

# ANNUAL SUMMARY OF AGRICULTURAL DATA FOR THE SUGARCANE CROP 1953-54

By J. L. DU TOIT

## General Sources of Information

In the compilation of this report extensive use is made of the *Special Census of Sugarcane Plantations, 1953-54*, compiled by the Union Government Department of Census and Statistics. Data are also obtained from the *Survey of Cane Production* by the Sugar Industry Central Board, the Annual Weather Report and the Annual Summary of Laboratory Reports. Information obtained from the Fertilizer Traders' Association on the amount of fertilizer used in the sugar industry is also used.

## Total Yields and Areas

During the year 1953-54, a total of 6,221,594 tons of cane were crushed to make a record of 725,430 tons sugar. The *Special Census of Sugar Plantations, 1953-54* deals with European cane production only and does not, in fact cover that production completely. Thus the total yield given in these returns amounts to 5,455,868 tons or 87.7 per cent. of the total crop. According to the Central Board survey, European production amounted to 93.1 per cent. of the total crop, so that this census accounts for 94.2 per cent. of the total European production.

The Central Board survey reveals the fact that the yield per acre of non-European cane fields is much lower than that from European farms. Thus European production is given as averaging 29.06 tons cane per acre compared with an average yield given by the *Special Census of Sugarcane Plantations, 1953-54* of 28.75, but the non-European yield only averages 18.33 tons per acre and the total average for all races is given as 27.92 tons cane per acre. This latter figure will reduce to 27.62 tons per acre on the basis of the *Special Census of Sugarcane Plantations 1953-54* returns, and this yield will be used in computing the total areas in the cane belt in the last column of the following table.

	Special Census Returns	Total Industry
Tons cane harvested ...	5,455,868	6,221,594
Tons cane per acre ...	28.75	27.62
Area in acres harvested ...	189,774	225,257
Area under cane, 30th April, 1954 ...	394,961	468,805
Area under cane and fallow, 30th April, 1954 ...	443,951	526,959

The Central Board returns enable us not only to calculate the average yields per acre for the various groups of growers, but also their percentages of the total crop, as given in the following table.

	Yield per Acre	Per cent. of Crop	Per cent. of Area
European planters ...	29.16	64.4	61.7
Miller-cum-planters ...	28.82	28.7	27.8
Indian planters ...	18.40	5.8	8.9
Bantu planters ...	18.00	1.1	1.7

## Yield and Climatic Conditions

The average yield of cane for the 1953-54 season was 28.75 tons per acre for European planters. This is an increase of 2.46 tons per acre compared with the average yield of the year before. The following table gives the average yields as given in the *Special Census of Sugarcane Plantations, 1953-54* returns, over the past ten years, as well as the average rainfall from forty-four centres in the cane belt.

Year	Yield in Tons per Acre	Rainfall in Inches
1944 ...	29.08	36.45
1945 ...	25.70	31.99
1946 ...	21.99	32.02
1947 ...	24.47	44.83
1948 ...	26.80	35.25
1949 ...	24.70	43.35
1950 ...	26.41	30.70
1951 ...	23.28	35.10
1952 ...	26.29	33.42
1953 ...	28.75	41.15

The 1953 yield of cane per acre was the best obtained in the industry since 1944 and it also appears the the rainfall was well above normal, but the rainfall recorded for the calender year 1953 could have had little effect on the yield of that year and is more likely to affect the yield of the following year. Actually the rainfall recorded from fifty-four centres for the year ending 31st May, 1953, was below normal and the relatively better yield recorded for 1953 must be largely attributed to a better distribution of rainfall than for the previous season and a progressive replacement of Co.281, the failure of which had much to do with the low yields recorded over the past nine years.

The crop harvested during the 1953-54 season was largely affected by the rainfall during the twenty or twenty-four months prior to June, 1953.

After a bad winter drought in 1951, the crop had a good start with excellent spring rains in that year. The 1951-52 optimum growing season was somewhat disappointing, but good late rains ensured an extended growing season. The spring months of

September and October, 1952, were dry, but the crop had a relatively good optimum growing season from November, 1952, to March, 1953.

The following table gives the monthly rainfall for the period June, 1952, to March, 1953, for fifty-four centres in the sugar belt, as well as their computed mean rainfalls for the past thirty-one years:

	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.
This period ...	0.64	1.63	0.66	0.88	1.74	4.39
Computed mean	1.59	1.15	1.41	2.37	3.43	4.21

  

	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May
This period ...	5.32	8.28	5.90	2.62	1.11	0.71
Computed mean	4.53	4.34	4.61	5.46	2.56	2.12

The rainfall for the year under review for fifty-four representative stations was therefore 33.88 inches compared with a computed mean of 37.78 inches. The rainfall distribution was better than the previous year, but still left a lot to be desired. However, the rainfall for the years ending May, 1954 and again May, 1955, were above normal and well distributed, so that much better yields can be expected, particularly for the 1954-55 season.

#### Effect of Varieties on Average Yield

As pointed out part of the reason why cane yields have been so low during the last nine years is the general failure of Co.281, and the fact that this variety is now rapidly being eliminated and replaced by more productive varieties was partly and largely responsible for the increased yield per acre during the 1953-54 season. The following table shows the average yield obtained from all varieties during the 1953-54 season, the yield that would have been obtained if (a) the same acreage of Co.281 had been harvested as in 1952-53; and (b) no Co.281 had been harvested.

	Cane Yield Tons per Acre
Average yield, 1953-54, all varieties ...	28.75
Computed yield if acreage of Co.281 had remained the same as 1952-53 ...	27.32
Computed yield if no Co.281 had been harvested ...	30.36

Of the varieties now grown, the areas under Uba, Co.290 and the P.O.J. varieties, are so small that no valid comparisons on yield potentials can be made. If, however, the average yields of Co.281, Co.301, Co.331 and N:Co.310 are compared for a number of seasons the degeneration of Co.281 can be clearly seen.

		Yields in Tons Cane per Acre			
		1948	1950	1952	1953
Co.281	...	25.29	21.78	15.00	16.3
Co.301	...	28.90	26.80	24.42	25.1
Co.331	...	34.07	32.25	28.18	28.8
N:Co.310	...	33.07	39.36	35.55	36.3
Yield of Co.281					
percentage					
N:Co.310	...	76.5	55.3	42.2	44.9
percentage					
Yield of Co.301					
percentage					
N:Co.310	...	87.4	68.1	68.7	69.1

Actually the quantitative decline of Co.281 is probably even more than is reflected here, because the very worst fields of a failing variety will naturally be eliminated first, leaving only the better fields from which further crops and records will be obtained.

The following tables will show the changes in the dominant varieties over the last few seasons:

		Percentage Area Harvested			
		1950	1951	1952	1953
Co.281	...	45.0	33.7	21.5	11.5
Co.301	...	34.9	38.1	34.0	32.3
Co.331	...	7.0	11.3	14.5	21.6
N:Co.310	...	10.6	15.3	28.9	33.6
Other varieties	...	2.5	1.6	1.1	1.1

		Percentage Area Under Cane on 30th April			
		1947	1950	1953	1954
Co.281	...	65.5	41.4	9.0	4.3
Co.301	...	28.7	35.3	29.7	23.7
Co.331	...	1.6	9.4	23.4	26.6
N:Co.310	...	—	12.1	37.0	43.3
Other varieties	...	4.2	1.8	0.9	2.1

		Percentage Area of Plant Cane on 30th April			
		1951	1952	1953	1954
Co.281	...	8.5	3.9	2.0	1.1
Co.301	...	26.5	22.3	17.5	10.5
Co.331	...	23.6	27.1	32.7	32.3
N:Co.310	...	40.9	46.0	47.1	51.7
Other varieties	...	0.5	0.7	0.7	4.4

It will be noticed that there was a sudden increase of "other varieties," both in area under cane and more particularly in area under plant cane. This is, of course, not due to the industry reverting

to the older varieties Uba, Co.290 or P.O.J., but rather that by the 30th April, 1954, appreciable areas have been planted up with the new varieties N:Co.339 and N:Co.293, which were both first distributed in 1952.

N:Co.310 continues to gain in popularity at the expense of Co.281 and Co.301 and there are indications that Co.331 has reached a peak at about one-third of the area under plant cane.

#### Yields from Different Areas

The average yield of tons cane per acre for the whole industry for the 1953-54 season was 28.75. The South Coast averaged only 20.99 tons cane per acre and the North Coast once again had the best average yield of 31.13 tons per acre, followed by Zululand with 30.60 tons per acre.

The following table gives some of the past yields recorded for the industry and its main sub-divisions.

	Average Yield 1938-42	Average Yield 1943-47	Average Yield 1948-52	Average Yield 1953
South Coast ...	22.60	21.37	19.69	20.99
North Coast ...	27.88	29.15	27.34	31.13
Zululand ...	27.94	26.67	26.96	30.60
Total industry...	26.60	26.42	25.50	28.75

It will be seen that while the averages of the North Coast and Zululand for 1953 were well above the normal averages, the yield of the South Coast was not as good as its averages from the years 1938 to 1947, although it was somewhat better than the 1948-52 average. It must be pointed out that the Pietermaritzburg district, which is geographically largely on the North Coast, is now included in the South Coast and that the average yield from this district was only 16.6 tons cane per acre, but the area harvested, 134 acres, is so small as to be of negligible importance in affecting the averages of the South and North Coast.

Of the regular and larger sugarcane producing districts, Port Shepstone had the lowest yield per acre with 17.94 tons and the best yields were obtained in the Hlabisa district, with 40.00 tons cane per acre.

#### General Information

The *Special Census of Sugarcane Plantations*, 1953-54 gives returns from 853 individuals with a total farm area of 799,923 acres of which 394,961 acres were under cane on the 30th April, 1954. There were a further 56,593 acres of virgin land suitable for cane production and 48,990 acres were under long fallow. During the twelve months ending 30th April, 1954, an area of 7,611 acres of virgin land was planted to cane and 32,285 acres of cane land was

ploughed out and planted again, or was given a short fallow treatment. The average age of cane ploughed out was 6.2 years.

Of the 394,961 acres under cane, given in this census, the following areas were under plant and ratoons:

	Area in Acres	Per cent. of Area under Cane
Plant cane ...	135,481	34.3
First ratoon ...	127,617	32.3
Second ratoon ...	90,757	23.0
Third ratoon ...	31,019	7.9
Fourth ratoon ...	5,813	1.5
Other ratoons ...	4,274	1.1
Total under cane ...	394,961	100.0

The table shows that most cane is ploughed out after a second ratoon and assuming a two-year-old crop, which still appears to hold good for the industry, the average age of cane when ploughed out, given above as 6.2 years, agrees well with a computed age derived from this table. It is felt that with a more liberal application of fertilisers the number of ratoons and age of cane, at ploughing out, might well be increased.

#### Fertilisers Used

The yield of cane per acre is, of course, affected by climatic conditions, variety, etc., and also very appreciably by the amount and type of fertiliser used. Where the effect of variety and climate on cane yields is discussed in this report it is considered equally important to give all available information on fertiliser usage and this is now largely possible as a result of data supplied to us by the Fertiliser Traders' Association.

During 1954, or rather during the year ending February, 1955, the sugar industry used 34,431 tons of mixtures containing the following amounts of plant foods:

Tons N.	Tons P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	Tons K <sub>2</sub> O
1,675	3,658	1,485

The average of all these mixtures therefore approximates a non-existing mixture of the following analyses: 5—10.5—4.5. The amount of mixtures used was much higher than that of the previous year and the average composition was higher in nitrogen, much higher in potash and lower in phosphate than that used the year before.

In addition, the industry used the following quantities of straight fertilisers:

13,370 tons nitrogenous fertilisers containing 2,841 tons N.	1951	1953	1954	
Tons mixed fertilisers...	25,277	19,817	34,431	
12,210 tons phosphatic fertilisers containing 2,346 tons P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> .	Tons nitrogenous fertilisers ... ..	5,280	11,882	13,370
2,214 tons potassic fertilisers containing 1,328 tons K <sub>2</sub> O.	Tons phosphatic fertilisers ... ..	15,297	17,883	12,210
	Tons potassic fertiliser	125	2,060	2,214

Once again nitrogenous and potassic fertilisers are up on that used the previous year and phosphatic fertilisers have dropped very appreciably.

Filter cake application may account for plant food additions of the order of 750 tons N., 2,500 tons P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and 200 tons K<sub>2</sub>O. In addition, there are certain amounts of manures, composts and fertiliser materials added but it is impossible to estimate these quantitatively and in any case these are not big. If we now add the main items enumerated above we get the following totals:

Tons N.	Tons P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	Tons K <sub>2</sub> O
5,266	8,504	3,013

Assuming now the area harvested and therefore the area to be fertilised was 230,000 acres, then the average application of plant foods per acre would have been:

Nitrogen	...	46 lbs. as N.
Phosphate	...	74 lbs. as P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>
Potash	...	26 lbs. as K <sub>2</sub> O

Compared with the previous year there has been a most gratifying increase in nitrogen and potash applications, although the nitrogen application still seems low and potash application most inadequate with phosphate application remaining high.

Ignoring the amounts of plant foods in filter cake, manures and low grade fertiliser materials the following table gives a comparison of the quantities of straight and mixed fertilisers used during the seasons 1951, 1953 and 1954.

The tons of N, P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> and K<sub>2</sub>O contained in these straight and mixed fertilisers were as follows:

	1951	1953	1954
Tons nitrogen as N	2,135	3,327	4,516
Tons phosphates as P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> ...	6,526	5,725	6,004
Tons potassium as K <sub>2</sub> O...	842	1,712	2,813

From this table it appears that nitrogen consumption has more than doubled since 1951 and potash usage increased 334 per cent. However, the picture is by no means as bright as this for far too little nitrogen was used in 1951 and potash, contrary to actual requirements, was hardly used at all, and at the same time there has been an increase in the area under cane and cane production increased from 4,805,249 tons in 1951 to 7,374,241 tons in the 1954-55 season. Probably a more realistic and informative way of giving the fertiliser used during these seasons is to convert it to pounds plant foods applied per ton of cane harvested. If this were done we would get the following table:

	1951	1953	1954
Pounds N. per ton of cane	0.89	1.07	1.22
Pounds P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> per ton of cane	0.72	1.84	1.63
Pounds K <sub>2</sub> O per ton of cane	0.35	0.55	0.76

This table reveals a most gratifying trend; an increase use of nitrogenous and potassic fertilisers and a decrease in phosphates, but the drain on potash in the soil remains most alarming, as only about a quarter of what is removed in the cane crop is being returned in the form of artificial fertilisers.

**AREA OF CANE HARVESTED AND YIELDS FOR DIFFERENT VARIETIES AND RATOONS  
(EUROPEAN PLANTERS ONLY) 1953-1954**

VARIETY	PLANT CANE		FIRST RATOON		SECOND RATOON		THIRD RATOON		FOURTH RATOON		OTHER RATOONS		TOTAL	
	Acres	Tons/ Acre	Acres	Tons/ Acre	Acres	Tons/ Acre	Acres	Tons/ Acre	Acres	Tons/ Acre	Acres	Tons/ Acre	Acres	Tons/ Acre
Uba ... ..	23	55.9	33	29.8	26	16.6	14	14.9	—	—	73	18.4	169	25.1
Co.281 ... ..	1,141	23.6	5,615	17.4	7,230	14.8	4,687	16.4	1,222	14.4	1,878	15.6	21,773	16.3
Co.290 ... ..	118	37.7	142	19.4	33	18.0	12	33.1	—	—	157	41.0	462	30.7
Co.301 ... ..	13,380	30.2	15,544	25.2	19,142	23.1	9,213	22.8	2,489	20.8	1,574	26.1	61,342	25.1
Co.331 ... ..	20,349	30.3	13,526	28.2	5,440	25.3	1,372	23.5	142	21.5	189	49.2	41,018	28.8
N:Co.310 ... ..	31,676	37.3	22,881	34.2	7,335	38.0	1,692	37.6	127	35.5	66	42.2	63,777	36.3
P.O.J.2725 and 2878 ...	16	29.9	113	35.7	397	45.7	329	38.6	137	39.3	112	41.2	1,104	41.1
Other Varieties ... ..	89	48.7	40	27.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	129	42.2
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>66,792</b>	<b>33.5</b>	<b>57,894</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>39,603</b>	<b>24.9</b>	<b>17,319</b>	<b>22.8</b>	<b>4,117</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>4,049</b>	<b>23.4</b>	<b>189,774</b>	<b>28.7</b>

# AREA OF CANE HARVESTED AND YIELDS BY DISTRICTS (EUROPEAN PLANTERS ONLY) 1953-1954

Compiled from Union Department of Census Returns

DISTRICTS	UBA		Co.281		Co.290		Co.301		Co.331		N:Co.310		P.O.J.2725 and 2878	
	Acres	Tons/ Acre	Acres	Tons/ Acre	Acres	Tons/ Acre	Acres	Tons/ Acre	Acres	Tons/ Acre	Acres	Tons/ Acre	Acres	Tons/ Acre
PORT SHEPSTONE ... ..	—	—	2 007	10.3	—	—	570	30.6	409	22.7	849	25.3	—	—
UMZINTO ... ..	82	18.8	2,661	8.9	1	39.0	14,845	20.5	4,754	26.1	4,859	28.1	31	24.0
DURBAN AND PINETOWN	2	23.0	933	10.7	—	—	3,172	19.6	2,876	17.1	2,665	27.6	—	—
<b>Total South of Umgeni R.</b>	84	18.9	5,601	9.7	1	39.0	18,587	20.7	8,039	22.7	8,373	27.6	31	24.0
INANDA ... ..	36	15.8	1,083	19.4	215	23.8	8,897	31.7	3,271	34.9	6,703	38.0	3	45.7
LOWER TUGELA ... ..	33	27.4	1,429	13.7	41	21.7	22,864	26.4	13,362	32.0	17,644	35.3	—	—
<b>Total North Coast between Umgeni and Tugela Rs.</b>	69	21.3	2,512	16.2	256	23.5	31,761	27.9	16,633	32.6	24,347	36.0	3	45.7
<b>Total for Natal South of the Tugela River ...</b>	153	20.0	8,113	11.7	257	23.5	50,348	25.2	24,672	29.3	32,720	33.9	34	25.9
MTUNZINI ... ..	3	20.0	3,212	19.2	117	45.8	3,291	26.4	8,971	29.5	7,710	38.8	83	39.9
ESHOWE ... ..	—	—	1,613	21.9	45	25.3	2,208	21.4	3,291	24.9	3,791	31.1	34	39.9
LOWER UMFOLOZI ...	—	—	6,946	19.3	—	—	5,174	25.0	3,262	27.0	13,983	36.1	517	33.2
HLABISA ... ..	—	—	1,889	15.5	43	37.8	321	19.3	802	24.7	5,161	51.7	436	51.9
PIET RETIEF ... ..	13	86.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	62.0	412	37.3	—	—
<b>Total North of the Tugela</b>	16	74.1	13,660	19.1	205	39.6	10,994	24.5	16,346	27.9	31,057	38.7	1,070	41.6
<b>TOTAL FOR UNION ...</b>	169	25.1	21,773	16.3	462	30.7	61,342	25.1	41,018	28.8	63,777	36.3	1,104	41.1

# YIELDS OF CANE HARVESTED BY DISTRICTS (EUROPEAN PLANTERS ONLY)

Compiled from Union Department of Census Returns

DISTRICT	TONS CANE PER ACRE												
	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
PORT SHEPSTONE ... ..	13.73	23.03	31.32	22.95	19.18	19.23	22.68	21.45	19.42	19.24	19.44	16.33	17.94
UMZINTO... ..	16.47	20.20	24.68	24.18	19.51	17.59	19.70	22.13	19.76	18.63	17.60	20.48	21.69
DURBAN, UMLAZI, ETC. ... ..	20.28	25.63	24.01	24.16	20.11	19.05	20.47	20.69	18.66	21.16	18.03	20.47	20.21
<b>Total South of Umgeni River ...</b>	17.05	21.48	25.07	24.07	19.59	18.01	20.12	21.79	19.48	19.23	17.90	20.03	20.99
Ratio to 1926 (=100) ... ..	92.46	116.49	135.95	130.53	106.24	97.67	109.11	118.18	105.64	104.28	97.07	108.62	113.83
INANDA ... ..	28.20	32.94	40.45	37.51	32.32	27.20	30.42	31.58	29.10	28.36	26.38	29.92	33.55
LOWER TUGELA ... ..	21.30	24.42	31.10	29.49	26.58	22.77	24.90	27.78	28.85	27.66	23.33	28.20	30.25
<b>Total for North Coast between the     Umgeni and Tugela Rivers...</b>	23.64	27.31	34.09	32.14	28.57	24.23	26.72	29.03	26.92	27.85	24.23	28.67	31.13
Ratio to 1926 (=100) ... ..	127.03	146.75	183.18	172.70	153.52	130.20	143.58	155.99	144.65	149.65	130.20	154.06	167.27
<b>Total for Natal South of the Tugela</b>	21.18	25.18	30.64	29.08	25.35	21.90	24.43	26.41	24.23	24.84	21.97	25.68	27.59
Ratio to 1926 (=100) ... ..	114.18	135.74	165.18	156.77	136.66	118.06	131.70	142.37	130.62	133.91	118.46	138.44	148.73
MTUNZINI . . . . .	22.67	24.96	30.71	27.19	23.73	18.02	22.01	25.47	24.11	26.62	21.74	24.73	30.85
ESHOWE ... ..	23.53	25.11	27.46	27.27	22.68	20.27	21.35	24.34	23.13	26.42	21.59	23.77	25.96
LOWER UMFOLOZI ... ..	26.10	26.51	33.45	31.47	30.07	25.83	27.39	30.11	27.45	31.57	26.72	27.93	29.23
HLABISA ... ..	26.31	29.84	30.79	29.00	25.52	23.68	25.64	27.52	25.75	31.51	35.88	36.70	40.00
PIET RETIEF ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	39.16	38.15	48.11	39.52	40.21	32.79	33.32	39.89
<b>Total North of the Tugela ... ..</b>	24.55	26.09	31.28	29.08	26.30	22.15	24.54	27.46	25.49	29.05	25.47	27.27	30.60
Ratio to 1926 (=100) ... ..	103.02	109.48	131.26	122.03	110.37	92.95	109.98	115.23	106.97	121.91	106.88	114.44	128.41
<b>GRAND TOTAL FOR UNION ... ..</b>	22.36	25.49	30.87	29.08	25.70	21.99	24.47	26.80	24.70	26.41	23.28	26.29	28.75
Ratio to 1926 (=100) ... ..	109.38	124.71	151.03	142.27	125.73	107.58	119.72	131.12	120.84	129.21	113.89	128.62	140.66
Rainfall of all Districts (inches) ... .. <i>(Average from 44 centres)</i>	26.18	49.40	53.51	36.45	31.99	32.02	44.83	35.25	43.35	30.70	35.10	33.42	41.15

## YIELDS OF CANE HARVESTED BY DISTRICTS (EUROPEAN PLANTERS ONLY)

Compiled from Union Department of Census Returns

DISTRICT	PER CENT. OF TOTAL TONNAGE												
	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
PORT SHEPSTONE ... ..	1.2	2.0	2.0	1.6	1.3	1.8	1.9	1.8	1.8	1.6	2.0	1.4	1.3
UMZINTO... ..	12.7	13.7	14.1	14.9	12.6	13.9	12.8	13.5	12.2	10.6	11.4	11.1	10.8
DURBAN, UMLAZI, ETC. ... ..	4.7	4.5	4.0	3.4	3.2	3.9	3.7	3.3	4.0	3.7	3.8	3.7	3.6
<b>Total South of Umgeni River ...</b>	18.6	20.1	20.1	19.9	17.2	19.6	18.3	18.6	17.9	15.9	17.2	16.2	15.7
INANDA ... ..	17.4	18.2	16.8	16.8	17.6	16.4	17.1	15.7	15.6	12.1	13.5	12.5	12.4
LOWER TUGELA ... ..	25.6	26.3	27.5	26.7	27.2	27.9	28.7	28.2	28.3	30.8	28.4	31.4	30.7
<b>Total for North Coast between the     Umgeni and Tugela Rivers...</b>	43.0	44.4	44.3	43.5	44.8	44.3	45.8	43.9	44.0	42.9	41.9	43.9	43.2
<b>Total for Natal South of the Tugela</b>	61.6	64.6	64.4	63.4	62.0	63.9	64.1	62.5	61.9	58.8	59.1	60.1	58.9
MTUNZINI . . . . .	11.8	10.7	11.0	11.4	11.1	9.6	10.3	11.5	12.1	12.8	10.9	12.1	13.2
ESHOWE ... ..	6.0	5.7	5.5	6.0	5.6	5.7	5.4	5.8	6.0	6.3	5.5	5.4	5.2
LOWER UMFOLOZI ... ..	16.7	15.4	15.6	15.7	17.7	16.6	16.2	16.7	16.2	18.1	17.5	15.8	16.0
HLABISA ... ..	3.8	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.7	3.9	3.6	3.2	3.5	3.8	6.8	6.4	6.4
PIET RETIEF ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3
<b>Total North of the Tugela ... ..</b>	38.4	35.4	35.6	36.6	38.0	36.1	35.9	37.5	38.1	41.2	40.9	39.9	41.1
<b>GRAND TOTAL FOR THE UNION ...</b>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.

# YIELDS OF CANE HARVESTED BY DISTRICTS (EUROPEAN PLANTERS ONLY)

Compiled from Union Department of Census Returns

DISTRICT	YIELD OF CANE IN TONS										
	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
PORT SHEPSTONE ... ..	97,113	79,113	79,993	57,630	67,743	78,890	82,825	80,330	83,333	90,643	68,794
UMZINTO ... ..	682,713	728,879	528,593	515,571	532,675	624,009	555,307	537,457	551,033	559,063	590,796
DURBAN, UMLAZI, ETC. ... ..	195,923	165,164	136,253	146,087	153,073	152,668	179,668	189,824	168,492	184,476	195,019
<b>Total South of Umgeni River</b> ...	975,749	974,036	722,476	729,401	764,638	859,287	815,305	810,614	770,168	814,559	854,609
Ratio to 1926 (= 100) ... ..	218.9	218.5	162.1	163.6	171.5	192.7	178.9	181.8	172.76	182.71	191.69
INANDA ... ..	812,986	823,041	737,413	608,736	714,066	722,790	709,790	616,033	602,855	625,034	678,481
LOWER TUGELA... ..	1,331,681	1,310,186	1,144,887	1,035,855	1,195,584	1,299,218	1,287,492	1,563,652	1,274,693	1,575,747	1,677,077
<b>Total for North Coast between the     Umgeni and Tugela Rivers</b> ...	2,144,667	2,133,227	1,882,300	1,644,591	1,909,650	2,021,495	1,997,282	2,179,685	1,877,548	2,200,781	2,355,558
Ratio to 1926 (= 100) ... ..	259.0	257.6	227.3	198.6	230.6	244.1	241.2	263.2	226.72	265.75	284.44
<b>Total for Natal South of the Tugela</b>	3,120,416	3,107,263	2,604,776	2,373,992	2,674,288	2,880,782	2,812,587	2,990,299	2,647,716	3,015,340	3,210,167
Ratio to 1926 (= 100) ... ..	244.9	243.9	204.5	186.3	209.9	226.1	220.8	234.7	207.83	—	251.98
MTUNZINI ... ..	533,560	556,524	465,147	358,378	429,676	529,967	549,090	652,558	490,409	606,817	722,561
ESHOWE ... ..	264,198	293,602	236,115	211,170	225,903	266,752	273,448	318,883	244,590	273,070	285,158
LOWER UMFOLOZI ... ..	758,217	769,436	741,972	618,269	674,790	771,913	734,567	919,627	782,050	793,977	873,521
HLABISA ... ..	168,982	171,555	153,689	145,062	149,372	145,318	158,309	192,248	304,745	321,455	346,711
PIET RETIEF ... ..	—	—	—	9,321	18,886	17,511	14,937	10,858	11,442	5,598	17,750
<b>Total North of the Tugela</b> ... ..	1,724,957	1,791,177	1,596,923	1,342,200	1,498,627	1,731,461	1,730,351	2,094,174	1,833,236	2,000,977	2,245,701
Ratio to 1926 (= 100) ... ..	189.8	197.1	175.7	147.7	164.9	190.5	190.4	230.5	201.75	220.21	247.14
<b>GRAND TOTAL FOR THE UNION</b>	4,845,373	4,898,380	4,201,699	3,716,192	4,172,915	4,612,243	4,542,938	5,084,473	4,480,952	5,016,337	5,455,868
Ratio to 1926 (= 100) ... ..	222.0	224.4	192.5	170.3	191.2	211.3	208.1	233.0	205.30	229.83	249.97