The Bundaberg District Canegrower

Volume 21, Issue 4
June 2026

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Chair's Update

It is raining lightly and the mill has had a major break down, not a very good start to my Chair's update.

On the bright side though the mill got away on preseason cane on 3 June albeit a bit steady which isn't uncommon after some major works were carried out on it during the slack. BSL processed 58,854 tonnes during the preseason including organic cane, then we stepped into the core season on 18 June which was four (4) days later than planned.

The mill has set a target of 380 tonnes/hour for the season and to this day I don't think it has achieved that yet, probably due to a myriad of reasons including the cane is still quite green, field conditions have not been optimal due to the SE winds plus showers and contractors yet to hit their targets with training new staff.

The weather has been quite bizarre with only a couple of mornings in early June getting below 10 degrees and consistent S/SE winds with frequent showers, even though there hasn't been much rain in them, surprisingly CCS has been quite good.

Fuel availability and price has come back closer to the pre Middle East conflict with some serious questions to be raised around the price gouging that went on. Fertiliser prices are still above last year's price, but it looks like you will be able to get it if you can afford it.

This brings me to the price of sugar, not good with the 2026 price hovering around the $480/t mark with 2027 sitting at $515 1/07/2026 which has rallied in the last few days. Whilst the price is low, I encourage growers to look seriously at forward pricing into one of the many pools that QSL has to offer and to get in touch with Menn Mutton for some help in trying to achieve a better price outcome.

The State Government recently communicated their continued intention of rebuilding Paradise Dam, going against Sunwater's advice of just stabilising what is left of the dam. Significant challenges remain ahead in ensuring the dam is rebuilt and irrigators have access to a reliable and affordable irrigation supply.

Over recent weeks we met with Federal Member for Hinkler, David Batt and Leader of the Nationals, Senator Matthew Canavan to discuss the challenges of agriculture in the region.

We recently learned of Lisa Devereaux's departure from SRA and have been working with SRA on a future plan that suits the Southern Region.

Here's hoping for a successful remainder of the season.

Mark Pressler
Chairman

Top Five (5) Issues We Have Been Working On

1. Ensuring that the Cane Analysis Program is being implemented and that issues are being resolved promptly and as per the program.
2. Assisting growers to switch electricity tariffs following the release of the QCA final determination for 2026-27.
3. Representing Growers on various issues including Groundwater metering, Sunwater pricing proposals and Oreco supply contracts.
4. Coordinating 2026 soybean season arrangements and payments to Grain in Cane Cooperative members.
5. Reviewing Bundaberg Regional Council budget including impact on Category 9 rate payers.

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2025 Season Indicative Advances Program

Based on QSL reports 29 May 2026

Applicable From	Uncommitted Pool Advance (AUD/tonne IPS)		QSL Standard Advance Rate
Payment Date	Payment Change	To	
Initial	**$0**	**$403**	**65.0%**
16 Jul 25	**-$38**	$365	65.00%
20 Aug 25	$0	$365	65.00%
17 Sep 25	$0	$365	65.00%
15 Oct 25	$14	$380	70.00%
19 Nov 25	**-$31**	$349	72.50%
17 Dec 25	$32	$381	77.50%
21 Jan 26	$6	$386	80.00%
18 Feb 26	$8	$395	82.50%
18 Mar 26	$25	$420	87.50%
15 Apr 26	$11	$431	90.00%
20 May 26	$11	$442	92.50%
17 Jun 26	$24	$467	97.50%
By 31 July 26	$12	$479	100.00%

Notes:

Under QSL's Advances program, supplying growers and millers are paid a proportional amount of their current estimated final sugar pricing result. The program is indicative only and may change during the course of the season, and so should not be taken as a commitment by QSL with regard to either the Advance rate or date of increase. The QSL Board reviews the program periodically to determine whether scheduled increases should be approved or amended, weighing factors such as movements in the marketing and shipping plans, sugar price and currency movements and the timing of cash flows. Suppliers' positions in relation to any pricing elections may also impact the timing and size of Advance payments. Based on indicative pool values, with a estimated combined QSL Harvest and US Quota pool value of $479/t IPS as of 29 May 2026.

Note: The 'Applicable From' payment dates listed below may differ from your own payment dates due to your local milling arrangements and bank processing times.

This figure is an estimate only for the default QSL pricing position of 98% Harvest Pool + 2% US Quota Pool based on pool values as at the date specified. Please note that the pool values used to calculate the default payment will change as the season progresses. The default payment figure incorporates a weighted average Shared Pool allocation, with the Shared Pool allocation applied to grower payments varying in each region due to regional costs (regional Shared Pool details are available at www.qsl.com.au). The estimated payment figure quoted also does not include any applicable Loyalty Bonus, GST, allowances, deductions or any other adjustments incurred by the grower or passed on by their miller.

Accelerated Advances
Accelerated Advances Program participants receive 90% of their eligible products' indicative value by December each year. Under this scheme, Advance rates paid for tonnages in these products remain at 90% from each season, reverting to the QSL Standard Advance Rate from the subsequent May payment.

2026 Season Indicative Advances Program

Based on QSL reports 29 May 2026

The below schedule is the Bundaberg Supplier Specific Advance Program. This is not the QSL Standard Advance Schedule and does not apply to growers participating in QSL FlexPay. These growers should refer to their individual Advances Payment Schedule, available in their QSL Direct account.

Applicable From	Uncommitted Pool Advance (AUD/tonne IPS)		QSL Standard Advance Rate
Payment Date	Payment Change	To	
Initial	**$0**	**$232**	**50%**
17 Jun 26	$0	$232	50%
15 Jul 26	$0	$232	50%
19 Aug 26	$0	$232	50%
16 Sep 26	$0	$232	50%
21 Oct 26	$23	$255	55%
18 Nov 26	$23	$278	60%
16 Dec 26	$23	$301	65%
20 Jan 27	$24	$325	70%
17 Feb 27	$23	$348	75%
17 Mar 27	$23	$371	80%
21 Apr 27	$23	$394	85%
19 May 27	$23	$417	90%
16 Jun 27	$23	$440	95%
By 31 Jul 27	$24	$464	100%

Notes:

Under QSL's Standard Advances program, supplying growers and millers are paid a proportional amount of their current estimated final sugar pricing result.

The program is indicative only and may change during the season. It should not be taken as a commitment by QSL regarding Advance payment rates or timing. The QSL Board reviews the program periodically and may approve or amend scheduled increases, taking into account factors such as marketing and shipping plans, sugar price and currency movements, cash flow timing, and suppliers' pricing elections.

The figures below are estimates only, based on the default QSL pricing position of 98% Harvest Pool and 2% US Quota Pool using pool values at the specified date. Pool values may change as the season progresses. Estimated payments exclude GST, allowances, deductions, and any other grower or miller adjustments. Based on indicative pool values, with an estimated combined QSL Harvest and US Quota pool value of $464.4534/t IPS as of 29 May 2026.

Note: The 'Applicable From' payment dates listed below may differ from your own payment dates due to your local milling arrangements and bank processing times.

*The QSL Standard Advance Rate Default Payment incorporates a weighted average Shared Pool and finance allocation. Shared Pool and finance costs applied to grower payments vary by grower due to regional costs, region-specific Advances programs, and any customised Advances arrangements under QSL FlexPay. QSL Direct growers can access their individual Shared Pool and finance cost details in their QSL Direct account.

Why Checking Your Growers Delivery Advice Matters

As the crushing season gets underway, growers are reminded of the importance of reviewing their Growers Delivery Advice (GDA) from the mill each day.

The Growers Delivery Advice provides a record of cane delivered and processed and is one of the most important tools growers have to ensure their harvest information is accurate.

Taking a few minutes each day to check your GDA can help identify and correct issues early, ensuring accurate payment for the delivery week.

What Should Growers Check?

1. Confirm All Cut Bins Have Been Delivered

Growers should compare the number of bins harvested with the number of bins recorded on their Growers Delivery Advice. If a bin has been cut but does not appear on the report, it should be investigated promptly with your harvesting contractor, transporter, or mill representative.

2. Ensure All Bins Have Been Sampled

Sampling is critical as it determines the quality assessment of your cane. Check that all delivered bins have been sampled and recorded correctly. Missing or incorrect sampling information can affect the accuracy of payment calculations.

Rakes consisting of less than 15t will not be sampled and will therefore not have a CCS result.

3. Verify Consignment Details

Review the consignment information carefully to ensure all details are correct, including:

- Farm number
- Block number
- Cane variety and class
- Harvesting group details
- Cut, pickup and crush dates and times

Accurate consignment information ensures cane is allocated correctly and that production records remain reliable throughout the season.

Why Early Detection Is Important

Errors are much easier to resolve when identified soon after delivery. Waiting until after the week's deliveries have been closed and processed for payment can make investigations more difficult and may delay the correction process.

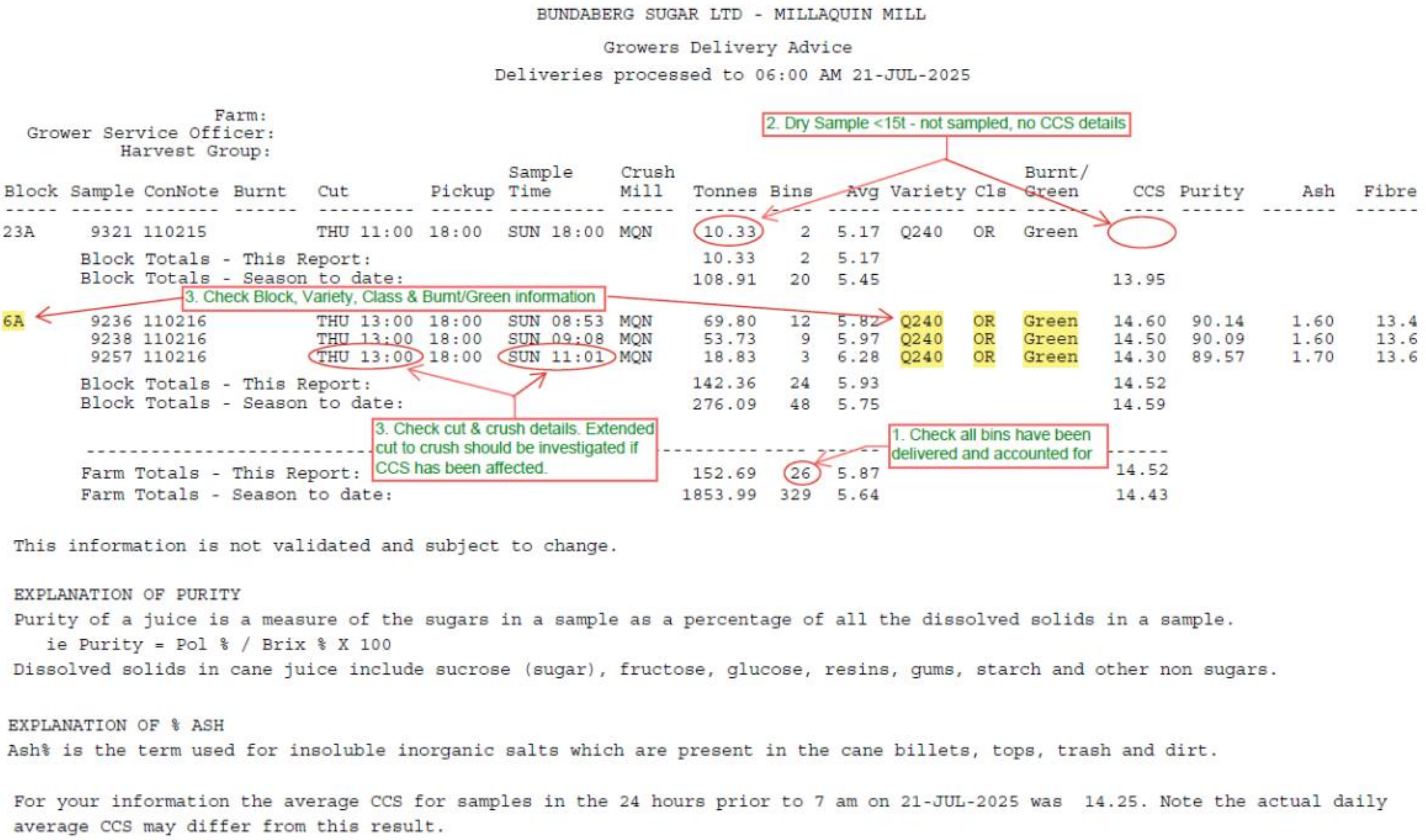
Regular monitoring of Growers Delivery Advices helps protect your interests by ensuring:

- All harvested cane is accounted for.
- Quality and sampling information is accurate.
- Production records remain correct.
- Any discrepancies can be addressed quickly.

Make It Part of Your Daily Routine

Checking your Growers Delivery Advice should become a routine part of the harvest season. A quick review each day can provide peace of mind and help ensure you receive accurate recognition and payment for the cane you deliver.

If you identify any discrepancies or have questions about your delivery records, contact the appropriate mill representative or Bundaberg CANEGROWERS office on 4151 2555 to have the auditors review your query as soon as possible.



BUNDABERG SUGAR LTD - MILLAQUIN MILL

Growers Delivery Advice

Deliveries processed to 06:00 AM 21-JUL-2025

Farm:
Grower Service Officer:
Harvest Group:

Block	Sample	ConNote	Burnt	Cut	Pickup	Sample Time	Crush Mill	Tonnes	Bins	Avg	Variety	Cls	Burnt/ Green	CCS	Purity	Ash	Fibre
23A	9321	110215		THU 11:00	18:00	SUN 18:00	MQN	10.33	2	5.17	Q240	OR	Green				
Block Totals - This Report:								10.33	2	5.17							
Block Totals - Season to date:								108.91	20	5.45				13.95			
6A	9236	110216		THU 13:00	18:00	SUN 08:53	MQN	69.80	12	5.82	Q240	OR	Green	14.60	90.14	1.60	13.4
	9238	110216		THU 13:00	18:00	SUN 09:08	MQN	53.73	9	5.97	Q240	OR	Green	14.50	90.09	1.60	13.6
	9257	110216		THU 13:00	18:00	SUN 11:01	MQN	18.83	3	6.28	Q240	OR	Green	14.30	89.57	1.70	13.6
Block Totals - This Report:								142.36	24	5.93				14.52			
Block Totals - Season to date:								276.09	48	5.75				14.59			
Farm Totals - This Report:								152.69	26	5.87				14.52			
Farm Totals - Season to date:								1853.99	329	5.64				14.43			

This information is not validated and subject to change.

EXPLANATION OF PURITY
Purity of a juice is a measure of the sugars in a sample as a percentage of all the dissolved solids in a sample.
ie Purity = Pol % / Brix % X 100
Dissolved solids in cane juice include sucrose (sugar), fructose, glucose, resins, gums, starch and other non sugars.

EXPLANATION OF % ASH
Ash% is the term used for insoluble inorganic salts which are present in the cane billets, tops, trash and dirt.

For your information the average CCS for samples in the 24 hours prior to 7 am on 21-JUL-2025 was 14.25. Note the actual daily average CCS may differ from this result.

Why the Cane Analysis Program Audit Service Matters

The Cane Analysis Program (CAP) plays a vital role in determining the quality of cane delivered to the mill and ultimately influences grower payments. To ensure growers can have confidence in the integrity and accuracy of this process, a Cane Analysis Program Audit Service is available throughout the crushing season.

The Bundaberg audit service provides growers with an independent opportunity to verify that cane sampling and analysis procedures are being carried out correctly and consistently. It is an important safeguard that supports transparency and accountability within the cane payment system.

What Does the Audit Service Do?

The Bundaberg Cane Analysis Program Audit Service monitors and verifies key aspects of the sampling and analysis process, including:

- Cane sampling procedures
- Sample handling and preparation
- Laboratory testing processes
- Data recording and reporting systems
- Compliance with established industry standards and protocols

By regularly reviewing these processes, the audit service helps ensure that cane quality results accurately reflect the cane delivered by growers.

Why Is This Important for Growers?

The cane payment system relies on accurate sampling and analysis results. Even small errors can potentially affect CCS results and grower returns.

The audit service provides confidence that:

- Sampling procedures are being applied consistently.
- Laboratory equipment and processes are operating correctly.
- Results are reliable and accurate.
- Industry standards are being maintained.
- Growers' interests are being protected.

A Valuable Industry Safeguard

The audit process is not about finding fault; it is about maintaining confidence in the system. Regular auditing helps identify potential issues early, allowing corrective action to be taken before they impact results.

The service also demonstrates the industry's commitment to fairness, transparency, and continuous improvement. By independently verifying the integrity of the Cane Analysis Program, growers can have greater assurance that the quality assessment of their cane is being conducted appropriately.

Grower Participation Is Encouraged

Growers are encouraged to take an interest in the Cane Analysis Program and the audit processes that support it. Understanding how cane is sampled and analysed helps build confidence in the payment system and promotes trust across the entire supply chain.

The Bundaberg Cane Analysis Program Audit Team operates seven (7) days a week throughout the crushing season, providing ongoing oversight of sampling and analysis activities. This continuous presence helps ensure that auditing and verification processes are maintained whenever cane is being delivered and processed.

Growers who have any questions, concerns, or would like further information about the Cane Analysis Program or audit activities are encouraged to contact the Bundaberg CANEGROWERS office. Raising queries promptly allows matters to be investigated quickly and helps maintain confidence in the integrity and accuracy of the cane payment system.

The Cane Analysis Program Audit Service is an important part of ensuring that every grower receives a fair and accurate assessment of the cane they deliver. By supporting transparency and maintaining high standards, the audit service helps protect the integrity of the industry for everyone involved.

Drones: what is required

Drones are becoming more commonly used in agricultural production in the Bundaberg Region and growers should know what licences they or a contractor are required to have before using a drone for spraying crops.

To operate a drone in Queensland the operator is required to have a Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) Remote Pilot Licence and Operators certificate and abide by requirements set out by this authority.

Spray operators also require an Aerial Distribution Licence issued from the Department of Primary Industries, even if spraying above their own property.

Once a suitable person and equipment is found, the operator is required to follow the conditions of the label in relation to aerial spraying including but not limited to buffer zone requirements, spray quality (droplet size) requirements, water carrier volumes, release height and any other spray drift mitigations listed on the chemical label.

These requirements are put in place to ensure that there is minimal risk to neighbouring crops and property, especially for new and developing using for drones in agriculture.

Growers are also reminded to check that they are covered under their farm insurance as some insurers exclude liability for aerial spraying by drones.

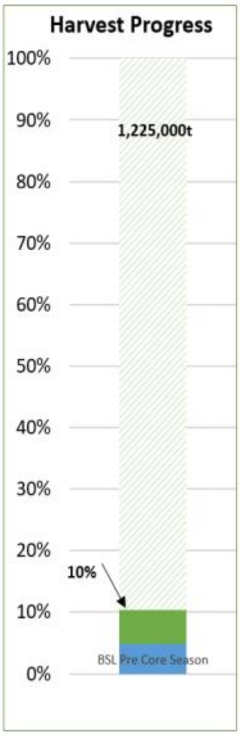
If growers are interested in having drones apply chemical to their farms they should be aware of the possible risks and potential liability involved if things don't go well.

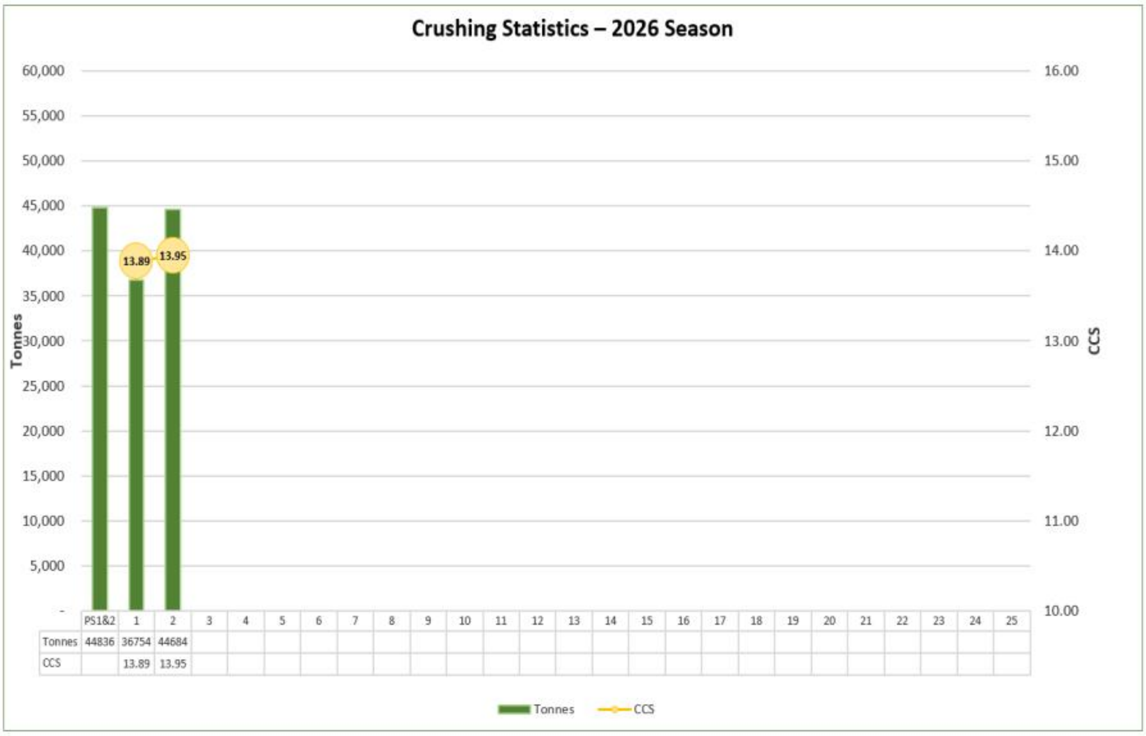
Summary of Wage Rates from 1 July 2026

This information is a summary only - for full details including weekend penalty rates, overtime and public holiday rates, refer to Fair Work Ombudsman website - Award Viewer - MA000087 (Sugar Industry Award 2020) - Part 4 - Field Sector - Wages and Allowances Clause 17 Minimum Rates & Schedule D Summary of Hourly Rates of Pay.

Type of Employment Basis of Pay	Full/Part-Time Hourly Rate (Ordinary Hours)	Full/Part Time Single Contract Hourly Rate	Casual Hourly Rate (Ordinary Hours ex Weekends)	Casual Single Contract Hourly Rate
Classification				
Cultivation/Cane Production				
Youths under 18 years	$15.91	$18.30	$19.89	$22.27
Youths 18-19 years	$19.88	$22.86	$24.85	$27.83
Inductee/Trainee	$25.74	$29.60	$32.18	$36.04
Grade 1	$27.50	$31.63	$34.38	$38.50
Grade 2	$28.41	$32.67	$35.51	$39.77
Classification				
Cane Haulage				
Inductee/Trainee	$26.88	$30.91	$33.60	$37.63
Grade 1	$27.50	$31.63	$34.38	$38.50
Grade 2	$28.41	$32.67	$35.51	$39.77
Classification				
Cane Harvesting				
Inductee/Trainee	$27.50	$31.63	$34.38	$38.50
Grade 1	$28.41	$32.67	$35.51	$39.77
Grade 2	$29.45	$33.87	$36.81	$41.23

Superannuation Guarantee (SG) rate of 12% applies from 1 July 2026. You'll need to use the new rate to calculate super on payments you make to employees on or after 1 July, even if some or all of the pay period is for work done before 1 July. Workers under 18 are eligible for SG when they work more than 30 hours in a week.





Payday Super Payment Deadlines

When to pay

Your super guarantee contribution is on time if it is received by your employee's super fund (with all the necessary information to allocate the contribution to the employee's member account) within 7 business days after paying your employee. You may have longer to make the contribution in some situations.

It's best practice to pay your employees' super guarantee contributions on payday. This is also known as the QE day – that is, the day you pay qualifying earnings to your employees.

If you use a commercial clearing house, including one used through payroll software, you need to allow enough time for them to process your payment to meet the seven (7) business day timeframe. That's why it's best to pay super on payday. If your payment is late you are liable to pay the super guarantee charge.

What is the QE day?

The QE day is the day you pay your employees an amount of qualifying earnings. In most cases this is your regular payday.

If you make a payment of qualifying earnings to an employee on a particular day, that day will be the QE day for that employee even if you:

- put the payment into your payroll or accounting system on a different day
- pay other employees on a different day
- have a longer period to report the payment to the ATO (such as single touch payroll concessions for closely held employees or overseas payroll).

Definition of 'business day'

A business day is any day other than:

- a Saturday or Sunday
- a day that is a public holiday for the whole of any Australian state or territory.

This means if there is a state or territory-wide public holiday, that day is not a business day for the purposes of Payday Super, even if you are not in that state or territory.

If a public holiday applies to only part of a state or territory (for example Bundaberg Show Day), that day is still a business day for Payday Super purposes.

Which workers will the deadline applie to

The seven (7) business day timeframe for contributions (or longer in some situations) applies to all employees who are entitled to super guarantee. This includes workers who come under the extended definition of 'employee' for super guarantee purposes, such as:

- independent contractors paid mainly for their labour
- sportspeople and performers
- directors or executives of a company.

Longer time to pay

You may be allowed more time to make an on-time contribution in certain situations.

- First contribution for a new employee or super fund
- Out-of-cycle payments
- Exceptional circumstances affecting multiple employers
- Bunching rule for overlapping due dates

First contribution for a new employee or super fund

You have a longer time to pay the first eligible super guarantee contribution you are making:

- for a new employee
- to a new complying super fund for an existing employee after you have stopped making contributions to another super fund.

In these situations, the contribution must be received by the super fund within 20 business days after the relevant QE day (payday).

Late contributions

A contribution for a payday is considered late if it is received by the fund more than seven (7) business days after paying your employee (unless a longer time applies) but before we have assessed you for the super guarantee charge.

Late contributions can reduce the super guarantee charge. However, you may still be liable for the interest and administrative components, and any choice loading, even if you pay all of the remaining super guarantee late.

For more information on payday super visit the Australian Taxation Office website at www.ato.gov.au.

Fuel Theft – a continuing issue

Growers need to be aware that fuel theft is continuing despite a reduction in the price of fuel. Diesel tanks, especially those on irrigation pumps away from the house and sheds are the main targets, however all bulk fuel tanks are at risk from thieves.

While growers have tried a variety of padlocks and other locking devices to make it harder to steal fuel the accessibility of cheap battery powered tools has meant that it is harder to secure many fuel tanks, especially the older tanks. Unfortunately having a good locking system may mean the thieves cut the fuel hose, or the bung out of the bottom of the tank to access the fuel.

In a recent attempt, a 4WD ute with a yellow tank tried to steal fuel from a pump shed close to town. A neighbour saw the vehicle enter the property and tried to intercept the vehicle before they had a chance to steal the fuel.

Bundaberg CANEGROWERS suggests that if growers see unusual vehicles accessing the property that they contact the police, especially if fuel theft is suspected.

2026–27 Regulated Electricity Prices Released for Regional Queensland

The Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) released its final determination for regulated retail electricity prices for regional Queensland on 5 June 2026. The new notified prices will apply from 1 July 2026 and include reductions across a number of tariffs commonly used by irrigators and agricultural businesses.

Following several years of substantial electricity price increases, the latest determination provides some welcome relief, with most small business and large business usage charges decreasing. However, as electricity tariffs continue to evolve, growers are encouraged to review their current tariff arrangements to ensure they remain on the most appropriate tariff for their operation.

Small Business Tariffs

For customers using less than 100 MWh of electricity annually, several commonly used small business tariffs have seen reductions in usage charges.

Tariff 20 – Small Business Flat Rate

Tariff 20 remains one of the most common tariffs used by smaller irrigation and farming operations.

- Usage charges will decrease from 32.365 c/kWh to 27.875 c/kWh, a reduction of approximately 13.9%.
- The daily supply charge will increase from 182.788 c/day to 194.944 c/day.

For customers with significant electricity consumption, the reduction in energy charges is expected to outweigh the increase in the fixed daily charge.

Tariff 34 – Small Business Interruptible Supply

Tariff 34 continues to offer lower energy charges for customers willing to accept occasional interruptions to supply under Ergon Energy's load control arrangements.

- Usage charges will decrease from 23.862 c/kWh to 20.087 c/kWh, a reduction of approximately 15.8%.
- The daily supply charge will increase slightly from 160.673 c/day to 162.704 c/day.

For growers able to accommodate controlled interruptions, Tariff 34 remains one of the lowest-cost notified tariffs available.

Time-of-Use Tariffs

The newer small business time-of-use tariffs (Tariffs 22D and 22E) remain available and may offer opportunities for growers who can shift electricity consumption away from peak demand periods.

Tariff 22E continues to feature a very low daytime energy rate between 11:00am and 1:00pm, designed to encourage electricity use during periods of high solar generation. For irrigators with flexible pumping schedules, these tariffs may warrant further investigation.

Large Business Tariffs

Large irrigation customers and farming enterprises consuming more than 100MWh annually may be on demand-based tariffs.

Tariff 44A – Large Business Demand Tariff

- Usage charges will decrease from 19.207 c/kWh to 17.167 c/kWh.
- The monthly demand charge will increase slightly from $23.060/kVA to $23.179/kVA.
- The daily supply charge will increase from approximately $56.73/day to $61.50/day.

For many large users, the reduction in energy charges may help offset increases in fixed network costs.

Tariff 60A – Large Business Interruptible Supply

Customers on Tariff 60A will see:

- Usage charges decrease from 22.042 c/kWh to 20.110 c/kWh.
- Daily supply charges increase from approximately $52.46/day to $54.17/day.

Obsolete Tariffs

A number of tariffs commonly used by irrigators and agricultural businesses are now classified as obsolete and are scheduled for phase-out. These include:

- Tariff 22C – Small Business Time-of-Use Inclining Band Tariff
- Tariff 24A – Small Business Demand Tariff
- Tariffs 44, 45 and 46 – Large Business Demand Tariffs
- Tariff 50 and 50A – Large Business Seasonal and Time-of-Use Demand Tariffs
- Tariffs 62A, 65A and 66A – Limited Access Irrigation Tariffs

Growers currently on these tariffs should be aware that replacement tariff options may offer significantly different pricing structures, including demand charges and time-of-use rates. Transitioning to a new tariff without understanding how electricity is used on-farm can result in higher electricity costs.

New Tariff Structures Continue to Evolve

Over recent years, electricity retailers and network businesses have introduced a range of new tariff structures designed to better reflect when electricity is consumed and the impact customers have on the network.

While some growers may benefit from moving to newer tariffs, others may find their existing arrangements remain the most cost-effective. The right tariff will depend on a range of factors including:

- Annual electricity consumption.
- Pump sizes and operating schedules.
- Irrigation practices.
- Solar generation systems.
- Peak demand characteristics.
- Ability to shift pumping to different times of the day.

There is no single tariff that suits every farming operation.

Time for a Tariff Review?

The changes announced by the QCA provide a timely reminder for growers to review their current electricity arrangements.

Many growers remain on tariffs that were selected years ago when electricity prices, irrigation practices and farm infrastructure looked very different. Changes such as installing solar, upgrading pumps, changing irrigation schedules or increasing production can significantly alter which tariff is most suitable.

Bundaberg CANEGROWERS encourages growers to check their current tariff and review whether it remains the best option for their business.

Growers interested in reviewing their electricity costs or exploring alternative tariff options are encouraged to contact the Bundaberg CANEGROWERS office to arrange an electricity tariff review.

QCA Regulated Electricity Prices for Regional Queensland 2026-27

Tariff	Tariff Type	Interval Meter Required	Supply Charge	Off Peak/ Flat Rate	Peak Usage	Shoulder Usage	Demand
			$/day	c/kWh			$/kW/mth
T20	Flat Rate	✗	$1.95	27.88			
22D	Time of Use	✓	$1.95	18.19	44.37	24.63	
22E	Time of Use	✓	$1.95	0.07	52.12	24.17	
24C	Time of Use Monthly Demand	✓	$1.63	18.19	18.93	25.18	$7.42
34	Load Control - Primary tariff	✓ * contractor & receiver	$1.63	20.09			
33	Load Control - Secondary tariff	✓ * contractor & receiver		15.24			

FlexPay has Arrived

Bundaberg growers can now access FlexPay to customise their Advance payments to better suit their needs for the 2026 Season.

You can find FlexPay under the new My Advances page in the 'Payments' section of your QSL Direct account.

Once there, simply click on the "Edit" button at the top of your Advances schedule.

To access the new **My Advances** screen and FlexPay through the QSL App, make sure you have updated to the latest version. Once logged in to your QSL Direct account, tap 'More', then 'Advances'. To explore your FlexPay options, click the 'My Advances' button.

This will allow you to model potential changes to your Advances, including adding new payments and increasing or decreasing your scheduled payments.

With any FlexPay changes you explore, will be shown the associated indicative finance costs as well as the impact your changes would have on your Advances program for the season.

All QSL Direct growers, including Authorised Viewers, can explore their FlexPay options with no commitment, seeing an estimate of adjusted Advances payment, Advances schedule and finance adjustment before deciding if they wish to submit their request. As with any QSL Direct Account change, only Pricing Managers can submit a FlexPay request.

It is important to note that once you have elected to use FlexPay, you cannot return to QSL's Standard Advances schedule for the rest of the season.

If you'd like to make FlexPay request or would just like to learn more about this revolutionary new payment option, please contact Menn Mutton for assistance.

QSL

Your QSL Grower Relationship Officer

Southern Queensland

Menn Mutton
0437 498 148
Mennard.Mutton@qsl.com.au

Bundaberg CANEGROWERS Ltd

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
08.06.26	District Managers Meeting	To represent growers	Tanya Howard
08.06.26	David Batt MP, Member for Hinkler	To represent growers	Directors Tanya Howard
15.06.26	Agriculture Roundtable with David Batt and Senator Matt Canavan	To represent growers	Tanya Howard
15.06.26	QFF Water and Energy Policy Committee	To receive updates	Tanya Howard
16.06.26	QCGO Farm Productivity R&D Investment Committee	To receive updates	Tanya Howard
17.06.26	Paradise Dam Briefing Meeting	To represent irrigators	Dale Holliss Tanya Howard
18.06.26	Coastal Burnett Groundwater Management Area Advisory Committee	To represent members	Matt Leighton
18.06.26	Bundaberg Burnett Major Projects Briefing	To represent growers	Tanya Howard
19.06.26	Bioenergy Group Meeting	To receive updates	Matt Leighton Tanya Howard
19.06.26	Ag Horizons Forum	To receive updates	Dean Cayley
24.06.26	QCGO Industry Performance and Evolution Committee	To receive updates	Tanya Howard
29.06.26	Reefwise Farming Project Consortium	To receive updates	Matt Leighton Tanya Howard

APVMA Released Final Regulatory Decision Following the Paraquat Chemical Review

sra Sugar Research Australia

The APVMA recently released its final regulatory decision following the Paraquat Chemical Review.

The regulator has ruled some uses of paraquat are unacceptable from the viewpoint of environmental safety. The maximum supported rate varies from crop to crop. For sugarcane, the regulator concluded that paraquat rates above 103 g a.i. /ha (directed interrow spray) and 137 g a.i. /ha (boomspray) pose an unacceptable risk to birds.

The minimum label rate of paraquat for use in sugarcane is 300 g a.i. per hectare (equivalent to 1.2 L/ha of Paraquat at 250 g/L). Consequently, the use of paraquat in sugarcane is now NOT supported by the regulator. This decision also includes combination products containing diquat and paraquat.

As of 22 June 2026, newly manufactured paraquat drums will bear revised labels that no longer mention the use of paraquat in sugarcane. **These products cannot be used in sugarcane fields at any rates.**

However, the supply and use of registered paraquat products bearing labels approved prior to this final decision are authorised for a period of two years. These products (and only these products) can still be used according to their respective labels until 22 June 2028.

As part of SRA project 2025002 Paraquat alternatives – Re-develop Integrated Weed Management in Australian Sugarcane without Paraquat, SRA is actively working with chemical companies to help identify new herbicidal knockdown strategies in sugarcane.

Some new options are on track for registration as early as mid 2027. In the meantime, SRA is exploring weed management options for this season, that will be communicated to the industry as soon as possible.

Are you a primary producer impacted by natural disasters in Queensland?

QFF's Industry Recovery and Resilience Officer (IRRO) program supports primary producers operating in intensive agriculture to recover from natural disasters and strengthen their long-term business resilience.

Working across disaster-impacted regions in Southern Queensland, QFF's IRROs Jeff Collingwood and Kelli Rabbitt are available to provide primary producers with practical, on-the-ground support tailored to their individual farm business.

Eligible natural disasters and LGAs can be viewed on the project webpage ***www.qff.org.au/projects/irro***

QFF's IRROs will work with you to:

- Develop or update your Natural Disaster Management Plan and connect you to technical advice on natural disaster recovery and resilience where appropriate.
- Provide support to your business to access referral pathways to available grants and loans, as well as industry, business, financial and mental health support.
- Share information and provide linkages to existing support and services available to your business.

Meet QFF's IRROs

Jeff Collingwood
E: jeff@qff.org.au
P: 0417 991 186

Kelli Rabbitt
E: kelli@qff.org.au
P: 07 3837 4732

Want to find out more?

Visit the program webpage below or scan the QR code

www.qff.org.au/projects/IRRO

The Industry Recovery and Resilience Officer (IRRO) program is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments under Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

Australian Government
Queensland Government
QFF QUEENSLAND FARMERS' FEDERATION

Announced Allocation Advice - Bundaberg Water Supply Scheme

The initial announced allocation for Bundaberg Water Supply Scheme has been calculated for the 2026-27 water year under the rules defined by Bundaberg Water Supply Scheme Operations Manual and will be applicable until revised and communicated by Sunwater.

Kolan Sub-scheme

High Priority 100%
Medium Priority 100%
Effective Date: 1 July 2026

Burnett Sub-scheme

High Priority 100%
Medium Priority 100%
Effective Date: 1 July 2026

Approved carryover volumes will be advised once the previous water year has been finalised.

The current water storage levels can be viewed here: http://bit.ly/swstoragelevels

The Operational Report is available on our website here: https://bit.ly/BundabergWss

To check your estimated available water balance login to Sunwater Online here: https://bit.ly/SunwaterOnline

Sunwater Online is available to customers 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This system puts you in control of your water and business via secure online facilities. To register for online access, please contact customer support on - 13 15 89

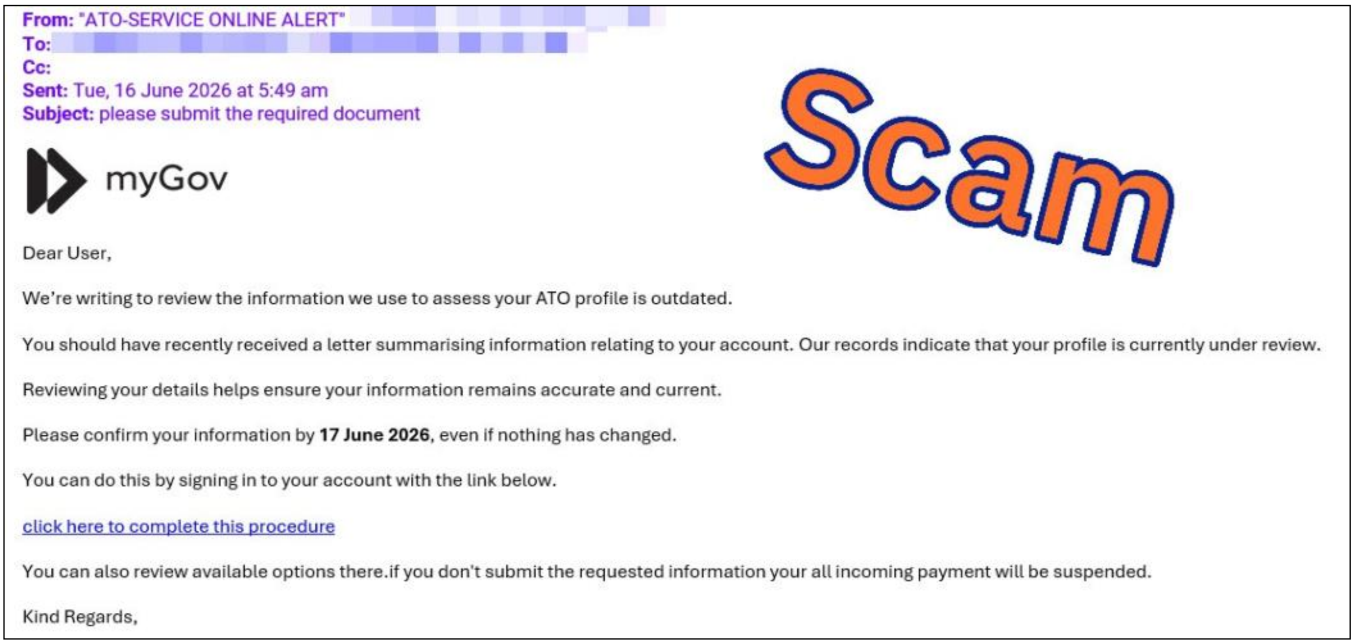
Should you have any enquiries please contact Sunwater customer support by email customersupport@sunwater.com.au or by phone on 13 15 89 Monday-Friday 8:30am-4:30pm.

Be aware of ATO and 'myGov' Impersonation scams

With tax time 2026 fast approaching, Scamwatch and the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) are reminding Australians to be aware of communications claiming to be from the ATO or "myGov".

Scammers make phone calls, send fake emails, texts, or messages, and even create fake websites that look like the real thing but they're not.
They create a sense of urgency to manipulate you into clicking links to fake websites or to download harmful attachments. They may also send messages urging you to call a phone number that connects you to the scammer.

Criminals design these communications to look real, using official logos, branding, and language to deceive people. The scammers may then use your stolen personal information, including your myGov sign in details to commit fraud in your name.


From: "ATO-SERVICE ONLINE ALERT"
To:
Cc:
Sent: Tue, 16 June 2026 at 5:49 am
Subject: please submit the required document

myGov

Dear User,

We're writing to review the information we use to assess your ATO profile is outdated.

You should have recently received a letter summarising information relating to your account. Our records indicate that your profile is currently under review.

Reviewing your details helps ensure your information remains accurate and current.

Please confirm your information by **17 June 2026**, even if nothing has changed.

You can do this by signing in to your account with the link below.

click here to complete this procedure

You can also review available options there.if you don't submit the requested information your all incoming payment will be suspended.

Kind Regards,

Protect yourself from tax time scams

- Don't rush. Don't click links in unexpected messages or share passwords, one-time codes, or financial information
- Contact the Australian Taxation Office using the official app or website or call 1800 008 540 to check if the contact is real
- If you shared money or personal information with a scammer act quickly. Contact the ATO on 1800 008 540 to help protect your ATO accounts. Visit Scamwatch to learn more about what to do if you've been scammed
- Visit the Australian Taxation Office website for more information on how to protect your personal information and stay safe from these scammers

To report scams and find more info go to Scamwatch.gov.au

Sustainability within the Bundaberg Sugar Supply Chain

Bundaberg Sugar is committed to maintaining the highest standards of sustainability across its entire supply chain. As part of its certification under the Bonsucro Production Standard, and in alignment with the companies' greenhouse gas emission reduction targets through the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi), the company is working to deepen its understanding of sustainable practices across all farms supplying cane to its mill.

Bundaberg Sugar is once again inviting growers to complete a short questionnaire. This will help meet compliance requirements and demonstrate ongoing commitment to responsible, sustainably conscious sugar production.

Independent growers supply approximately 50% of the total cane, and Bundaberg Sugar value this ongoing partnership.

With increasing interest from customers and external auditing bodies, your participation helps us provide the information needed to support and verify sustainability performance.

The questionnaire focuses on four (4) key areas of sustainability including human rights and the environment:

1. Risk of child labour
2. Risk of forced labour
3. Risks to water quality and quantity in the surrounding catchments
4. Conversion of natural ecosystems

Bundaberg Sugar appreciates the time and cooperation of all growers in completing this questionnaire. This input is essential to ensuring the company continues to meet and exceed internationally recognised sustainability standards.

Findings from 2024 & 2025

Whilst still a relatively new initiative, we've had a good return of surveys in past years. We greatly appreciate the input from all who have taken the time in the past to complete and return. Summarised findings of the previous surveys include:

- 65% of respondents had family working on the farm with 35% reporting children working on the farms. A further 43% employed workers from outside of the family. These findings show the contribution to employment within the local community and the high proportion of family working together.
- Respondents sourced irrigation water from surface water, 50%, ground water, 54%, and on-farm storage, 54%, with the majority of respondents utilising more than one source of water.
- 81% of respondents schedule the amount of irrigation water applied and time.
- 27% of respondents tested for salinity in their irrigation water.

Thank you for your continued support. 2026 Questionnaires will be delivered over the coming weeks and we kindly request that all surveys be completed and returned by Friday 14 August 2026. If a short phone call or a face-to-face meeting is preferred, please contact BSL, as this can also be arranged.

A couple of slight changes have been made to last year's survey to try to reduce any ambiguity and once again we are grateful for any feedback.

Should you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to reach out by contacting environment@bundysugar.com.au or via your GSO's.

OUR MISSION IS TO PROVIDE REPRESENTATION, LEADERSHIP AND SERVICES, AND PROMOTE UNITY IN THE INTEREST OF GROWERS

The Bundaberg District Canegrower

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POSTAGE PAID AUSTRALIA
PRIORITY

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