports remain under pressure. Despite this, investors see a generally positive story for the Australian economy and continue to invest. This has attracted the attention of the RBA, commenting on currency strength, which is likely to see interest rates on hold for some time.

Looking ahead, we feel the currency can’t defy gravity with commodity prices falling, yet concede sub-90 cent levels are unlikely until the 2015 calendar year.

While all care is taken in the preparation of this report the reliability or accuracy of the information provided in the document is not guaranteed. 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 report.

$500m Korean contract officially signed

Representatives from Korea’s three sugar refineries – CJ Cheiljedang Corporation, Samyang Corporation and TS Corporation – visited Queensland this week to officially sign a $500 million contract and celebrate a 40-year partnership with QSL.

An official signing ceremony was held in Brisbane on Monday which sealed the deal for QSL to supply 1.164 million tonnes of sugar to Korea’s three refineries over the 2015 and 2016 seasons.

QSL CEO Greg Beashel said the 40-year partnership was built on the principles of trust, respect and a two-way creation of value. “This is at the core of QSL’s producer-seller approach which is about building sustainable relationships with customers,” he said.

Mr Danny Yoon, General Manager of CJ Cheiljedang Corporation, said during his recent visit to Queensland that the company had a long history of working with QSL.

“We have enjoyed visiting Australia and meeting the people behind the product, including the farmers who grow the cane, millers who process it into sugar and the QSL team that markets the sugar,” Mr Yoon said.
QSL update
By Carla Keith & Cathy Kelly, Industry Relationship Manager
Week ending 27 June 2014

Voting for the QSL Grower Representative Member elections in the Burdekin, South Johnstone, Proserpine and Mossman growing regions has now closed. QSL received more than 300 ballots and is currently in the process of verifying each of these. We hope to announce the successful candidates next month, with all Grower Representative Members appointed by the end of August for a three-year term.

Final 2013 Advances payment
QSL is currently working with our miller members to confirm the final Advances payment of the 2013 season. We will know the value of this payment around mid-July following our end-of-financial-year audit and expect the payment to be made towards the end of next month. We will work with your grower representatives to ensure these values and dates are communicated as soon as they are finalised.

2014 QSL Pool Prices
Please note that all prices quoted below are indicative only and don’t include a firm value from the QSL Shared Pool. Growers should always consult their mill for information about their individual cane payments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QSL Managed Pool</th>
<th>Forecast Final 2013 Pool</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2013 Forward Season Pool</td>
<td>$430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actively Managed Pool</td>
<td>$407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discretionary Pool</td>
<td>$395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guaranteed Floor Pool</td>
<td>$390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvest Pool</td>
<td>$389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growth Pool</td>
<td>$422</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Quota Pool</td>
<td>$392</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014 QSL Pools Current as of 20 June 2014</th>
<th>2014 Gross</th>
<th>% Priced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QSL Harvest Pool</td>
<td>$420</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL Discretionary Pool</td>
<td>$430</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL Actively Managed Pool</td>
<td>$429</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL Growth Pool</td>
<td>$431</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL Guaranteed Floor Pool</td>
<td>$432</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL US Quota Pool</td>
<td>$576 Gross</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL 2014 Season Forward Pool</td>
<td>$421</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL 2-Season Forward Pool 2015</td>
<td>$437</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(sugar delivered in 2015 season and priced over 2014 and 2015 seasons)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL 3-Season Forward Pool 2015</td>
<td>$447</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(sugar delivered in 2015 season and priced over 2013, 2014 and 2015 seasons)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL 3-Season Forward Pool 2016</td>
<td>$445</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(sugar delivered in 2016 and priced over 2014, 2015 and 2016)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
DATES TO REMEMBER

NQ Dry Tropics Cane Field Day, Friday 27 June, 9.30am @ Ayr PCYC

NQ Dry Tropics Soil & Farm Fertility—‘The Biological Way’ Workshop, Clare club Tuesday 1 July & Wednesday 2 July

Qld Heritage Rally, 25-27 July @ Ayr Showgrounds

National Tree Day, Sunday 27 July, Juru

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www.canegrowersburdekin.com.au

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Gary Halliday
Smartcane BMP facilitator
07 4792 1922 0439 747 596
gary_halliday@canegrowers.com.au

Rob Mills
Smartcane BMP technical specialist
07 4785 1101 0490 030 329
mills@bpa.net.au

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Join us to influence your industry’s future and:
• discuss issues with national and international agri-business leaders;
• be inspired by innovative people in your industry;
• get invaluable advice from leaders in finance & accountancy;
• meet and network with others in the sugar industry; and
• of course, have fun in a beautiful tropical North Queensland location!

Register by emailing nextgenfarmers@gmail.com
Pricing information

2013 Season Advances & Payments
as at 6 June 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>$/tonne IPS</th>
<th>% estimated return</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Initial *</td>
<td>$219</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 August 13*</td>
<td>$235</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 September 13*</td>
<td>$256</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 October 13*</td>
<td>$262</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 November 13*</td>
<td>$275</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 December 13*</td>
<td>$284</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 January 14*</td>
<td>$305</td>
<td>77.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 February 14*</td>
<td>$317</td>
<td>82.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 March 14*</td>
<td>$332</td>
<td>85.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 April 14*</td>
<td>$341</td>
<td>87.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 May 14*</td>
<td>$349</td>
<td>90.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 June 14*</td>
<td>$369</td>
<td>95.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Payment</td>
<td>$389</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* paid

The Advance Program is a guide only. CANEGROWERS Burdekin takes no responsibility for its accuracy. It only applies to growers who did not forward price for 2013 (the default method). Growers who have forward priced for 2013 will be paid the same percentage of their final expected proceeds. For individual advance rates check your grower forecast on the Wilmar website.

Wilmar Indicative Future Sugar Prices
as at 27 June 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Gross</th>
<th>$/Tonne IPS Net</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 Season</td>
<td>$451</td>
<td>$430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015 Season</td>
<td>$479</td>
<td>$459</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 Season</td>
<td>$491</td>
<td>$470</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Estimated QSL 2014 Pool Prices
As at 30 May 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>$/Tonne IPS GROSS</th>
<th>% Priced</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QSL Harvest Pool</td>
<td>$427</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL Discretionary Pool</td>
<td>$434</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL Actively Managed Pool</td>
<td>$435</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL Growth Pool</td>
<td>$436</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL Guaranteed Floor Pool</td>
<td>$429</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL US Quota Pool</td>
<td>$482 net</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL 2014 Season Forward Pool</td>
<td>$433</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL 2-season Forward Pool 2015</td>
<td>$442</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL 3-season Forward Pool 2015</td>
<td>$449</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QSL 3-season Forward Pool 2016</td>
<td>$451</td>
<td>16%</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.
CANEGROWERS weather update

The forecast rain outlook for the next 12 months for Home Hill is represented below. To see the latest forecast for your postcode click here.

The weather tool provides a seven day forecast for your desired postcode along with a 12 month rainfall outlook, SOI information and sea surface temperatures.

CANEGROWERS weather update

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Have your say on farm representation

The National Farmers' Federation (NFF) is encouraging our members’ respective members and other farmers to head online and have their say on the future of farm sector representation in Australia. Register interest on the Future of Farm Representation website here: http://ausagvoice.questionpro.com/ When the survey launches, registrants will be invited to participate. Further information can be found here.

NFF Departmental Liaison Officers

The three departmental liaison officer roles, outposted to the NFF from three Commonwealth Departments (the Department of Environment; Department of Agriculture; and Department of Immigration and Border Protection) will cease as of 30 June 2014.

The three officers (Jol Taber, Daniel McPherson and Servet Brennan) have expressed their gratitude to the agriculture sector for assistance and support during their times working with the NFF. Jol Taber commented on his imminent departure, saying “The last four years has been a reminder of why agriculture sector issues are critical to the health of rural Australia, and how dedicated those who work in the sector are.”

The liaison officers have worked closely with NFF staff, state farming organisations, state government officers and other relevant stakeholders, to provide help to members and NFF policy staff across a wide variety of issues related to the respective portfolios. As of yet, the NFF does not have clarity from the departments on what ongoing measures will be put in place to communicate information and advice on portfolio outcomes that impact on farmers and other agricultural businesses.

Working with Telstra to improve rural telecommunications

This week, NFF President Brent Finlay and Rural Affairs Manager David McKeon, along with NSW Farmers representatives travelled with the executive team of Telstra CountryWide to a number of farms in the Hunter Valley. The aim of the trip was to give Telstra a first hand experience in the challenges facing farmers regarding telecommunications. The trip was also an opportunity for discussions on opportunities for Telstra to partner with the NFF and member on initiatives to improve farmer access to, and understanding of, emerging telecommunications and associated technologies.

Senate Inquiry Report re re-registration of AgVet Chemicals

This week, the Senate Standing Committees on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport released their inquiry report (attached) on the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Legislation (Removing Re-approval and Re-registration) Amendment Bill 2013. The report is available at: http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Rural_and_Regional_Affairs_and_Transport/Ag_Vet_Chemicals_Re-registration_Bill

The Committee recommended that the Bill be passed, consistent with the NFF’s position. The report noted many submissions from NFF members as part of its deliberations.

From here, the Bill can now be introduced to the Senate. Currently the Bill is scheduled to be introduced this week, but is waiting on some final discussions between the Government and Opposition and may be a bit later

Things are tracking well for removal of mandatory re-registration. A process that NFF and members first opposed and have since been working to remove.
Farm exports outlook

Earnings from farm exports are estimated to reach a high of $41 billion in 2013–14, with livestock and livestock product export earnings expected to rise by 23.3 per cent to $18.4 billion, according to figures released today by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES).

The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Barnaby Joyce, said the estimated increase in farm export earnings in 2013–14 is supported by higher farm production and favourable export prices. The Minister also said that less favourable conditions forecast for 2014-15 mean that farm export earnings are likely to decline from this year’s high, to be around $38.5 billion. At this forecast level, export earnings in 2014–15 would still be around 9 per cent above the average of $35.5 billion over the 10 years to 2012–13 in real terms.

More information is in the ABARES Agricultural Commodities 2014 June Quarter release.

Emissions Reduction Fund Legislation

Minister Hunt tabled the Carbon Farming Initiative Amendment Bill 2014, the legislative instrument that will be used to establish the Emissions Reduction Fund. The Bill provides for the purchase of emissions reductions by the Clean Energy Regulator from projects with approved methodologies from across the economy. The Regulator will be able to conduct auctions and enter into contracts for emissions reductions on behalf of the Commonwealth. Key elements of the bill are a streamlining of the methodology approval process, a reduction from 100 years to 25 years for ‘permanence’. For more see http://www.environment.gov.au/climate-change/emissions-reduction-fund or contact Jack Knowles at jknowles@nff.org.au

Water Trigger

Minister Hunt moved a series of amendments to the EPBC Bilateral Implementation Bill on Monday. As part of this debate, Minister Hunt tabled the Government’s amendments which are available here.

In Plain English, the Government’s additional amendments are:

Amendment 1 (s48A(2)): Including a legislative requirement for approval bilateral agreements to include undertakings by the state/territory to seek, and to take into account, the advice of the IESC.

Amendment 2 (s505D(1)(b)): The Commonwealth Minister may request supplementary advice from the IESC on high risk coal seam gas and large coal mining developments. The amendment would allow the Commonwealth Minister to request supplementary advice from the IESC on coal seam gas and large coal mining developments being assessed under a bilateral agreement.

Our discussions with the Minister’s office over the weekend was that while we recognise these amendments strengthen the role of the IESC, the discretionary nature of Amendment 2 is unlikely to provide the degree of assurance that some of our members are seeking. Our discussions with the Minister’s office are continuing. If you would like further information on the progress of these negotiations, please contact Jack Knowles at jknowles@nff.org.au

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Contact us today with the details