



mackay area productivity services



Annual Report
For The Period
1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

MISSION STATEMENT

Maximise sustainable and profitable production of sugar cane in the Mackay area through the delivery of effective agronomic, economic and environmental advice, extension and tools to growers.

Objectives

- 1. Minimise crop loss through advice and assistance about the prevention, control and eradication of pest and disease infestations of cane**
 - 1.1 Provision of high-quality pest and disease advisory service
 - 1.2 Provision of programs to monitor and control pest and diseases
 - 1.3 Provision of improved access to pest and disease information via the regional industry computer database
 - 1.4 Education of growers regarding pests and diseases
 - 1.5 Maintaining crop hygiene and quarantine standards
- 2. Maximise the sustainable value of cane production in the Mackay district**
 - 2.1 Provide advice and assistance on maximising the value of cane production and harvesting
 - 2.2 Increase the uptake of approved seed
 - 2.3 Distribute new varieties
 - 2.4 Promote practices which enhance the long-term capacity of land and water resources to sustain viable sugar production, while minimising off-site impacts.
- 3. Managing human resources**
 - 3.1 Ensure that the human resources match current and foreseeable objectives
 - 3.2 Improve safety and productivity within work environment
- 4. Strengthen collaboration with research, development and extension providers working within the industry**
- 5. Ensure compliance with all legislation impacting on the Board's operations**
- 6. General**
 - 6.1 Maintain support of industry stakeholders
 - 6.2 Enhance performance in communicating with industry stakeholders through provision of effective, timely and efficient exchange.

Chairman's Report

The 2022 season was another year filled with opportunity and challenges for both the growing and milling sectors. These challenges and opportunities have been and will be debated for some time however despite the challenges MAPS has continued to remain a positive and valuable tool for Growers and Mackay Sugar, providing an ever expanding and improving service to both sectors.

MAPS has continued to work to its strategic plan set out in 2020 with success in those areas not affected by the extended crushing season. The extended crushing season meant that we did not hit our target for area planted to fallow crops however it is pleasing to see more growers trialling the use of fallow crops using the MAPS zero-tillage legume planter or by other means. The MAPS team has been successful in decreasing the already low RSD levels, increasing the tonnage of clean seed distributed, increasing the number of growers achieving BMP accreditation and using the spatial data recording tool - Agtrix Farming.

A core component of the strategic plan is to improve our extension services by firstly ensuring our team has the technical training to be able to offer more detailed agronomic advice to the growers. This has taken some time to gather momentum however this is now moving forward with SRA and others engaged to provide this training. The staff's enthusiasm around the additional training is extremely encouraging and over the next few years the benefits of this will be seen by all, assisting with the ultimate goal of improving individual grower and overall district productivity.

2022 saw the 3 yearly grower director election cycle take place resulting in 3 new grower directors being elected, Tony Bartolo, Andrew Vassallo and myself. I would like to thank the outgoing directors Frank Perna, Steve Fordyce and Ross Williams for their service. It should be acknowledged that the current strategic plan was put in place during their tenure which has helped focus MAPS on productivity related goals. Coinciding with the grower election was the election of 2 new miller directors, Carissa Mansfield and Brent Casey joining Lee Blackburn. This has resulted in the new Board being the most diverse MAPS board ever in terms of skill-set, with growers, harvest contractors, human resources, health, safety, environment and corporate business professionals. The Board has also welcomed a new Company Secretary to MAPS in David Said. David has many years of corporate and governance experience and this is extremely valuable for MAPS professional development.

The new Board has been very conscious of ensuring the transition is smooth with minimal disruption to the MAPS team, additionally the Board has taken the view that it's not desirable in the future to have a situation where significant number of the Board are changed out at one time, and as such will recommend to the members at the 2023 AGM that the constitution be changed to have one grower director being elected in any one year. Should this recommendation be accepted, this will commence from the 2024 financial year.

All outstanding governance items from the previous year's governance audit have been completed. Whilst the audit did not highlight any major deficiencies it is pleasing to have improved this area of the business for the longer term. Financially the business has managed to keep to budget despite the inflationary pressures. The Board is focused on this area to keep any inevitable future levy increases to a minimum. MAPS has not had a levy increase for more than 10 years and in 2015 the levy actually decreased by 30%. The Board has put a 5-year financial plan in place to ensure future levy increases are sufficient to cover inflationary pressures. Income from the investment of reserve funds is also being used to offset inflationary costs.

MAPS has continued to enjoy the support of many external partners collaborating on water quality, grower extension and social license to operate projects. I would like to acknowledge the support of AgriFutures, Canegrowers, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF), Great Barrier Reef Foundation (GBRF) and Reef Catchments. Working with these partners assists the whole industry to improve both productivity and understanding how the local industry can improve its practices to minimise any effect on the environment. We look forward to this continued collaboration.

The local sugar industry continues to have many opportunities and challenges and MAPS is evolving in line with those. On behalf of the new Board, I would like to thank Anthony and his team for their commitment to all of the MAPS stakeholders, and for embracing the challenges and identifying opportunities in the strategic plan whilst dealing with day-to-day issues that the sugar industry provides. Without this enthusiasm MAPS would not be the success it is today, and the stakeholders would not enjoy the benefits MAPS provides and those that it intends to build on into the future.

PA Manning.

Chairman



Figure 1: Grower field day promoting benefits of breakcrops

Chief Executive Officer's (CEO) Report

SEASON

The 2022 crushing season started on the 13th of June and finished on the 13th of January 2023 with 5.54 M tonnes crushed (94% of estimated 5.9Mt) with an average CCS of 12.7. The average yield was 96.9t/ha. Favourable weather conditions between December to March have been very beneficial for the 2023 crop and the crop is estimated to pass the 5M tonnes again.

GROWERS SERVICES

MAPS Productivity Officers perform a vital role in assisting growers to improve crop health, productivity and profitability as well as meeting record keeping and industry BMP requirements.

A list of Productivity Officer's major functions is as follows:

- One-on-one advice and extension with their growers.
- Propagation of approved SRA cane varieties.
- Plant source inspections (intensive RSD testing).
- Observation plot establishment/monitoring (advanced clones).
- On farm variety recommendation, selection and management.
- Calibration of fertiliser and chemical applicators.
- Soil test interpretation and nutrient recommendations (N&P Budgets).
- Chemical advice and recommendations.
- Machinery inspection (biosecurity).
- Surveys (pest, disease, farming practice).
- Data collection/entry for Agtrix Farming record keeping.
- Assisting growers with self-assessment for Smartcane BMP & supporting practice change.
- Organising and running of farm walks, shed meetings and field days.

Apart from these general duties, each Productivity Officer is now working with growers to address their social licence to operate obligations. A list of field staff and their geographic area are as follows:

- **Andrew Dougan**, Senior Productivity Officer (160 Racecourse farms)
- **Ian Marais**, Productivity Officer (140 Upper Valley farms) & Farm Manager.
- **Shane Hare**, Senior Productivity Officer (160 Marian farms) & Agtrix Support.
- **Steve Garrad**, Productivity Officer (110 mainly Southern Farleigh farms). March 2022- BMP Officer.
- **Indiana Zarb**, Productivity Officer (201 mainly Racecourse farms)
- **Makayla Bowman**, Productivity Officer (205 mainly Pleystowe farms)

- **Brendan Rae**, Productivity Officer. (170 North Coast farms)
- **Dave McCallum**, Senior Extension Agronomist, works on a range of activities including general extension, advisory work, projects/trials, industry liaison, trouble shooting and core MAPS business.
- **Dev Chalise**, Reef Program Precision Planning Consultant (PPC) in the MAPS GBRF Water Quality Project. Dev provides one-on-one extension to growers developing nutrient management plans. The focus has been on with the offer of considerable agronomic extension assistance.
- **Eric Kok**, Productivity Officer (160 farms – Racecourse & Marian)
- **Will Motti**, Productivity Officer (Commenced February 2023)
- **Lorelle Fylnn**, BMP Support Officer (Commenced March 2023 – Part-time)
- **Vicki Royal** works part-time as MAPS Corporate Services Officer. Vicki is the main point of contact for the company and ensures all the daily requests are sorted out effectively.

GROUP EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

MAPS prides itself on being able to offer all Mackay farmers the only one-on-one service, however we also run several other larger group extension activities including:

- **MAPS/SRA Field Day** - held on 6th June 2022. Approximately 150 growers attended to view displays and demonstrations. The field day was scheduled for the 10th May, however wet conditions postponed the event to the later date. The field day was an afternoon event with a major focus on varieties and new seedlings that are advancing through the breeding program. Growers were able to walk through the variety plots and see first-hand the new seedlings and discuss their characteristics.
- **Shed Meetings** - Excellent feedback has been received from growers who attended this years shed meetings. These more personalized meetings offer a platform for our growers, MAPS officers and SRA researchers to discuss new information and any concerns before we enter the 2023 crushing season. These discussion items were largely specific to geographical areas such as pest damage, variety performance, standover and disease observations but also included issues that face the wider Mackay Sugar District. Industry topics such as BMP accreditation, Reef Regulations (N&P Budgets), record keeping and loss of good cane growing land were also commonly discussed items across all shed meetings.
- **MAPS Newsletter** - This topical/awareness style document is posted or emailed to all growers with three editions circulated each year (July, December & March).



Figure 2: MAPS shed meeting

- **CANEGROWERS Mackay Newsletter (*The Billet*)** - MAPS supplies district relevant content on a regular basis to the publication.
- **Media** engagement occurs regularly and mostly it is used for awareness of important issues for the local industry via newsletters and newspapers.
- **MAPS website** – The updated website has proven to be popular with growers and other industry personnel. Traffic on the site has increased significantly since the Agtrix Farming tutorial clips and the MAPS legume planter demonstrations were added to the site.
- **Agtrix Farming Training/Workshops** - Training workshops were held to assist growers with the new N&P Budget functionality of the program. The smaller workshops with 8-10 growers provides an ideal opportunity for growers to understand how they can now develop their own N&P Budget.

WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY (WH&S)

MAPS proactively maintains a strong WH&S environment. Some of the important measures taken include:

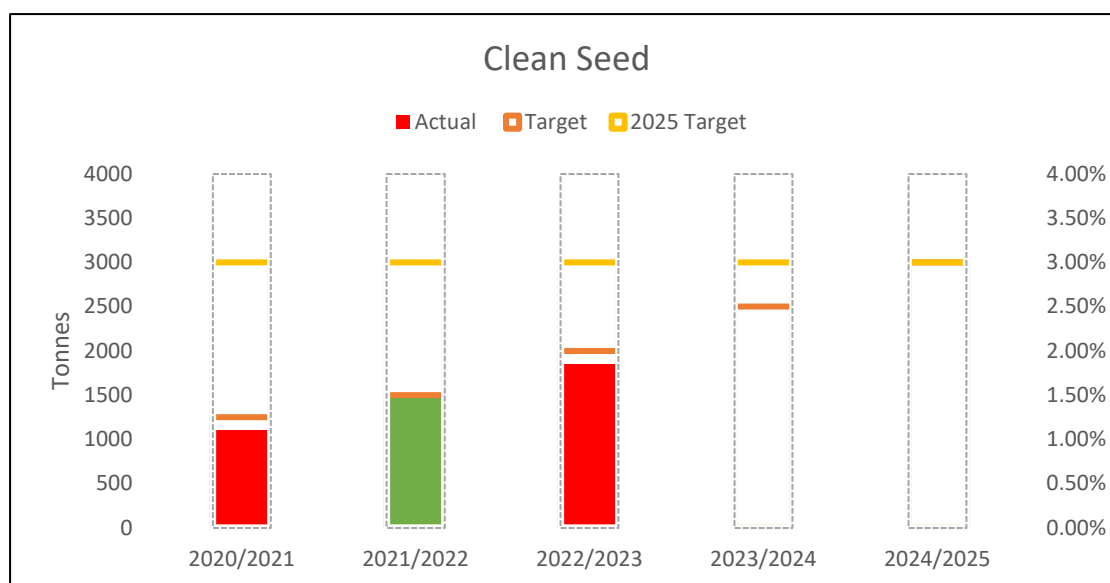
- Safety issues are the first agenda item at staff monthly meetings.
- The fire extinguishers, all electrical equipment and slings/chains were tested and tagged.
- Prior to hot water treating, the chains on one of the crates were identified as being unsafe and were replaced. Several slings were also deemed to be unsafe for use and were substituted with new ones.
- All staff attended the annual First Aid course.
- All staff attended the Mental Health First Aid workshop.
- Before the start of planting the MAPS farm and plots, all field staff participated in a job start safety meeting to identify risks and their mitigation.
- Snake awareness and hygiene for the handling of rat-damaged cane were discussed with staff.
- Staff First Aid kit supplies are regularly updated before expiry dates.
- Washouts at MAPS' Victoria Plains farm were repaired.
- COVID-19 protocols were implemented to combat the risk of infection amongst staff and growers. Social distancing, increased hygiene practices (washing hands), reducing face to face meetings and working from home are the practices staff follow if required.

WH&S reports over the year shows that a safe work ethic is foremost in the minds of MAPS' staff. Reportable incidents were mostly restricted to minor cuts, stings and bruises received while executing normal field duties. Near misses were dominated by encounters with snakes. Staff are equipped with appropriate knowledge, safety equipment (including snake-bite kits) and communication devices.

MAPS 5-Year Strategic Plan

In May 2020 MAPS implemented a 5 year strategic plan with the aim of increasing the focus on improving farm productivity. While core activities such as Clean Seed, Pest and Disease and Grower Extension are vital to productivity, other activities such as BMP, Agtrix Farming and Fallow Management were identified as opportunities to improve sustainability, productivity and profitability for Mackay growers.

Clean Seed



*2019 clean seed uptake – 0.9% (900t)

MAPS have a real focus on improving the uptake of clean seed from the approved plots. To facilitate greater use of approved seed, MAPS established an additional three billet distribution plots in the Mackay region located at Pindi, Benholme and Homebush. Each plot is approximately 2 hectares that consist of two varieties that are available to growers on selected dates throughout the year. Five approved billet plots will be operational throughout the Mackay region for the start of the 2023 planting season. These plots provide an opportunity for growers to conveniently collect a larger source of clean plants without the physical hassle and demands of hand cutting.

To ensure all plots are disease free, MAPS follows strict disease inspection protocols by walking and inspecting every row of all the approved plots. Ratoon Stunting Disease (RSD) sampling is conducted, which involves a juice sample taken every 20 metres of every row and analysed at the Brisbane SRA Laboratory. Once the results have been received and no RSD is detected, the plots are free to be opened.

A total of 1600 tonnes of clean seed was distributed from the MAPS approved plots, which again is an increase from 2021.

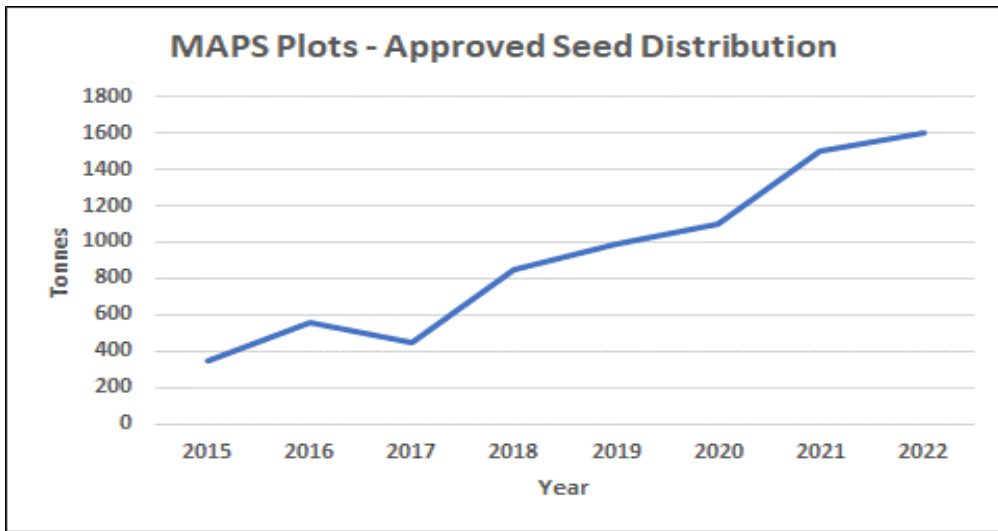
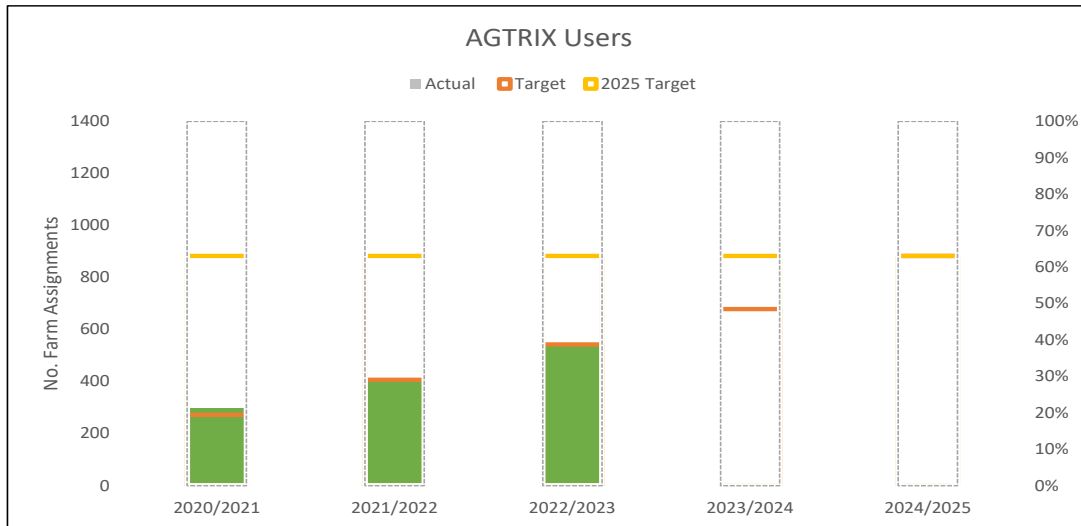


Figure 3: MAPS Clean Seed Distribution



Figure 4: Billet Distribution

Agtrix Farming



*2019 Agtrix Farming registered growers – 14%

MAPS investment in the new recording/reporting program – Agtrix Farming developed by AGTRIX, is a platform for growers to record operations and generates reports to help make better business decisions and meet compliance needs. Agtrix Farming is a web based spatial program that displays a grower’s farm details such as block number, block size, variety and soil type. The program is designed to be user friendly to provide growers a simple option to record farming activities such as chemical applications, fertiliser applications, fallow management, irrigation and a record of soil test.

The Agtrix Farming software is utilised by the MAPS staff for recording all daily activities such as plant inspections and collection of planting and fallow details. All field staff are equipped with a Microsoft Surface Pro tablet that is used to capture in-field data and allows staff to demonstrate the program to growers on a one-on-one basis.

35% of Mackay Sugar growers are registered and using Agtrix Farming as their recording program. Agtrix Farming workshops held throughout the year have been well attended by growers with very different levels of computer skills and technical knowledge. The workshops always have at least two MAPS staff to provide assistance to growers to fully explain the functionality of the program. The focus for growers was the chemical and nutrient recordings so that they are compliant with Government regulations. Through funding from Great Barrier Reef Foundation, MAPS have introduced a N&P Budget functionality into the platform. The new functionality allows growers to keep all soil test results, fertiliser recommendations and applications on one platform. The Agtrix Farming program has developed into a practical platform for growers and powerful extension tool for MAPS staff.



Figure 5: Growers using Agtrix Farming

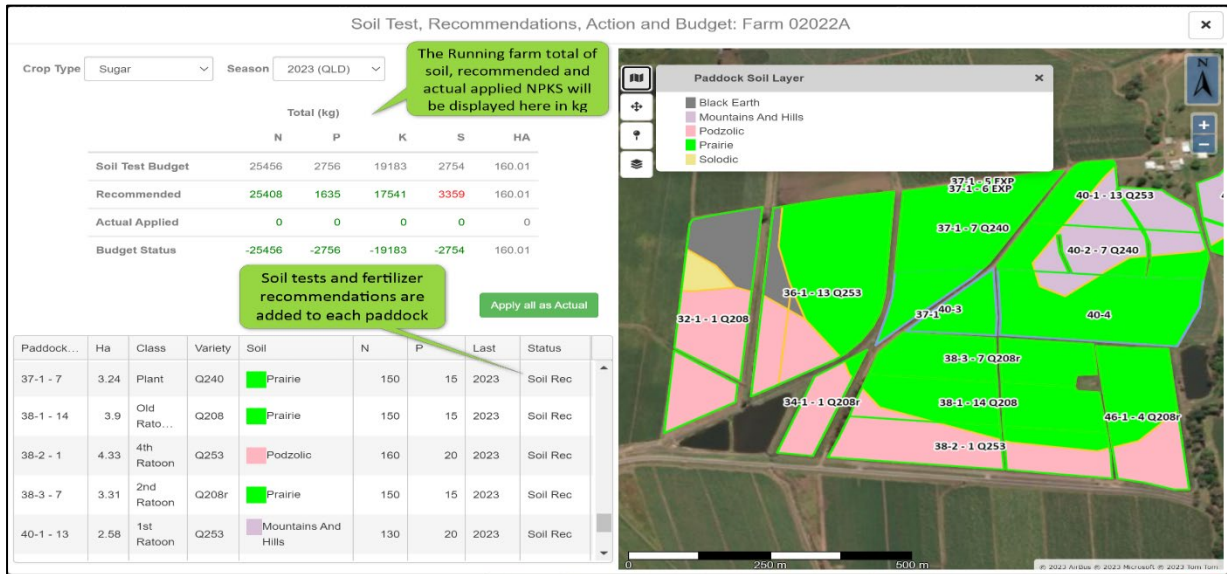
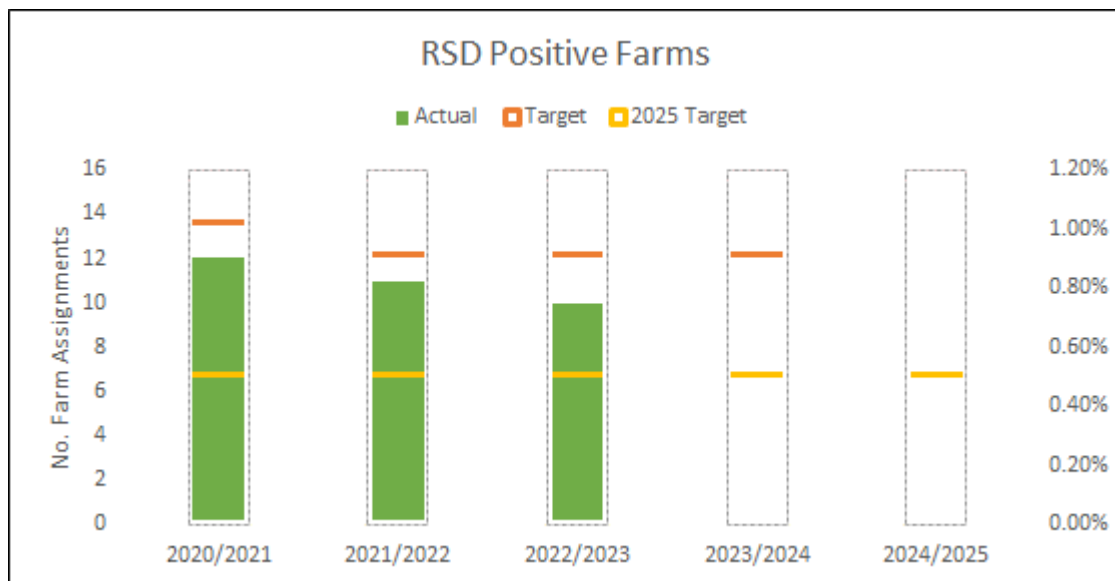


Figure 6: N&P Budget function in Agtrix farming

RSD



*2019 RSD positive farms – 1.1%

This disease is managed closely by the Productivity Officers who regularly check the majority of plant sources. Incidences of RSD are very low in the Mackay region compared to other cane growing districts. Regardless of the effort put in by MAPS, some growers still give little notice of planting intentions or have poor sterilisation practices. Some harvesting contractors could also do with more care and attention to clean down and sterilise machinery between farms. Nine farms have been recorded as having RSD infection, which equates to less than 1% of Mackay farms.

Staff have completed the RSD survey of the Mackay Sugar region, which targeted inspecting older blocks of ratoons. Each Productivity Officer surveyed approximately 25% of their farms and the older ratoon blocks were selected because if RSD is present, it is more likely to be found in these blocks. The low RSD levels in the Mackay region should not be taken for granted, but is achieved through hard work by the MAPS staff and growers following advice from MAPS to combat the disease.

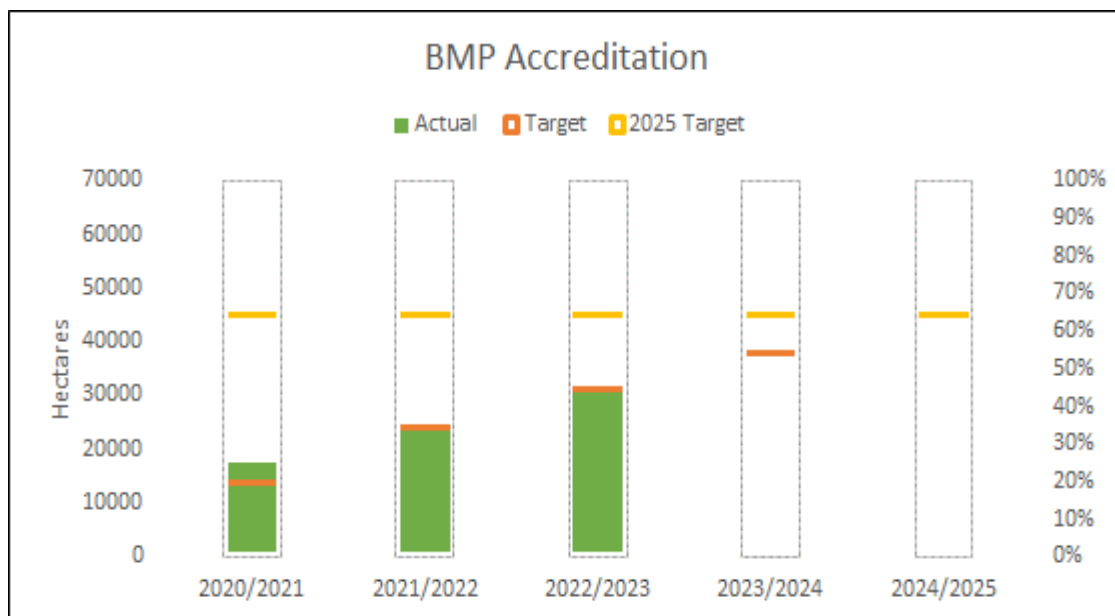


Figure 7: RSD sampling at an Approved Plot



Figure 8: RSD training – Slicing for internal symptoms

BMP



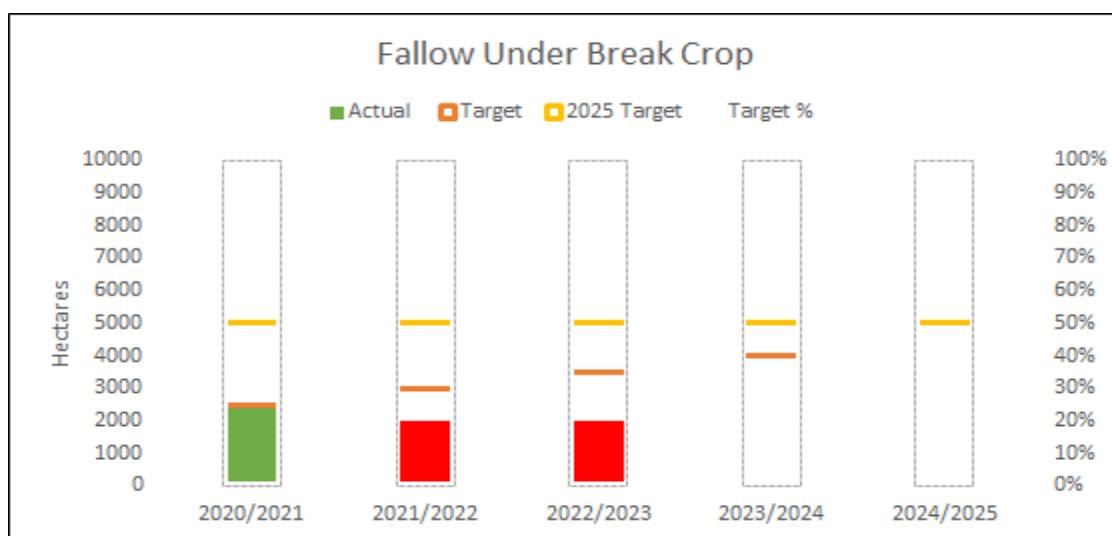
*2019 area accredited – 14%

The 2022 season saw a high number of growers having to go through the 5-year re-accreditation process, which proved to be more time consuming than expected. Steve Garrad (MAPS BMP Officer) still managed to help growers through the BMP accreditation

process. MAPS BMP contract has been extended till June 2026 with Steve Garrad to continue as the contact person for all BMP enquires. Previously MAPS has had one staff member dedicated to the BMP role, however moving forward all MAPS staff will now work with Steve to assist growers through the BMP process.

Lorelle Fylnn commenced her role as BMP Support Officer at MAPS in March 2023. The role is a part-time position and is designed to assist Steve Garrad in conducting the Smartcane BMP program.

Fallow Management



*2019 breakcrop area – 14%

MAPS has been assisting and advising growers on the benefits of growing legume break crops in the sugarcane fallow for many years. Although there are many reasons why growers are not able to plant a legume crop every year, one of the main drawbacks is the availability of adequate equipment when there is an opportunity to plant. MAPS legume planter was designed and manufactured as an extension tool to demonstrate the practical options of planting soybean to growers over a range of different farming practices. Unfortunately, due to the late finish of the 2022 crushing, the overall legume plantings was well down from previous years.

The planter has been a success in showing growers first-hand that improving soil health is a positive step to improving productivity. MAPS targeted growers that have not previously grown a breakcrop which was successful as these growers now are implementing growing a breakcrop into their farming practices.

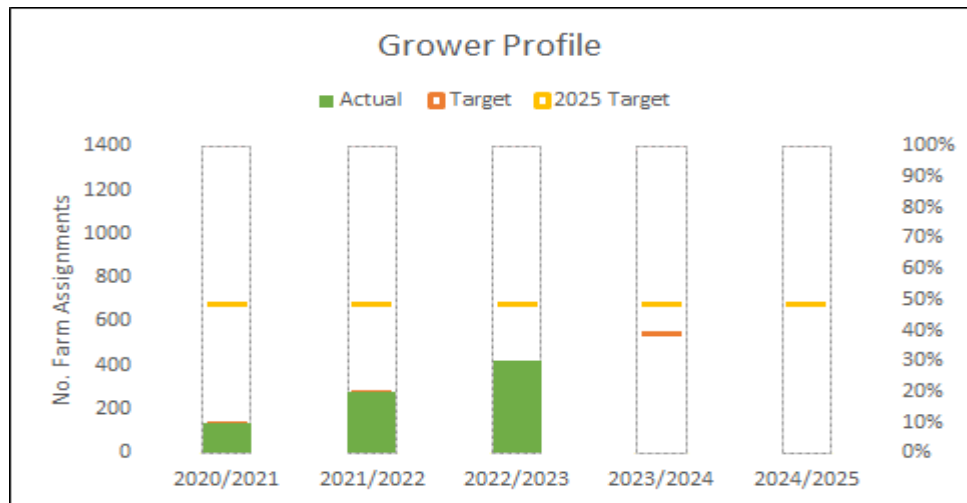


Figure 9: MAPS legume planter



Figure 10: Zero-tillage legume planting

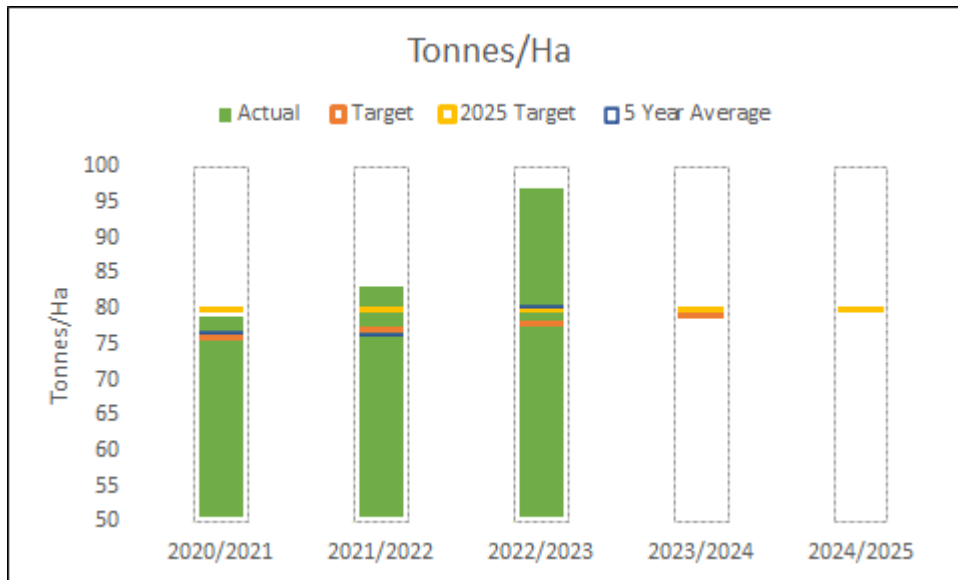
Grower Extension



*2019-NA



Figure 11: MAPS/SRA Field Day



* 5 Year Average – 76t/ha

To achieve a productivity improvement in the Mackay district, there needs to be an improvement in the grower extension at the ground level. With the implementation of the MAPS Strategic Plan and the introduction of the regular industry training, MAPS has a real focus and direction on improving the productivity, profitability and sustainability of our growers.

MAPS has placed a greater emphasis on training the Productivity staff to upskill their knowledge and provide a higher level of advice and extension to the growers. Productivity improvements is the focus of the training and supporting the growers to provide a healthy productive crop to Mackay Sugar.

All aspects of the MAPS Strategic Plan are aimed at improving productivity within the Mackay region and working towards a viable industry that is profitable and sustainable into the future.



Figure 12: Chemical training – MAPS staff



Figure 13: Variety session at MAPS/SRA Field Day

IMPORTANT BENCHMARKS

The benefits of having a spatial record keeping system means MAPS can produce information which can be used to evaluate our various activities and report on a collective basis to industry and government. The following information was extracted from Agtrix Farming.

Variety profile

SRA9 and Q253 have continued to increase with the two varieties representing 43% of the planting throughout the Mackay region. Both varieties are pachymetra resistant and are proving to be popular amongst growers because of their high yield potential and are able to be grown on a variety of soil types. Q208R at 18% is still a popular variety amongst grower as it is a versatile variety that can be harvested all season. Growers have been hesitant to plant SRA21 and SRA22 as the two varieties were earmarked as early testing varieties, however 2022 harvest results were very inconsistent because of the wetter conditions. Variety selection is an important process and it is vital that MAPS staff spend the necessary time with growers to ensure the best varieties are selected to establish a productive crop for the future.

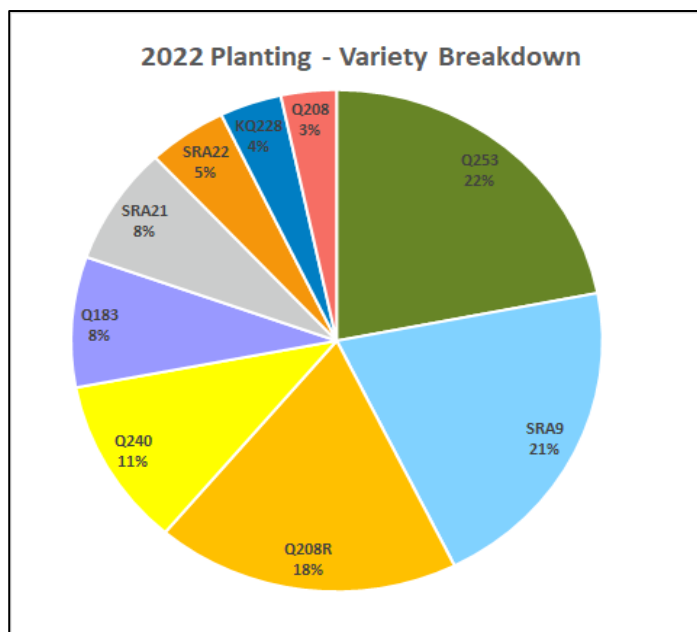


Figure 14: Variety Breakdown – 2022 planting



Figure 15: Clean Seed – MAPS Approved Plot

Pachymetra Root Rot

With Pachymetra still considering one of our most serious disease issue, growers have addressed the issue with 56% of the area planted now with resistant varieties. Resistant varieties such as SRA9, Q253 and Q183 are producing good yield data and suit a variety of soil types. The recently released variety SRA22 which is also pachymetra resistant is slowly becoming more popular as it has potential as an early testing variety. MAPS strongly encourage growers to continue doing pachymetra testing on their farm to determine if there is a disease issue present and through correct variety selection growers are able to combat the disease. The continued release of pachymetra resistant varieties is extremely important for the management of the disease and improving productivity within the Mackay region.

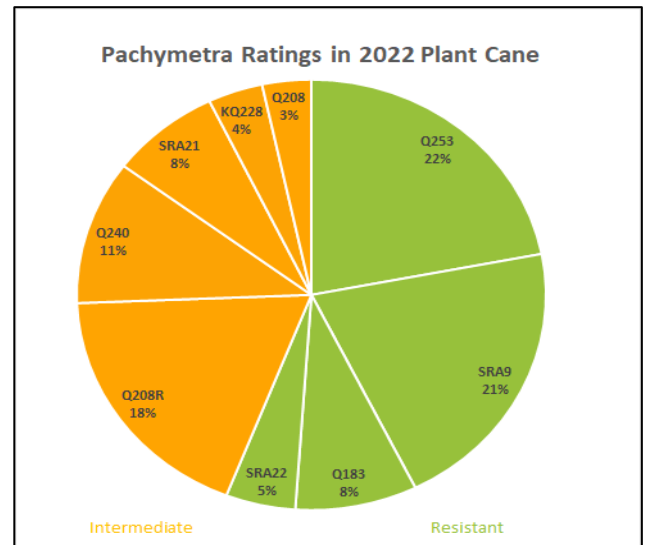


Figure 16: Pachymetra Ratings - 2022 planting

Sugarcane Smut

This disease is largely under control because most of our recommended varieties are smut resistant. Resistant and intermediate varieties will show the occasional smut whip, which does not cause any yield losses. While SRA9 has a relatively high smut rating, very little or no smut is being found in the field, which is very encouraging, now with it becoming a prominent variety.

Higher levels of smut are now being recorded in Q208 throughout the region which will be closely monitored moving forward. Q208 was released in 2005 and history shows previous prominent varieties have a time span of roughly 10-15 years before they start getting phased out.

MAPS observation plots play an important role and provide an ideal opportunity to observe how the promising SRA seedlings react to smut under field conditions and compare the SRA smut ratings to what is recorded in the field.

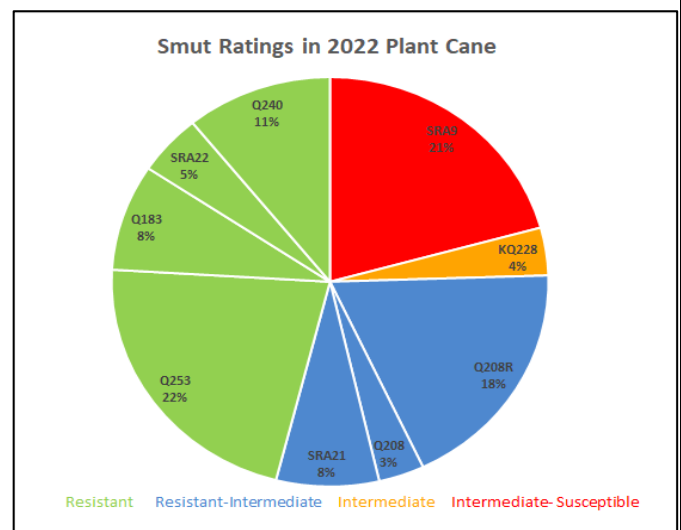


Figure 17: Smut Rating - 2022 planting

Plant Inspections

93% of the plant inspections conducted in 2022 have resulted in no disease detected. With over 4000 plant inspections conducted by the MAPS staff, it is very encouraging to see the major diseases such as RSD, smut and chlorotic streak are being recorded at the lower levels. Where diseases are detected, an alternative plant source is found, to ensure the best possible crop is achieved. Disease monitoring and management is a MAPS core

responsibility that has a substantial influence on the regions productivity and is a role that needs to be conducted professionally. Without professionally conducted plant inspections, growers are risking future earnings by using poor quality plant material that has the potential to impact productivity. While plant inspections are vital to combat a disease outbreak, the task provides an ideal opportunity for staff to assist growers in developing a variety management plan for the upcoming planting season.

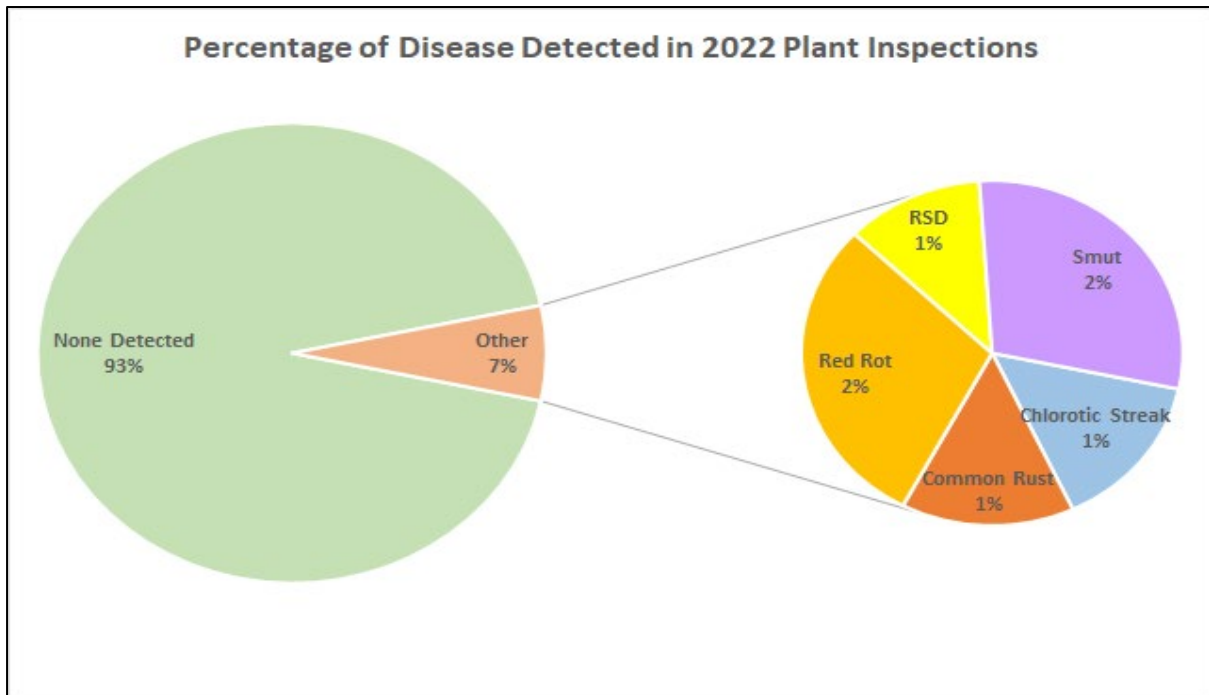


Figure 18: Disease detected in 2022 plant inspections



Figure 19: Smut recorded in a plant inspection



Figure 20: Chlorotic Streak leaf symptoms

Approved Seed Use

One of MAPS' most important, yet time consuming activities is the provision of Approved Seed sources. MAPS maintains its Victoria Plains farm as the main distribution plot for clean seed, however four other Approved Billet plots have been established throughout the Mackay region. Growers now have greater access to collecting larger quantities of clean seed through the billet plots and are able to spread their clean seed source across their farm quicker. The drive to increase clean seed distribution is aimed at improving the regions productivity.

Once a seed source gets GREATER than 4 years away from hot water treatment (HWT) it is deemed to be high risk in terms of potential disease infection. About 80% of cane planted in 2022 came from a seed source LESS than 4 years away from HWT. A major focus from MAPS is to encourage growers to regularly collect a clean source of a variety on a yearly basis. Staff record all growers' plantings and clean seed collections on Agtrix Farming, which provides a visual display of the age of the varieties on each individual farm. MAPS staff are able to target growers that have not collected clean seed recently and advise them on the benefits of clean seed and improving productivity. Clean seed collection is the foundation of a healthy crop and is the simplest and most cost-effective operation a grower can conduct on their farm to maintain or improve productivity.

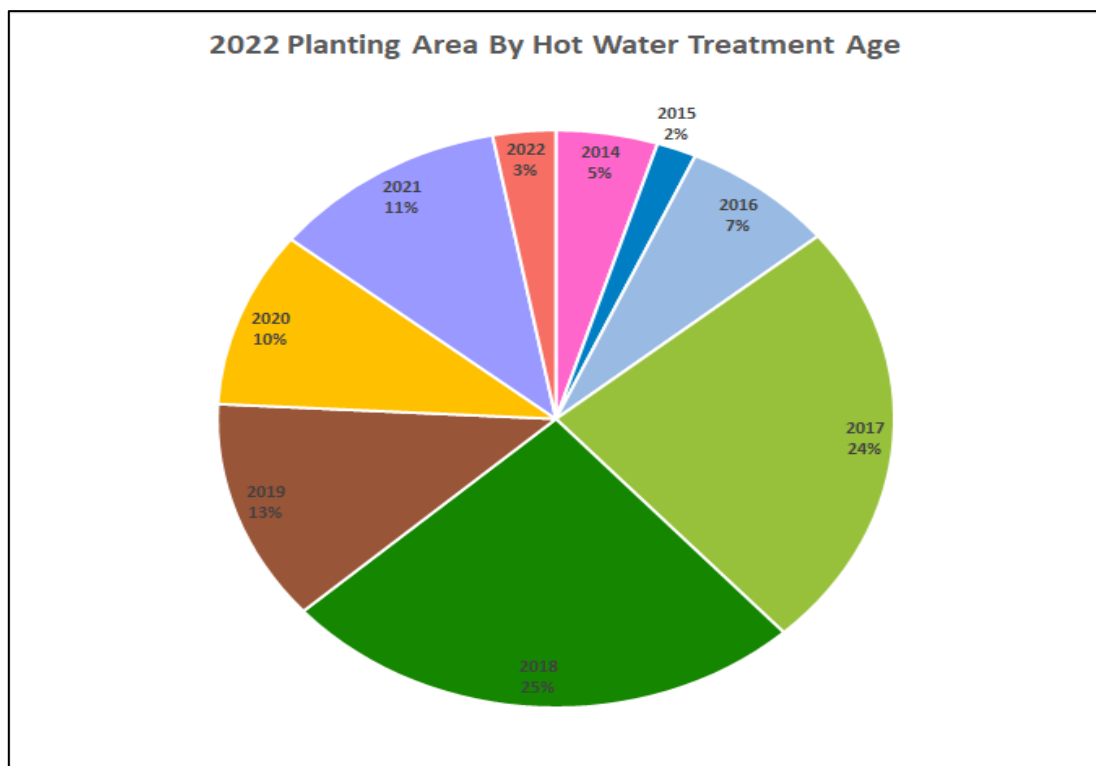


Figure 21: Hot Water Treatment age- 2022 planting

PESTS

MAPS data recorded over 46,000 tonnes of cane was lost due to pest activity in 2022. Again, the three major pest that cause the most damage are cane grubs, feral pigs and rats, with canegrubs causing the highest losses out of all the pest. Soldier fly is of concern because of the increasing occurrences of the pest throughout the Mackay region. In comparison to the other major pest, soldier fly damage is much lower, however where the damage is on individual farms the yield losses are quite significant and result in blocks being ploughed out.

Pest damage from weevil borer does not result in large yield losses, however if the pest is not detected in a plant source, poor crop establishment will occur. The borer will attack the internal structure of the cane stalk which will show no external symptoms unless the plant source is inspected by a MAPS officer. Weevil borer damage if left unchecked can cause significant financial losses to growers if blocks need to be replanted due to poor germinations.



Figure 22: Weevil Borer damage

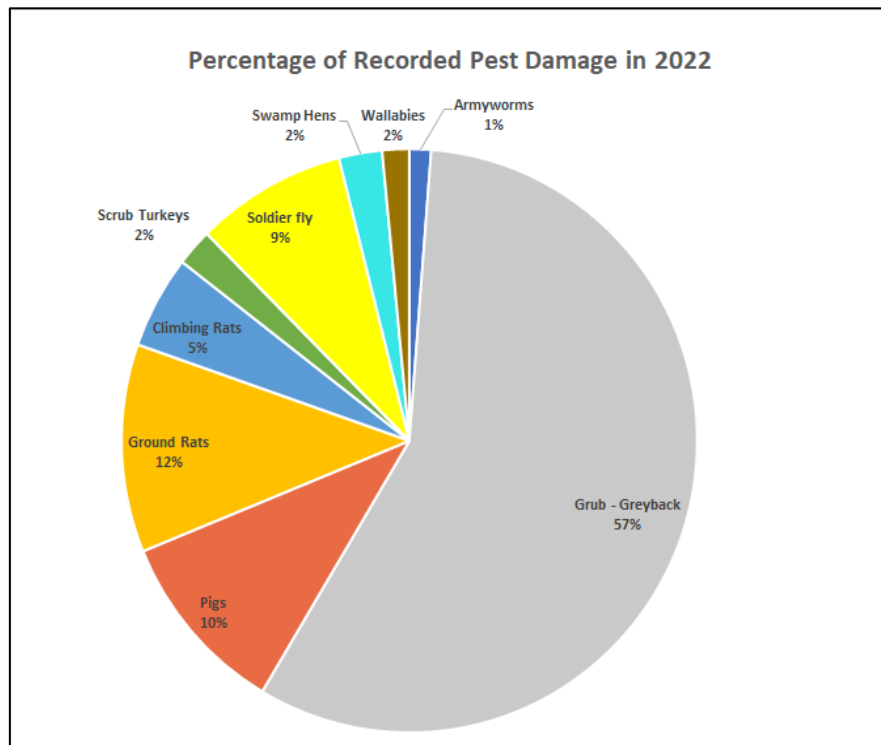


Figure 23: 2022 recorded pest damage

Cane Grubs

Canegrub damage has increased from the previous year causing major concerns for growers. Many of the damaged blocks inspected were treated with grub control applications, however damage still occurred. Extremely heavy beetle flights were recorded from December 2021 through to February 2022, resulting in the crop losses.

MAPS staff have worked with growers to ensure future applications of grub control treatments are applied at the correct rates and placement of products are correct to combat the pest. The last three years has seen a significant increase in recorded beetle numbers which may be due to the favourable weather conditions the region has experience recently. A lack of consecutive wet season has allowed the canegrub popular to build to the recent high numbers, therefore it is vital that the correct advice is given to growers to reduce the crop losses.



Figure 24: Canegrub damage and the canegrub larvae responsible for the damage

Feral Pigs & Rats

Both feral pig and rat damage has slightly decreased from the previous year. Traditionally with a dry period during the crush, both the pigs and rats are forced out of their natural harbourage and into cane crops for a food source and shelter. However, with regular rainfall throughout the 2022 crush, the pest didn't need to use cane blocks for food or shelter, resulting in less damage and yield losses throughout the Mackay sugar region. MAPS applied for an extension of the Damage Mitigation Permit for the culling of rats with the Department of Environment and Science. A three-year permit was granted for growers to continue baiting rats and reduce the amount of crop damage. The permit is on behalf of all Mackay Sugar growers allowing them to use registered baits to reduce the overall numbers.



Figure 25: Feral Pig damage

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

MAPS are the main on-farm provider of quality advice and extension for all Mackay cane growers. By helping growers to be more productive and profitable we are also helping Mackay Sugar to crush more quality cane.

Thanks to those farmers and harvester crews who have cooperated with MAPS to organise various trials. A good relationship with Mackay Sugar means we can communicate with each other's needs when it comes to harvesting and cane quality issues.

We rely on good partnerships and relationships with individuals and several organisations including CANEGROWERS Mackay, Mackay Sugar Ltd, SRA, Reef Catchments, Great Barrier Reef Foundation, AgriFutures, Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Department of Environment and Science and local agribusiness companies.

No one should take for granted MAPS' hard-working, dedicated and loyal staff. The Board and I are lucky to have such a great bunch of people. Thanks to the MAPS Board for their support and for their efforts throughout the year.

Anthony Schembri
CEO

