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MAURITIUS
ROOTS OF THE FUTURE





Bringing Value & Innovation to the Agri Sector





- Agriculture has been the bedrock of the Mauritius economy for decades. Starting from a monocrop sector, it is now fully diversified with over 711 tariff lines being produced locally and exported. While the industrial base of Mauritius has been considerably widened, the agricultural and agro-processing sector remains a vital pillar of the economy as sugar cane fields continue to dominate the landscape of the island. Keeping pace with the industrial development of the country, this sector has undergone substantial modernisation, transformation and diversification.
- The sector has been servicing the needs of the population for years, but self-sufficiency nowadays stands at 23%. Today, the sector represents 3.3% of the national economy, with sugar cane cultivation and sugar production as prime activities.
- In its endeavor to reduce dependency on food imports, increase revenues and export earnings, government is actively encouraging agricultural and agro-industrial development with the introduction of several measures which encourage **import substitution, food processing, technology-based farming, shelter farming**, as well as production of higher end products such as nutraceuticals.

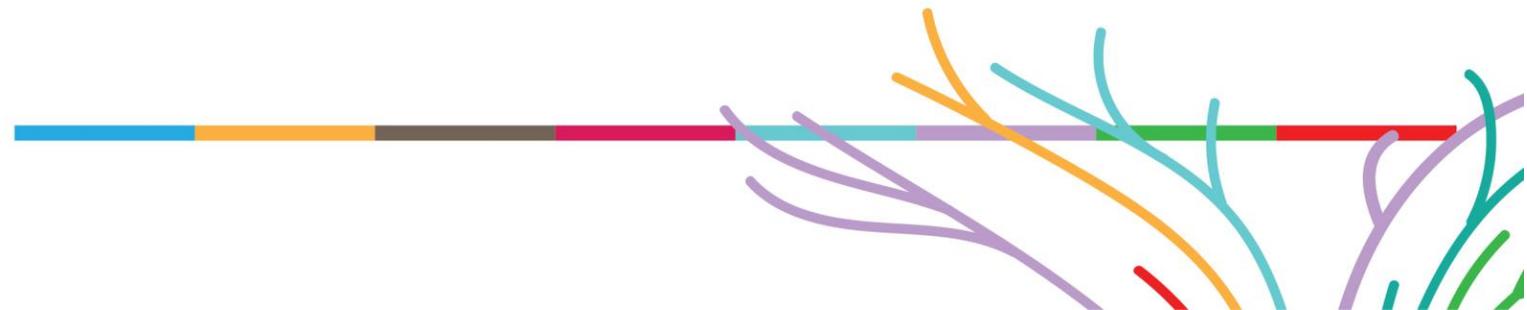


Main Agricultural Crops Harvested/Production



Crops	2019	
	Area harvested (hectares)	Production (tonnes)
Sugar cane	45,054	3,405,250
Tea (green leaves)	656	8,329
Food crops	7,334	93,736

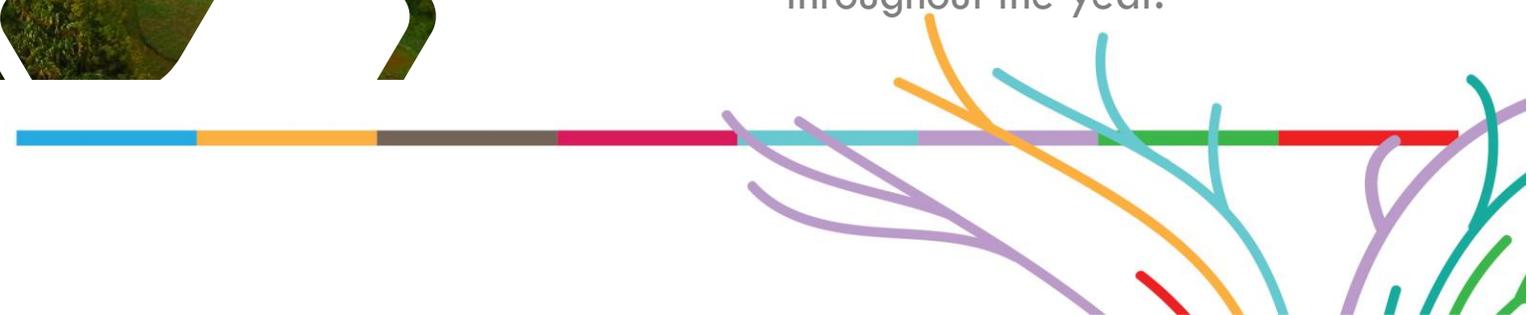
Source: Statistics Mauritius, 2019



Attractiveness of Mauritius for Agri Business



- The geographic isolation of Mauritius provides many advantages such as pest and disease-free production, and quarantine & monitoring regime that helps preserve a reputation for high quality production.
- Counter seasonal production for the northern hemisphere markets implies that transnational companies producing and sourcing from Mauritius can deliver produce throughout the year.



Presence of Research Centers



- Mauritius Sugar Industry Research Institute (MSIRI)
- Food and Agricultural Research and Extension Institute (FAREI)



Investment Opportunities



Technology Based Farming



- Hydroponic

Growing crops in a soil-less medium, where the plant is supported either by water (in water culture) or a solid substrate other than soil (in substrate culture for e.g., cocopeat)

- Vertical Farming

Vertical farming - an ingenious and sustainable method of agriculture requiring 70% less water than traditional method to produce food or for plantation in reduced space

- Aquaponics

Integrated system combining fish farming and plant growing



Shelter Farming – Potential Crops



Crops	Estimated yield (tonnes/Arpent)	Expected Production (tonnes/ Arpent/ year)	Achievable Target/ year	
			Arpents	tonnes
Sweet pepper	16	32 (2 cycles)	20	640
English cucumber	24.3	73 (3 cycles)	20	1,460
Salad tomato	33.6	67.2 (2 cycles)	20	1,344
Zucchini/ marrow	6.3	18.9 (3 cycles)	10	189
Mini aubergine	5	5 (1 cycle)	10	50
Patty pan/ gem squash	2.5	7.5 (3 cycles)	10	75
Butternut	12.4	37.2 (3 cycles)	10	372
Aromatic herbs*	5.5	33 (6 cycles)	6	198
Beans/ pulses	10	10 (2 cycles)	6	100
Lettuce	18.9	113.4 (6 cycles)	7	793.8
Broccoli	7.35	22 (3 cycles)	7	154
Cauliflower	16.8	50.4 (3 cycles)	7	352.8
Red cabbage	20	40 (2 cycles)	7	280
TOTAL			140	6008.6



Potential Fruit Tree Crop

Breadfruits

- A product with great potential as it is gluten free
- Highest yields as a single tree can produce up to 150
- Tree takes approximately three years to mature
- Value Addition – Can be processed into flour
- Indicative wholesale price of breadfruit ranges from €0.45 to €0.70 per fruit of approximately 4 pounds.
- Indicative price for processed breadfruit is €2.60 to €4.50 per pound

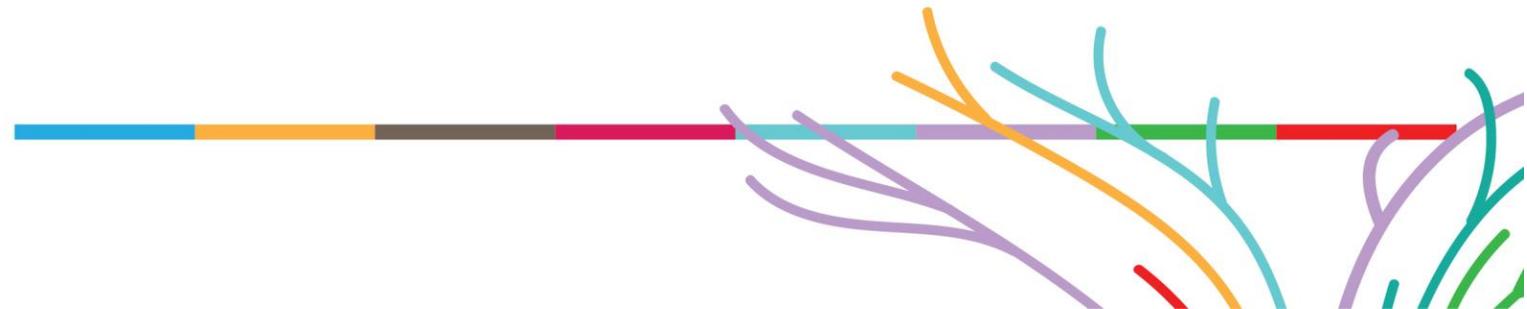
Avocado

- One of the world's trendiest fruits - can be used for breakfast, brunch, lunch, dinner and desert
- Sixth most imported fruit in the world
- Mauritius has also lifted the three-year ban on import of avocados from Kenya. This could lead to development of a regional value chain to develop beauty products from avocado
- Other uses - oil, cosmetic, soap, and shampoo industry; as well as processed foods derived from it, such as guacamole, frozen products and avocado paste.



Livestock Opportunities

- Fodder production and conservation
- Dairy farming for niche market and value addition
- Beef production (for fresh meat) (Rearing of weaner cattle till slaughter)
- Goat and sheep rearing (for fresh meat)
- Deer Rearing



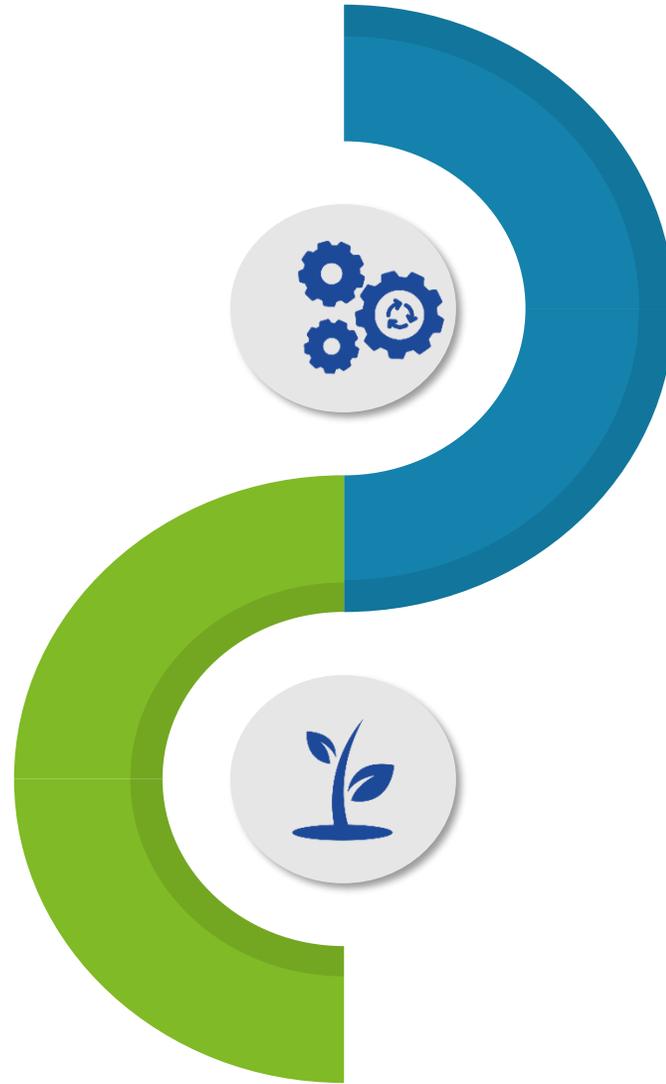
Schemes

Food Processing Scheme

- 8-year income tax holiday
- Exemption from payment of Registration
- Duty and Land Transfer Tax for the purchase of immovable property
- Exemption from payment of value added tax (VAT) on equipment and machinery

Bio-Farming promotion scheme

- Income Tax Holiday for the first eight years of operation of approved Bio- Farming project;
- Value Added Tax Exemption on production equipment and other inputs acquired for the implementation of the project



Key Incentives

- 3% corporate tax on profits derived from
- No import duties on equipment and raw material
- No export duties in Mauritius
- VAT on raw materials is payable at customs clearance but reimbursable on exports
- Zero-rated value-added tax for :
 - *Unprocessed agricultural and horticultural produce*
 - *Live animals of a kind generally used as, or yielding or producing, food for human consumption other than live poultry*
- Trade Promotion and Marketing Scheme allows 60% refund in air freight cost for exports of fruits, flowers, vegetables and chilled fish to USA, Europe, Japan, Australia, Canada and the Middle-East
- Sea Freight rebate scheme: Exporters are eligible for a refund of 25% of the basic sea freight cost to a maximum of USD 300 for 20T-foot container and USD 600 per 40T-foot to all African regional ports
- Investment Tax Credit of 5% per year (i.e. 15% over three years) for investment in all manufacturing companies.
- Export Credit Insurance Scheme to cover all exports in Africa

