

18 September 2019

NEWS RELEASE

Wilmar hosts mid-crush tours for growers

Wilmar has kicked off its annual mill tours for Burdekin growers, with the first events held at Inkerman and Pioneer mills.

Fourteen people attended the Inkerman Mill tour and barbecue last Wednesday evening (11 September), and 10 people turned out to the Pioneer Mill tour this Wednesday (18 September).

Burdekin Regional Operations Manager Paul Turnbull said the mid-season tours were an opportunity for growers to see the whole manufacturing process – from bins of cane coming into the tippler through to raw sugar travelling up the belt and into storage.

Growers were also taken through the cane payment lab to see how CCS is determined.

“Some of the growers hadn’t been through the factory before, or hadn’t been for many years, so it was great for them to see the process first-hand,” Mr Turnbull said.

“We also provided an overview of the season to date and a preview of some of the capital and maintenance works planned for 2020.”

Mr Turnbull told participants at the Inkerman Mill tour that Wilmar was continuing to invest in its mills despite the current downturn in world sugar prices.

“Wilmar takes a long-term view of the industry and is committed to maintaining and improving its milling assets,” he said.

“Wilmar is injecting \$70 million into the Burdekin region again next year and we’re already well advanced in the planning of our works programs for the upcoming non-crush period.”

Wilmar is holding two more grower tours in the Burdekin: Invicta Mill on Wednesday 25 September and Kalamia Mill on Wednesday 2 October. Both tours kick off at 5pm and are followed by drinks and nibbles.

RSVP through Chris Winship on 0437 669 118 or Yolanda Hansen on 0437 669 118.

All participants must wear long pants, long-sleeved shirts and closed-in shoes.

ENDS



Inkerman Mill Work Execution Superintendent Justin Cursio with Tracey McCubben, Doug McCubben, Karen Marano and Paul Marano.



Pictured at the Inkerman Mill tour are Rhonda Mann, Assistant Production Superintendent David Marino, Grower Marketing Consultant Yolanda Hansen, Sam Marano, Anthony Sturiale and Caroline Sturiale.



Canegrowers Burdekin staff Tiffany Giardina and Michelle Andrews with Senior Grower Marketing Consultant Chris Winship at the post-tour barbecue.



Technical Assistant Blake Ripper shows a sample of mill mud to Louise Nicholas (left), Michelle Andrews and Tiffany Giardina.



Inkerman Mill Assistant Production Superintendent David Marino answers questions about the milling process.



Former Inkerman Mill electrician Rube Chappell with Burdekin Regional Operations Manager Paul Turnbull on the tour.



Grower Marketing and Pricing Manager PJ Gileppa with Simon Dunlop, Katrina Martin and Production Superintendent Stephen Eastment.

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