

14 December 2021

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Wilmar's mills crush out for 2021**

The last of Wilmar Sugar's eight mills has crushed out, bringing the 2021 season to a close.

Wilmar's Plane Creek Mill at Sarina processed the last cane just after 10.30pm on Sunday (*12 December*). The final raw sugar is expected to be produced this afternoon (*Tuesday 14 December*).

Wilmar Sugar's General Manager Operations Mike McLeod said the eight factories had processed 14.6 million tonnes of cane this season to make about 2 million tonnes of raw sugar.

This year's throughput was down on last year's 14.9 million tonne crop due to seasonal conditions.

Mr McLeod said Wilmar employees across the Herbert, Burdekin, Proserpine and Plane Creek mills were now preparing for a big maintenance season works program.

"Wilmar is maintaining a high level of investment in its mills and cane supply network, with more than \$187 million being spent on maintenance and capital replacement projects in 2022," Mr McLeod said.

He said there would be a major focus on evaporators, pan vessels and boilers.

"In the lead-up to the 2022 crush, we'll be installing a new pan vessel at Macknade Mill in Ingham and the first of four evaporators at Kalamia Mill in the Burdekin.

“We’ll also be spending \$4.6 million on upgrades to the air heater on Proserpine Mill’s No.3 boiler, and \$1.5 million on Inkerman Mill’s boiler station, ahead of a complete replacement of the Inkerman’s No.1 boiler furnace in 2023 at a cost of \$10.3 million.”



*The last bins go over the weighbridge at Wilmar’s Plane Creek Mill for 2021.*



*Plane Creek Mill’s Raistlin Seage, Georgia Nilon and Thomas Mactaggart saw the last bin tipped for the Wilmar group in 2021.*

**ENDS**

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