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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **Proserpine Mill prepares for crush**

There's about a month to go before Proserpine Mill starts up for the 2019 crush, with maintenance and upgrade projects now in their final stages of completion at site.

Work crews are currently installing instrumentation and electrical controls on the factory's upgraded No. 2 pan.

Mackay Regional Operations Manager Craig Muddle said the \$1.4 million revamp renewed the pan from the top of the calandria up.

"It's a major upgrade that will shore up reliability of the pan stage, which is the area of the factory that grows the sugar crystals," Mr Muddle said.

"Good pan performance is critical to factory rate and sugar quality.

"Every year, our maintenance program is carefully planned, with funds focused to improve factory reliability and processing rate.

"Other major upgrades happening at Proserpine Mill ahead of the 2019 crush include a new switchroom for the site's injection water control system, overhauls of mill turbines, new induced draught fan impellers and a new sprinkler system for the bagasse bin."

Proserpine Cane Supply Manager Tony Marino said there had also been a number of upgrades to the mill's cane railway network.

"Upgrades this year include new flashing light systems at Myrtle Creek and Hamilton Plains along Shute Harbour Road, and an upgraded rail crossing on Spruce Road," Mr Marino said.

"Proserpine's No. 10 Loco has also had a major overhaul this year, and is now sporting a new Mercedes Benz engine, new drive train and remote shunting unit."

The newly upgraded loco will be one of seven used to transport an estimated 1.61 million tonnes of harvested sugarcane to Proserpine Mill this coming season.

**ENDS**

Photo next page.

PHOTO:



*CAPTION: From left: Wilmar's Mark Mooney, Ivan Rey Rodriguez, Andrew Linneweber, Kevin Parnell and Michael Nolan with Proserpine Mill's No. 2 pan, now in the final stages of its upgrade.*

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