

Friday, 2 November 2018

NEWS RELEASE

Wilmar's Plane Creek Mill crushes out

Plane Creek Mill at Sarina crushed out overnight, becoming the second of Wilmar's eight mills to finish the 2018 season.

Mackay Regional Operations Manager Craig Muddle said the last bin was tipped about 12.20am today (Friday 2 November) and the total throughput for the season was 1.143 million tonnes of cane.

The season CCS was 14.70 units, which is above the five-year average.

Wilmar's Proserpine Mill finished the season on Sunday 21 October.

Mr Muddle said Plane Creek's final crop was about 90,000 tonnes down on pre-season estimates due to the unusually dry season.

"The silver lining is the high sugar content," he said.

"Average CCS tracked above budget for much of the season because of the cool, dry conditions. We ended up with a season average slightly above expectations."

Mr Muddle said widespread rain earlier in the week had made the last two days of the season challenging.

"The field sector had a few issues getting the last paddocks harvested, but the rain and the early finish to the season will be very beneficial for next year's crop," he said.

Mr Muddle said the boil-out of the factory would finish late tonight (Friday). Once the factory is washed down, work will begin on the large maintenance season program.

The first of Wilmar's four Burdekin mills is expected to finish next Thursday (8 November). The two Herbert mills are expected to finish at the end of November.

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