

Table 3: Area under Cane Cultivation and Cane/Sugar Productivity (2009 – 2017)

Year	Area under cane (ha)	Extent moved out (ha)	Cane productivity (t/ha)	Sugar productivity (t/ha)
2009	65,855	1,765	77.30	7.74
2010	64,132	1,723	74.39	7.71
2011	62,000	2,132	74.65	7.68
2012	60,378	1,622	72.91	7.56
2013	59,370	1,008	71.37	7.57
2014	58,305	1,065	79.53	7.89
2015	57,424	881	74.53	6.99
2016	55,878	1,546	73.79	7.50
2017	54,078	1,800	74.31*	7.11*

* Provisional figures

Sources: SIFB & MCA

2.8 Lack of Investment in replantation of sugar cane fields:

Furthermore, another important factor is the poor investment capacity and risk aversion in this particular context by producers at field levels for the renewal of some 11,000 ha of old ratoons, which is impacting on cane and sugar productivity, as summarised in Table 4 below. This figure is expected to increase significantly in 2017 due to lack of cash flow for annual re-plantation. The non-renewal of the ratoons will impact on the supply chain with far reaching consequences on recent investments incurred at factory level. The percentage of land under old ratoons which is almost 20% will also increase substantially if there is no significant reversal in the revenue trend for sugarcane proceeds.

Table 4: Extent under Old Ratoons (2009-2016)

Year	Area under cane (ha)	Extent under 8th year ratoon and older * (ha)	% older ratoons over total extent under cane
2009	65,855	6,232	9.46
2010	64,132	6,053	9.44
2011	62,000	6,785	10.94
2012	60,378	7,135	11.82
2013	59,370	4,412	7.43
2014	58,305	8,542	14.65
2015	57,424	9,392	16.36
2016	55,878	10,957	19.61

* Estimated figures

Sources: SIFB and Sugar Industry Statistics