

# The Bundaberg District Canegrower

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December 2022

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## Chair's Update

What a year, as everyone is aware of what the weather has dished out to us, I won't write too much about that.

As I write this, Millaquin is still going, cane supply has been steady however CCS is beginning to tumble. At our December board meeting the Board made the difficult decision of finishing the core season on 24 December, the mill has agreed continue crushing past this date with their own cane and growers cane if they desire. Cane supplied after 24 December will be paid on actual CCS.

With the holiday period and wide load curfews it is going to make a difficult job even harder. If you require a permit contact Matt Leighton as soon as possible for assistance.

On a more positive note, Bundaberg Sugar are very close to signing an SMA with QSL. This will allow growers access to the QSL Direct portal for pricing sugar. Further information and a copy of the amended Collective Cane Supply Contract will be circulated in early 2023 and QSL staff will be in the region to assist. More news to come on this in the New Year.

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Board to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.



Bundaberg CANEGROWERS will be closed from 2:30pm on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December and re-open at 8:30am on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023.

If you have any further questions or require assistance over the Christmas break please call any of the numbers listed below:

Mark Pressler	0414 593 105
Dean Cayley	0408 062 830
Anna Attard	0409 594 541
Sam Ford	0434 381 998
Michael Cavallaro	0413 214 037
Tanya Howard	0409 485 154

**Mark Pressler**  
Chairman

## Top Five (5) Issues We Have Been Working On

1. Reviewing crushing arrangements for end of 2022 Season.
2. Finalising Sugar marketing and pricing opportunities and arrangements for 2023 Season onwards.
3. Keeping up to date with Reef Regulation requirements, N & P Budgets and continue to push back against Reef Regulations.
4. Operating the Cane Analysis and Auditing Program on behalf of the Bundaberg Sugar Industry.
5. Assisting Bundaberg Regional Ratepayers Association



**Bundaberg CANEGROWERS Ltd Newsletter**

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Crushing Statistics – Week 26, week ending 11<sup>th</sup> December 2022

## 2022 Season Indicative Advances Program

Based on QSL reports 28 October 2022

Advance Dates	Uncommitted Pool Advance (AUD/tonne IPS)	
Payment Date	Increase	To
Initial		\$391.00
Initial QSL Updated	<b>-\$22.00</b>	<b>\$369.00</b>
<b>21-Oct-22</b>	<b>\$37.00</b>	<b>\$406.00</b>
<b>18-Nov-22</b>	<b>\$29.00</b>	<b>\$435.00</b>
<b>16-Dec-22</b>	<b>\$17.00</b>	<b>\$452.00</b>
20-Jan-23	\$48.00	\$500.00
17-Feb-23	\$15.00	\$515.00
17-Mar-23	\$31.00	\$546.00
21-Apr-23	\$16.00	\$562.00
19-May-23	\$16.00	\$578.00
16-Jun-23	\$15.00	\$593.00
Final	\$32.00	\$625.00

## Notes:

- The program above represents indicative advances payable by QSL to Bundaberg Sugar based on estimated pool returns, the marketing plan and forecast cash flows at the time. These indicative amounts will be reviewed on a regular basis and updated for changes in forecasts. **Advances highlighted in bold in the table above have been approved by the QSL Board.**
- This program is indicative only and should not be taken as a commitment by Queensland Sugar (or Bundaberg Sugar) with regard to the estimated pool return, advance rate or date of increase. The program may change during the season depending on movements in a number of factors including the marketing plan, sugar price and currency movements and timing of cash flows.
- The advance rates are GST exclusive.
- The net adjustment, for the estimated US Quota and QSL premiums & costs, to be added / (subtracted) to / (from) ICE No.11 and Foreign Exchange pricing results for the Committed Pools (e.g. Target Price Contract) is **\$44.99**

**Disclaimer:** This report has been prepared for general information only. It does not have regard to the specific circumstances of any individual or group who may read it. It is not intended as an offer to buy or sell commodities, futures or options, nor is the accuracy of the report content guaranteed. However, as market circumstances can change quickly, Queensland Sugar Limited and Bundaberg Sugar Ltd disclaim any responsibility or liability for decisions or actions of any individual relying in whole or in part on information contained herein. Individuals contemplating decisions relating to any material discussed in this publication should take appropriate financial advice.

## End of Season arrangements

At this stage the crushing will extend past the Christmas break and the following planning is in place for a mini shutdown over Christmas and New Year and to allow for an extended crushing if required:

Last harvest day	22 December
Mill crushes out all cane	23 December
Boilout and clean, shut down	24 December
<b>End of core season</b>	<b>24 December</b>
Christmas break	25, 26, 27 December
Mill re start	28 December (will need early start from some harvesters to get start up cane)
Last harvest day 2022	30 December
Mill crush out, boil out and shut	31 December
New Year break	1, 2 January 2023
Mill re start (if availability permits)	3 January 2023 (will need early start from some harvesters to get start up cane)
Last harvest day	8-9 January 2023
Completion of crushing, boil out, shut	10 January 2023

The Core Season will end on 24 December 2022, any cane supplied after this date will be paid at actual CCS. You will find a ready reckoner included with this newsletter that may assist with your decision making. Also, an agreement has been reached to allow payment for cane testing down to 6 units CCS.

**If you are not going to supply cane after the Christmas break, please advise your GSO as soon as possible.**

Please note that the above plan may change as a number of factors will come into consideration including:

- Appetite of growers / harvesters to continue.
- Availability of personnel during Christmas to New Year period.
- CCS and economic viability of continuing.
- Weather.

### Transport

There are restrictions for moving vehicles wider than 2.5m during the Christmas and New Year period, if your vehicle requires an oversize sign to move on the roads, you will require a permit.

Full information including the critical dates were provided on page 5 of our October newsletter.

If you require assistance, please contact Matthew Leighton on 4151 2555 or 0437 084 035 immediately to allow sufficient processing time. ■

## Soybeans decisions

With the cane harvest finishing very late, decisions about whether to plant soybeans or not comes into play. The two (2) big risks are suitable varieties and prices. In regard to varieties there are several varieties suitable for planting after New Year. The prices at the moment are quite good based on a shortage of high quality soybeans due to last season's wet harvest.

The two (2) varieties best suited to planting after January in Bundaberg are Hayman<sup>®</sup> and Kuranda<sup>®</sup>. Hayman<sup>®</sup> is best suited to a January plant sliding into early February. It is the preferred

variety for a number of markets with some soybean buyers offering higher prices for Hayman<sup>®</sup> over other varieties. To ensure an even harvest the plant population needs to be even across the block. Kuranda<sup>®</sup> can be planted from January through to mid February and is a reasonably strong variety. The major concern is that it is not suitable for the edible 1 market which means it is at discount, generally, \$50 per tonne.

Seed supply is tight at the moment as the seed companies process some winter production from the Burdekin and try to quickly turn it around for use. This has been a priority for the seed suppliers due



to wet weather impacting the quality of the seed meaning not all of it was suitable to be used for seed production.

Soybean prices are similar to last year where prices are currently between \$750-\$800 per tonne for edible 1 soybean, edible 2 at a \$50 per tonne discount and full fat soybeans between \$600-650 per tonne. There may be some upside to high quality edible 1 soybeans at the start of the season, but this is not something to bank on, especially given Bundaberg will be planting varieties harvested later in the year. ■



16 December 2022



## MILLAQUIN MILL – TERMINATION OF CRUSHING 2022

We hereby give 14 days notice of our intention to finish crushing in accordance with the Cane Supply agreement.

It is possible that the Mill will continue operations after this date dependant on weather and other factors.



### TERMINATION OF CRUSHING

Weather and other factors permitting, crushing operations for the 2022 season are expected to cease on or about:

**Friday, 30th December, 2022  
at MILLAQUIN MILL**

All cane must be delivered by 5pm on that date. Grower Services Officers will advise of any changes to these arrangements due to weather and other factors.

## Sunwater Water Trading

### Water trading board

Sunwater has launched an online Water Trading Board as part of the QWMO Action Plan to support the uptake of underutilised water across Queensland. The tool will make it easier for customers and non-customers who are looking to buy or sell water to easily find each other.

The digital platform is an intuitive tool for buyers and sellers of water to publish ads by listing their Sunwater water supply scheme, megalitres sought or selling and whether the trade will be temporary or permanent.

Users can view ads for the purchase or sale of water, the water supply scheme and megalitres, but will only see buyer's or seller's contact details to then negotiate on price once logged into the platform. The platform provides opportunity for entry into the water market for irrigation or stock and domestic purposes through purchasing a permanent water allocation, where water is available within a water supply scheme.

The free platform is available via the Sunwater website and existing Sunwater customers can easily login with their customer identification number. New users who are not existing customers can easily create an account.

While the platform provides for the listing of ads for the purchase or sale of water, negotiation on price between the buyer and seller will occur outside the platform and the standard Sunwater process for a water sale or transfer will remain.

The platform is available under the Customer drop-down of the Sunwater website or by visiting [www.sunwater.com.au/water-trading-board](http://www.sunwater.com.au/water-trading-board).

### Temporary transfer sale

As part of a temporary water trade, Sunwater is required to publish information online including the price paid per megalitre, the volume of water transferred, and the scheme zone

the water was transferred from and to.

The daily publishing of this key trade information will improve customer knowledge around the availability and value of water across their relevant water supply schemes.

Temporary trade information is available under the Customer drop-down of the Sunwater website or by visiting [www.sunwater.com.au/temporary-transfer-sale-information](http://www.sunwater.com.au/temporary-transfer-sale-information).

### Bundaberg CANEGROWERS' Water Trading Register

The introduction of the Sunwater Water Trading Board has replaced the need for a Water Trading Register on the Bundaberg CANEGROWERS website. From 1 January 2023 the Water Trading Register will be removed from the website and replaced with links to the Sunwater site.

If you require assistance registering or including an entry on the Sunwater Water Trading Board, please contact the office on 4151 2555. ■



## SUGAR SERVICES NEWS

### 2022 One-eye sett distribution update

The 2022 one-eye sett approved seed cane propagation program ran relatively smoothly with an increase in the number of seedlings ordered compared to last year. Wet weather and cloudy days did have a slowing effect on growth in the hothouse which prolonged the distribution and planting of these seedlings.

During 2022 planting season (autumn, spring) we propagated and delivered a total of **83,680 seedlings** or **2,615 trays** of seedlings. This equates to approximately **8.3 ha** (@10,000 seedlings/ha) depending on row spacing of approved seed cane planted across the district. The newer varieties SRA11<sup>®</sup>, SRA19<sup>®</sup>, SRA20<sup>®</sup>, SRA29<sup>®</sup> and SRAW33<sup>®</sup> made up around 70% of the seedlings ordered by growers. Of those newer varieties ordered SRA29<sup>®</sup> was the most sought after variety.

#### One-eye sett seedling cost

Due to increased cost in potting mix and seedling trays there has been an increase in price of seedlings. See below for the current seedling cost as of **1 October 2022**.

Members - up to 5,000 seedlings	\$0.65c/seedling (ex GST)
Members - over 5,000 seedlings	\$0.55c/seedling (ex GST)
Non-members	\$0.75c/seedling (ex GST)
The cost of these seedlings is still good value even at the new price and is well below the tissue culture seedling price.	

#### BSSL seedling planter

Several growers are taking advantage of using the BSSL seedling planter to plant their seedlings. The planter will be delivered to your farm and picked up when you are finished planting seedlings. The only requirement is that you wash it down after use. The planter is also available to growers to copy if they intend building one of their own.

#### Management strategies

- Soil should be prepared to a fine tilth to ensure good root/soil contact
- Irrigate immediately after planting (flood, winch, trickle, spray line) and monitor over next couple of weeks to ensure they do not dry out.
- Mechanical cultivation (eg. Cotton king or chip by hand)
- Chemical (apply a pre-emergent) after first irrigation to moist soil before next irrigation
- Dual Gold @1.1- 1.45L/ha plus Atradex @2.5kg/ha for grasses and broadleaf weeds. **Read label.**
- Sempra@100g/ha plus Activator @120mL/100L

nutgrass control. **Read label**

- Both can be sprayed over the top of seedlings

#### Do not's

- Do not plant seedlings into a plough out/replant block
- Do not use diuron, young plants are sensitive to it
- Do not use paraquat unless there is no other option and only on established plants as a directed spray
- Do not use any 2, 4- D formulations as they can have an effect on quality of the planting material

#### Order form for Autumn 2023

##### One-eye setts

This order form has been mailed out to growers in early December 2022.

Closing date for orders is 13 January 2023. ■



## Sugar Industry Dinner 2022 Season Awards

Friday, 24 March 2023

The Sails Function Room at The Waves

## Metric Tonnes versus IPS Tonnes: what is the difference?

What growers get paid for sugar and therefore their cane depends on whether the price is listed in metric tonnes or IPS tonnes. This can be important when forward pricing sugar or just doing a monthly budget based on the sugar prices and advance update provided by QSL and Bundaberg Sugar.

IPS (International Pol Scale) sugar is the international standard for selling sugar and is based around 96 pol or 96 degrees of polarisation. There are bonuses paid for sugar above this level of pol and deductions for sugar below the 96 pol standard. Sugar produced in Queensland is typically produced at 99 degrees pol. This means that an IPS tonne is a smaller quantity than a metric tonne of sugar. Based on the final price from 2021, the IPS factor was 1.0325 which means that one IPS tonne, 1000kg, equalled 968.5 kg of growers' sugar.

To make sure growers are comparing prices correctly they need to be in the same units, ie all IPS sugar or all metric sugar. Preferably prices should be converted to IPS sugar as that means the prices quoted can go into the sugar cane price ready reckoner to work out a price per tonne of cane.

The easiest place to find out a range of tools and calculators to work out cane to Grower Economic Interest (GEI) sugar, cane to sugar value, actual to IPS and vice versa for each of these is the QSL App available on Apple and android platforms. Some examples of the results of these calculators are as follows:

### Actual to IPS sugar

Actual/ metric price	\$550.00	\$575.00	\$600.00	\$625.00	\$650.00
IPS sugar price	\$530.50	\$554.62	\$578.73	\$602.85	\$626.96

### IPS sugar price to cane price @ 13.30 CCS

IPS sugar price	\$530.50	\$554.62	\$578.73	\$602.85	\$626.96
Cane price	\$45.40	\$47.42	\$49.44	\$51.46	\$53.48

### Tonnes of cane to GEI sugar @ 14.00 CCS

Tonnes cane	1,000	3,000	5,000	7,500	10,000
Actual sugar tonnes	86.81	260.43	434.05	651.07	868.10
IPS tonnes	90.00	270.00	450.00	675.00	900.00

The Cane Ready Reckoner which is added as an insert converts IPS Sugar price into a cane price for a wide range of CCS values. ■

## 2023 AgriFutures Horizon Scholarship Applications

Do you know someone studying at Uni who is passionate about agriculture?

AgriFutures Australia is committed to supporting the next generation of leaders that will drive the future prosperity of Australian rural industries and communities. The AgriFutures Horizon Scholarship is awarded to students studying an agriculture related undergraduate degree or a Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths/ Finance (STEM) degree with relevant majors which align to agriculture.

In partnership with industry sponsors, the AgriFutures Horizon Scholarship is

an initiative supporting students enrolled in full time study at an Australian university by providing:

- A bursary of \$5,000 per year for the final two (2) years of their degree;
- Professional development workshops;
- Annual industry work placements aligned with the scholar's areas of interest and their sponsor's industry;
- Opportunities to network and gain knowledge at a range of industry events.

Scholarship recipients will be selected on the basis of their commitment to a career in agriculture, as well as their leadership potential and tertiary academic record to date.

Applications close at 5:00pm AEDT Friday, 13 January 2023.

Shortlisted applicants must be available for a telephone interview in February 2023, and scholarship winners will be announced in April 2023.

For more information and to apply visit [www.agrifutures.com.au/horizon](http://www.agrifutures.com.au/horizon). ■



## Changes to Family and Domestic Violence Leave

Currently the National Employment Standards (NES) contain an entitlement to **unpaid** family and domestic violence leave, introduced from 12 December 2018 in recognition of the impact that family and domestic violence can have on employees.

An additional amendment to the *Fair Work Act 2009* (the FW Act) passed by Parliament on 27 October 2022 will give all employees (including those not normally covered by the NES) an entitlement to up to ten (10) days of **paid** family and domestic violence leave each year. The changes start from 1 February 2023 for most employers, and 1 August 2023 for small business employers (paid leave amendment).

### Entitlement to family and domestic violence leave

#### Prior to the paid leave amendment

Before 1 February 2023 (1 August 2023 for small business employers), the NES allow an employee to access up to five (5) days of unpaid leave per year. The leave may be taken in a continuous five-day period, or separate periods of one (1) or more days. Where the employer and employee agree, an employee may also take part days of leave.

The five (5) days of leave are available in full at the start of each year of employment (in other words, the leave does not accrue on a pro rata basis). The leave does not accumulate from year to year.

#### Once the paid leave amendment commences

From 1 February 2023 (1 August 2023 for small business employers), an employee is entitled to up to ten (10) days of paid family and domestic violence leave each year. The entitlement does not accumulate from year to year.

The full 10-day entitlement may be accessed by part-time and casual employees. Unlike most other types of leave under the NES, it is not calculated on a pro-rata basis relative to an employee's ordinary hours of work, and is available in full at the start of each year.

### When can an employee access family and domestic violence leave?

An employee may access family and domestic violence leave if the employee:

- is experiencing family and domestic violence; and
- needs to do something to deal with the impact of the family and domestic violence; and
- it is impractical for the employee to do that thing outside of their work hours.

Examples of the sorts of circumstances where an employee may need to take action to deal with family and domestic violence include:

- seeking medical, counselling, financial or legal assistance relating to family and domestic violence;
- attending Centrelink to obtain a benefit;
- attending a financial institution to arrange financial autonomy from a perpetrator of domestic violence;
- accessing police services;
- attending court in relation to family and domestic violence perpetrated on the employee or a family member;
- finding or moving into safe accommodation; or
- making other related safety arrangements (e.g. changing locks, repairing doors/windows, installing alarms/video cameras).

### What is family and domestic violence?

The NES defines family and domestic violence to mean:

*Violent, threatening or other abusive behaviour by a close relative, a member of an employee's household, or a current or former intimate partner of an employee or an employee that:*

- a) *seeks to coerce or control the employee; and*
- b) *causes the employee harm or to be fearful.*

This definition of family and domestic violence is in similar terms as the *Family Law Act*. The *Family Law Act* definition also provides examples of behaviour that may constitute family and domestic violence:

- (a) *an assault; or*
- (b) *a sexual assault or other sexually abusive behaviour; or*
- (c) *stalking; or*
- (d) *repeated derogatory taunts; or*
- (e) *intentionally damaging or destroying*

*property; or*

- (f) *intentionally causing death or injury to an animal; or*
- (g) *unreasonably denying the family member the financial autonomy that he or she would otherwise have had; or*
- (h) *unreasonably withholding financial support needed to meet the reasonable living expenses of the family member, or his or her child, at a time when the family member is entirely or predominantly dependent on the person for financial support; or*
- (i) *preventing the family member from making or keeping connections with his or her family, friends or culture; or*
- (j) *unlawfully depriving the family member, or any member of the family member's family, of his or her liberty.*

A close relative for the purposes of family and domestic violence is defined as:

- (i) *a spouse, de facto partner, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild or sibling of the employee; or*
- (ii) *a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild or sibling of a spouse or de facto partner of the employee; or*
- (iii) *a person related to the employee according to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander kinship rules.*

References to spouses and de facto partners include former partners.

### Rate of pay for paid family and domestic violence leave

Prior to the paid leave amendment coming into effect on 1 February 2023 (1 August 2023 for small business employers), employees are not entitled to payment for family and domestic violence leave under the NES.

Once the paid leave amendment takes effect, employees must be paid for family and domestic violence leave as set out below.

#### Full-time and part-time employees

Payment is made at the employee's 'full rate of pay' based on what the employee would have received had they not taken the leave.

Full rate of pay is defined by the FW

(Continued on page 8)

## Changes to Family and Domestic Violence Leave continued

(Continued from page 7)

Act as including incentive-based payments, bonuses, loadings, monetary allowances, overtime or penalty rates, and other separately identified amounts.

### Casual employees

Payment is made at the employee's 'full rate of pay', worked out as if the employee had worked the hours in the period for which the employee was rostered.

This will include circumstances where a casual employee has accepted an offer by the employer to work certain hours, for example where:

- The employer makes available to the casual employee a list of shifts to be undertaken by the casual employee in advance.
- An offer and acceptance of work has been agreed, either orally or in writing.

The NES provide that a casual employee may take a period of family and

domestic violence leave that does not include hours for which the employee is rostered to work. However, in this circumstance, the employer would not be required to pay the employee for the un-rostered hours. This is to ensure that casual employees cannot be adversely treated for not accepting shifts because they have to do something to deal with family and domestic violence during that period.

### Notice and evidence requirements

Employees are required to follow similar notice and evidence requirements as personal leave: notice of the leave must be given as soon as practicable advising of the expected period of the leave, and the employee must provide evidence that will satisfy a reasonable person that the leave was taken for a legitimate purpose.

### Confidentiality

The NES require that employers take steps to ensure that any information an

employee provides concerning notice or evidence must be kept confidential as far as it is reasonably practicable to do so.

From 1 February 2023 (1 August 2023 for small business employers), the paid leave amendment also allows for changes to be made to the record keeping obligations in the *Fair Work Regulations* (the Regulations) to prevent information about paid family and domestic violence leave from being included on payslips. The reasoning behind this is the potential risk that including information about accessing family and domestic violence leave on an employee's payslip could present a danger to employees in abusive relationships. At this stage no changes to the Regulations have been implemented.

**For further information or assistance please contact Kate on 4151 2555. ■**

## Public Holidays for 2023

- **Sunday 1 January** - New Year's Day
- **Monday 2 January** - Additional public holiday for New Year's Day
- **Thursday 26 January** - Australia Day
- **Friday 7 April** - Good Friday
- **Saturday 8 April** - Easter Saturday
- **Sunday 9 April** - Easter Sunday
- **Monday 10 April** - Easter Monday
- **Tuesday 25 April** - Anzac Day
- **Monday 1 May** - Labour Day
- **Thursday 1 June** - Bundaberg Show Holiday (Postcodes 4660, 4670 only)
- **Monday 14 August** - Gin Gin Show Holiday (Postcode 4671)
- **Monday 2 October** - King's Birthday
- **Sunday 24 December** - Christmas Eve (from 6pm to midnight)
- **Monday 25 December** - Christmas Day
- **Tuesday 26 December** - Boxing Day

## Plan now to avoid heat stress hazards

Workers must be provided with training on risk factors and controls, heat and sun protection, as well as having general sun safety tips explained to them. If they have trouble understanding, or are concerned they're working in an unsafe, hot environment, workers should be encouraged to speak up. Employers must ensure workers wear protective gear, including a hat and sunscreen, take adequate breaks, seek shade and keep hydrated to prevent heat exhaustion, heat stroke, fainting and cramps. Employers also need a plan and resources in place to respond to heat related incidents.

To assist businesses meet their

obligations, Workplace Health and Safety Queensland has a Heat stress (basic) calculator tool on its website to identify and manage risks of heat-induced illness. As well, managing the work environment and facilities code of practice 2021 provides guidance for managing the risks associated with outdoor work.

Heat stress risk is not just related to temperature – there are a combination of factors which contribute to heat-related problems at work, including:

- exposure to direct sunlight, especially during the hottest part of the day
- exposure to reflected heat from

construction materials, polished aluminium and glass

- carrying out strenuous tasks or work for sustained long periods
- exposure to additional heat from machinery
- inadequate cooling off, rest periods or insufficient water consumption
- climatic conditions (low air movement, high humidity, high temperature)
- type of clothing and personal protective equipment worn
- factors that may cause dehydration, such as poor diet, vomiting, diarrhoea or alcohol and caffeine consumption. ■



## New cyber-attack information

There has been an increase in the number of cyber-attacks and techniques being used to compromise your details although many of the attacks go back to one single point – trying to trick the end user into either clicking a link or loading software.

The latest trick is a combination of both – attackers are using a fake email but this time, there may not be an attachment or link, which means it may bypass spam filters. Attackers are relying on a call back, at which time, they will try to trick you into installing software on your computer. Full details of the attack are below.

Leading into the Christmas period, there will be an increased number of attacks, your traditional hack attempts plus the type below and spam such as discounts, coupons, shopping specials, etc. This serves as a reminder to be very careful when clicking on links or attachments in emails.

### Following are details of the new attack:

*Palo Alto Networks has investigated several incidents involving a data extortion gang using a growing social engineering tactic to extort retailers and other businesses out of hundreds of thousands of dollars.*

**Why it matters:** *The report highlights the range of threats retailers, other businesses and consumers are up against heading into the hectic holiday season — and the depths hackers will go to make sure they find success.*

**Driving the news:** *Researchers at Palo Alto Networks said they've uncovered an ongoing hacking campaign from a group known as both "Luna Moth" and "Silent Ransom" that ditches traditional malware attacks for phone calls.*

**How it works:** *The scam typically starts with a phishing email, sent through a legitimate service, to a corporate email*

*claiming the recipient's credit card was charged for a recent service. The email usually has a PDF invoice attached.*

*The invoice includes a phone number recipients can call if they have questions about the charges. Once they call, they're connected to a call centre run by the malicious hackers.*

*On the call, the hacker then walks the person through downloading and running a "support tool" that gives the hacker remote access to the victim's computer.*

*Once inside, the hacker blanks out the screen so the victim can't see their actions and moves quickly to steal files and personal data from the device.*

*The hacker follows up with an extortion email, detailing the data that was stolen and demanding payment to keep the hacker from leaking the data online. ■*

## Help keep meter readers safe

Dog attacks can leave lasting physical and emotional scars and Ergon are seeking your help to prevent serious injuries to people who are working to ensure your electricity supply.

There are things you can do as a responsible pet owner to help keep meter readers safe. If you own a dog, please make sure it is visibly restrained before they visit. While most of us believe our pet is friendly, dogs can behave quite differently when you're not around. That's why, if meter readers can't visibly see that a dog is restrained, they cannot enter your property.

You can take these simple steps to keep

meter readers safe:

- Register your dog with Ergon (if you have not already done so)
- Make sure your dog is suitably restrained on the day of the meter read (see below)
- Restrain your dog where they can see it
- Sign up to get SMS meter-read alerts 24 hours before they arrive.

### Ensure your dog is 'suitably restrained'

- Place them in a yard or area that's completely separated from where they will be reading the meter or working (e.g. locked behind a fence where they can clearly see that they

can't get to the meter), OR

- Isolate them using a substantial rope or chain, well secured to an anchor point on the ground or fixed fitting, AND
- Make sure they can see that your dog is restrained. This isn't always easy to achieve, but it's essential to keep everyone safe.

### Avoid estimated meter reads

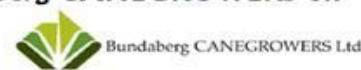
If they can't read your meter because they can't see that your dog is suitably restrained, they'll leave a card in your letterbox. If you don't want an estimated bill, you can submit a self-meter read online. ■

## Electricity Bill Check Service



Comparing tariffs yourself can be confusing and time consuming. This is why we've created an Electricity Bill Checking Service for our members, where you just send us your bills and we'll tell you if you could potentially save by changing tariffs.

Save time trying to compare tariffs yourself. Contact Courtney at Bundaberg CANEGROWERS on 4151 2555 for more information on how to get started.





## Is it time to tune up your skills?

CANEGROWERS Business Essentials workshops provides hands-on tools to better understand your business finances, run by highly experienced farm economists, sugar marketing and risk specialists.

Included in this year's CANEGROWERS Business Essentials workshops will be a session on succession planning presented by solicitor Kylie Wilson, Partner at Holding Redlich law firm.



Better  
understand your  
business costs



Easy to use tools,  
helping you mitigate  
risks



Cut through the noise  
for better sugar  
pricing decisions



Take the time to  
reassess and focus on  
your business



Flexible self-paced online  
plus half-day, face-to-face  
workshop modules

All cane growers, family members and farm employees are welcome  
Register your interest by scanning the QR code below or contact your district office

**21 & 22 March 2023**

**Bundaberg CANEGROWERS Ltd**

**Phone 4151 2555 for assistance registering**

**CANEGROWERS BUSINESS ESSENTIALS**  
*professional development for growers*



[www.canegrowers.com.au](http://www.canegrowers.com.au)

This program is jointly funded through the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund and the Queensland Government's Drought and Climate Adaptation Program.



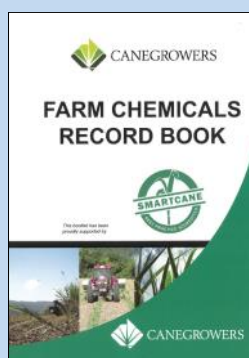
## Representation on Your Behalf

The Chairman, Elected Members and Staff of Bundaberg CANEGROWERS represented cane growers on a number of occasions. Executive members also attended many Branch meetings and other engagements in their own time.

DATE	MEETING	PURPOSE	FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
24.10.22	AgEnergy Social License Roundtable	To represent irrigators	Dale Holliss
27.10.22	Bundaberg Bioeconomy conference	To represent members	Tanya Howard
27.10.22	Bundaberg Regional Ratepayers Association	To represent members	Dale Holliss
03.11.22	Millaquin workshop scale inspection	To ensure compliance with CAP	Tanya Howard Courtney Moar
10.11.22	District Manager's meeting	To receive update	Tanya Howard
15.11.22	Reef Regulations information session	To represent members	Tanya Howard Matthew Leighton
18.11.22	Dinner and Awards Committee	Planning for 2022 Season event	Tanya Howard
21.11.22	Soybean pre-season workshop	To receive update	Matthew Leighton
29.11.22	Cane Supply Contract negotiations	To represent members	Tanya Howard
29.11-01.12.22	Reef Water Quality conference	To represent members	Matthew Leighton
01-02.12.22	Ergon Energy briefing	To represent irrigators	Dale Holliss Courtney Moar
05.12.22	Bundaberg Regional Ratepayers Association	To represent members	Tanya Howard Dale Holliss
07.12.22	Draft Wide Bay Burnett Regional Plan information session	To represent members	Tanya Howard
12.12.22	District Managers Meeting	To receive update	Tanya Howard
13.12.22	Coast Burnett Groundwater Area Advisory Committee	To represent members	Dale Holliss Matthew Leighton
15.12.22	Energy Q	To represent irrigators	Dale Holliss
15.12.22	Bundaberg Regional Ratepayers Association	To represent members	Tanya Howard Dale Holliss

Completing this book assists Growers to meet their record keeping obligations as part of the Reef Regulations.

To collect a record keeping book call into the office or contact us on 4151 2555 or [bdb\\_office@bdbcanegrowers.com.au](mailto:bdb_office@bdbcanegrowers.com.au)



### CLASSIFIED & JOB ADVERTISEMENTS

As a free service to financial members, small suitable classified & employment advertisements of up to thirty (30) words only will be printed.

Advertisements will be accepted from non-members, charged at \$11 per seven (7) word line or part thereof.

Contact Bundaberg CANEGROWERS Office on telephone no. 4151 2555 or fax no. 4153 1986 or email [bdb\\_office@bdbcanegrowers.com.au](mailto:bdb_office@bdbcanegrowers.com.au).



# ***MERRY CHRISTMAS***

## **from Bundaberg CANEGROWERS**

Bundaberg CANEGROWERS' Directors and Staff would like to wish all our members a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

### **Office Closure**

Bundaberg CANEGROWERS office will close at 2:30pm on Friday, 23 December 2022 for the Christmas/New Year break and will re-open at 8:30am on Tuesday, 3 January 2023.

### **Bundaberg CANEGROWERS' Wages Scheme**

Wages due for processing on 27 December 2022 or 2 January 2023 will need to be rescheduled due to the office closure. Advance wages can be submitted for payment on Thursday, 22 December 2022 or alternatively, can be processed upon the office re-opening on Tuesday, 3 January 2023 if employees are agreeable.



The Bundaberg District Canegrower

PRINT  
POST  
100001222

POSTAGE PAID  
AUSTRALIA

PRIORITY

If undeliverable return to:



Bundaberg CANEGROWERS Ltd

PO Box 953  
BUNDABERG QLD 4670

Bundaberg CANEGROWERS  
32 Bourbong Street (PO Box 953)  
Bundaberg Qld 4670  
Phone: (07) 4151 2555 Fax: (07) 4153 1986  
Email: [bdb\\_office@bdbcanegrowers.com.au](mailto:bdb_office@bdbcanegrowers.com.au)  
Website: [www.bdbcanegrowers.com.au](http://www.bdbcanegrowers.com.au)  
ABN: 66 110 868 801