

# 2024 Projected Sugarcane Production Farm Costs and Returns Model

A Farm Planning/Decision Tool for Louisiana Sugarcane Growers



**Michael A. Deliberto and Brian M. Hilbun<sup>1</sup>**  
Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness  
Louisiana State University Agricultural Center  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

The 2024 Projected Sugarcane Farm Costs and Returns Model was developed to assist sugarcane producers in planning for the 2024 crop year. The model is an Excel spreadsheet which allows sugarcane producers to enter projected sugarcane acreage of plant cane, first stubble, second stubble, and third stubble; associated projected yield levels per acre (tons); raw sugar and molasses price for the new crop year; and production cost data for 2024 to estimate net returns above variable and total production costs and to easily evaluate the impact of changing sugarcane yields, input prices, and input application rates on net returns per acre. The primary purpose of this model is to serve as a producer farm planning and decision tool to project and evaluate the impact on net returns above variable and total production costs from sugarcane production for the 2024 crop year. Calculations for the weighted average of yield, mill share, and land rent are provided within the model so that producers can examine an overall average economic performance for the farm.

The model also includes entry cells for whole farm fixed expenses to estimate projected net returns above all sugarcane farm production costs. This model can be used in conjunction with the *2024 Projected Sugarcane Costs and Returns* published by the LSU Agricultural Center. Both serve as farm management tools that allow producers to document their management strategies and production goals by providing a detailed economic analysis of how those strategies can be better managed to increase farm profitability.

## **Worksheet # 1: Projected Sugarcane Farm Costs and Returns Model Index**

Worksheet page one of this Excel model serves as an index or table of contents to identify the production, income and expense worksheet pages included in the model. Pages within model allow for entry of sugarcane production expenses for fallow land, purchases seed cane, farm propagated seed cane, planting operations (hand, mechanical, wholestalk, billet), field operations for plant cane and stubble cane, and harvest operations (billet or wholestalk). Titles on expense worksheet tables match those used in the *2024 Projected Sugarcane Costs and Returns* published by the LSU Agricultural Center A.E.I.R.S. Publication No. 370 which is available via the LSU Agricultural Center or via the internet at:

[http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/crops\\_livestock/crops/sugarcane/economics](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/crops_livestock/crops/sugarcane/economics)

Projected production cost estimates from the 2024 projected costs and returns report are already entered into the model. On each worksheet, the producer can change information, in cells that are highlighted in blue (blue text font), to more closely match an individual farm operation. Those production expense estimates, along with acreage values and yield projections, are then automatically incorporated into calculations of farm costs and returns for an instant determination of overall projected farm profitability (Worksheet # 2) and breakeven production and price values (Worksheet # 3).

---

<sup>1</sup> Dr. M.A. Deliberto, Assistant Professor and B.M. Hilbun, Research Associate  
Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, LSU Agricultural Center, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

**2024 Projected Sugarcane Production Farm Costs and Returns Model**  
A Farm Planning/Decision Tool for Louisiana Sugarcane Growers  
2024 Crop Year



Worksheet Page	Title / Information
1	<b>Index</b>
2	<b>Costs and Returns Summary</b>
3	<b>Breakeven Analysis</b> Breakeven Raw Sugar Prices Breakeven Sugarcane Yields Breakeven Sugar Recovery Rates
4	<b>Fallow &amp; Seed Cane</b> Fallow Expenses Purchased Seed Cane Expenses Wholestalk Seed Cane Harvest Expenses Billet Seed Cane Harvest Expenses
5	<b>Planting Operations</b> Hand Planting - 1-Row Wholestalk Mechanical Planting - 1-Row Wholestalk Mechanical Planting - 1-Row Billet
6	<b>Field Operations</b> Plant Cane Field Operations First Stubble Field Operations Second Stubble Field Operations Third Stubble and Older Field Operations
7	<b>Harvest Operations</b> Harvest Expenses - 1-Row Combine Harvester Harvest Expenses - 2-Row Wholestalk Harvester
8	<b>Weighted Average Mill Share Calculator</b>
9	<b>Weighted Average Yield Calculator</b>
10	<b>Weighted Average Land Crop Share Calculator</b>

Developed by Michael A. Deliberto and Brian Hilbun  
Department of Agricultural Economics & Agribusiness - Staff Report No. 2024-01 January 2024



**Louisiana State University Agricultural Center**  
Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station / Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service  
[www.lsuagcenter.com](http://www.lsuagcenter.com)

**Worksheet # 2: Projected Whole Farm Sugarcane Costs and Returns Summary**

Information regarding the total number of farm acres (E5), total numbers of acres harvested for sugar (E6), the projected raw sugar price per pound (E7), and projected molasses price per gallon (E8) are entered into the model by the producer. The producer then will enter information used to calculate the gross value of production, which is the yield in tons per acre for plant cane (D14), first stubble (D15), second stubble (D16), third stubble (D17), and older stubble cane harvested (D18). The sugar per acre is based off an average CRS of 210 (E14 to E18). This CRS value can be changed for each category of sugarcane crop (plant cane and stubble cane). The dollar per acre value is then multiplied by the number of acres of cane in each growth stage, entered by the producer (I14 to I18). Molasses is calculated by assuming that three gallons of molasses can be produced with every 100 pounds of sugar harvested (F22). Hence, molasses is calculated from the total pounds of sugarcane harvested as entered into the model by the producer. Mill charges for sugar (F31) and molasses (F32) along with land rent (F38 and F39) is calculated by the producer entering the percent of the crop paid for each. Net returns available to the producers are then achieved.

This model also allows a producer to enter income from other activities on-farm, such income from other crops or custom work performed, etc. in order to estimate producer income (K47 to K49). Variable production expenses are then calculated from the projected expense totals from sheets 4, 5, 6, and 7. The producer must specify the number of acres (I53 to I68) of which that activity occurs. From this information, net returns above variable production expenses to the producer are calculated. Given the variability of machinery age and purchase price, fixed costs (K73) are estimated over all field operations and entered into the whole farm cash flow statement. The last row of the statement contains the net returns above total production expenses to the producer in a total dollar value, a per-acre value, and a per-pound of sugar value.

Projected Whole Farm Sugarcane Costs and Returns for the 2024 Crop Year							
Total Farm Acres	1,000.0		Dollars	Number	Total	Dollar	Value
Total Acres Harvested for Sugar	760.6		Per	of	Dollar	Value	Per Pound
Raw Sugar Price per Pound	\$0.400		Acres	Acres	Value	Per Acre	of Sugar
Molasses Price per Gallon	\$1.05						
<b>Total Sugarcane Production (tons) =</b>	<b>25,784</b>						
<b>Total Raw Sugar Production (lbs) =</b>	<b>5,930,320</b>		(\$/acre)	(acre)	(\$)	(\$/acre)	(\$/lb of sugar)
<b>Gross Value of Production:</b>							
<b>Sugar:</b>	tons/acre	sugar/ton	sugar/acre				
Plant Cane	40.0	230	9,200	3,680.00	160.6	591,008	591.01
1st Stubble	37.2	230	8,556	3,422.40	200.0	684,480	684.48
2nd Stubble	30.8	230	7,084	2,833.60	200.0	566,720	566.72
3rd Stubble	28.8	230	6,624	2,649.60	200.0	529,920	529.92
Older Stubble	0.0	0	0	0.00	0.0	0	0.00
					760.6		
<b>Total Market Value of Sugar Production</b>						<b>\$2,372,128</b>	<b>\$2,372.13</b>
<b>Molasses:</b>	Gal. Mol./Cwt. Sugar	3.0					
Gallons of Molasses		177,910	--	--		<b>\$186,805</b>	<b>\$186.81</b>
<b>Total Market Value of Sugar &amp; Molasses</b>						<b>\$2,558,933</b>	<b>\$2,558.93</b>
<b>Mill Charge</b>							
				Dollars	Number	Total	Dollar
				Per	of	Dollar	Value
				Acres	Acres	Value	Per Acre
							of Sugar
Sugar	Cane Share	39.0%	--	--		925,130	925.13
Molasses	Molasses Share	50.0%	--	--		93,403	93.40
<b>Total Mill Charge</b>						<b>\$1,018,532</b>	<b>\$1,018.53</b>
<b>Net Returns to Land and Producer</b>						<b>\$1,540,401</b>	<b>\$1,540.40</b>
<b>Land Share (Share Basis)</b>							
Sugar	Cane Share	16.7%	--	--		241,649	241.65
Molasses	Molasses Share	16.7%	--	--		15,598	15.60
<b>Total Land Charge</b>						<b>\$257,247</b>	<b>\$257.25</b>
<b>Net Returns to Producer</b>						<b>\$1,283,154</b>	<b>\$1,283.15</b>
<b>Producer Income</b>							
Sugar and Molasses			--	--		1,283,154	1283.15
Other Income			--	--		0	0
Other Income			--	--		0	0
Other Income			--	--		0	0
<b>Total Producer Income</b>						<b>\$1,283,154</b>	<b>\$1,283.15</b>
<b>Variable Production Expenses:</b>							
Fallow Field & Seedbed Preparation Operations			\$179.58	200.0		35,916	
Cultured Seed Cane			\$753.07	3.3		2,485	
Hand Planting Seed Cane			\$262.44	3.3		866	
Harvesting Wholestalk Seed Cane			\$110.49	39.4		4,353	
Harvesting Billet Seed Cane			\$156.92	0.0		0	
Mechanical Planting Wholestalk Seed Cane			\$227.72	196.7		44,792	
Mechanical Planting BilletSeed Cane			\$200.65	0.0		0	
Plant Cane Field Operations			\$324.57	200.0		64,913	
1st Stubble Field Operations			\$388.25	200.0		77,650	
2nd Stubble Field Operations			\$364.74	200.0		72,948	
3rd Stubble Field Operations			\$364.74	200.0		72,948	
Older Stubble Field Operations			\$364.78	0.0		0	
Combine Harvest for Sugar			\$247.63	760.6		188,347	
Wholestalk Harvest for Sugar			\$159.45	0.0		0	
Other Expenses			\$0.00	0.0		0	
Other Expenses			\$0.00	0.0		0	
<b>Total Variable Production Expenses</b>						<b>\$565,218</b>	<b>\$565.22</b>
<b>Net Returns Above Variable Production Expenses</b>						<b>\$717,935</b>	<b>\$717.94</b>
<b>Fixed Expenses (total from table below)</b>						<b>\$251,839</b>	<b>\$251.84</b>
<b>Net Returns Above Total Production Expenses</b>						<b>\$466,096</b>	<b>\$466.10</b>

Weighted average (tons) calculated from Worksheet # 8

Weighted mill charge from Worksheet # 9

Weighted land rent across all tracts from Worksheet #10

Variable production expenses per field activity from Worksheets # 4 to # 7

Total from Worksheet below

### Worksheet # 3: Breakeven Analysis

The breakeven price analysis requires that a producer only enter the mill share and land rent percentages. Breakeven analysis is for three values: (1) breakeven raw sugar price, (2) breakeven sugarcane yield (tons/acre), and (3) breakeven sugar recovery (pounds per ton). By entering in the 2024 sugar price per pound, the model allows a producer to observe how their breakeven point change with a 5 or 10 percent change in the amount of tons harvested per acre for plant cane, first stubble, second stubble, etc. These tables can help answer such questions as: *What is the new breakeven ton per harvested acre are required with a 5 to 10 percentage change in price?* and *Given a 5 to 10 percentage change in price, how much sugar per ton of cane must be recovered to breakeven against total costs?* The breakeven points are calculated to cover total variable production expenses and total specified production expenses.

Breakeven Raw Sugar Prices for 2024						
Mill Share	39.0%	Average sugar per ton CRS (lbs/ton)	230			
Land Share	16.7%	<b>Selected Yield Levels</b>				
Grower Share	50.8%					
		Projected				
		- 10%	- 5%	2024 Yield	+ 5%	+ 10%
Cane yield per harvested acre (tons)		30.5	32.2	33.9	35.6	37.3
Cane yield per total farm acre (tons)		23.2	24.5	25.8	27.1	28.4
Sugar yield per harvested acre (lbs)		7,017	7,407	7,797	8,187	8,577
Sugar yield per total farm acre (lbs)		5,337	5,634	5,930	6,227	6,523
-----cents per lb.-----						
<b>Breakeven Raw Sugar Price to Recover: 1/</b>						
Variable (Direct) Production Expenses		20.84	19.74	18.76	17.86	17.05
Total Production Expenses		30.13	28.54	27.11	25.82	24.65
1/ Estimation of breakeven sugar prices excludes molasses payment.						

Breakeven Sugarcane Yields (Tons/ Acre) for 2024						
Mill Share	39.0%	Average sugar per ton CRS (lbs/ton)	230			
Land Share	16.7%	<b>Selected Raw Sugar Price Levels</b>				
Grower Share	50.8%					
		Projected				
		- 10%	- 5%	2024 Price	+ 5%	+ 10%
Raw sugar price (\$/pound)		\$0.360	\$0.380	\$0.400	\$0.420	\$0.440
-----tons per total farm acre-----						
<b>Breakeven Yield/Total Farm Acre to Recover: 1/</b>						
Variable (Direct) Production Expenses		13.4	12.7	12.1	11.5	11.0
Total Production Expenses		19.4	18.4	17.5	16.6	15.9
-----tons per harvested acre-----						
<b>Breakeven Yield/Harvested Acre to Recover: 1/</b>						
Variable (Direct) Production Expenses		17.7	16.7	15.9	15.1	14.5
Total Production Expenses		25.5	24.2	23.0	21.9	20.9
1/ Estimation of breakeven sugar prices excludes molasses payment.						

Breakeven Sugar Recovery (CRS) for 2024						
Mill Share	39.0%	Cane yield per harvested acre (tons)	33.9			
Land Share	16.7%	Cane yield per total farm acre (tons)	25.8			
Grower Share	50.8%	<b>Selected Yield Levels</b>				
		Projected				
		- 10%	- 5%	2024 Price	+ 5%	+ 10%
Raw sugar price (\$/pound)		\$0.360	\$0.380	\$0.400	\$0.420	\$0.440
-----pounds of sugar per ton of cane-----						
<b>Breakeven Sugar Recovery (CRS) to Recover: 1/</b>						
Variable (Direct) Production Expenses		120	114	108	103	98
Total Production Expenses		173	164	156	148	142
1/ Estimation of breakeven sugar prices excludes molasses payment.						

**Worksheet # 4: Fallow and Seed Cane Activities**

This section of the model allows a producer to enter cost data on herbicides (H6), labor (H7), fuel (F8 and G8), repair and maintenance (H9), consultant/service fees (H10), interest on capital (H14), as well as other "custom" farm operations that figure into fallow field activated (H11 to H13). These projected expenses are totaled (H15) and calculated into breakeven and cash flow analysis sections of the model. Data also included on this worksheet page are costs for purchasing cultured seed cane and harvesting farm propagated seed cane. Throughout this model fuel price and varying consumption rates, allows a producer to examine the effects per gallon price as to determine its overall effect on the farm's cost structure and profitability.

<b>Fallow Expenses (including plowing old stubble, seedbed prep)</b>				
<b>Expense Item</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Herbicides	acre			22.40
Labor	acre			33.86
Fuel	gal	\$3.50	20.74	72.59
Repair & Maintenance	acre			26.21
Service Fees	acre			9.00
Digital Ag Service Fee	acre			10.00
Other	acre			0.00
Other	acre			0.00
Interest on Oper. Capital	acre			5.52
<b>Projected Fallow Expenses</b>				<b>\$179.58</b>

Table 4, page 10 in 2024 Projected Sugarcane Costs and Returns

<b>Purchased Cultured Seed Cane</b>				
<b>Expense Item</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Purchased seed cane	acre			665.00
Labor	acre			4.80
Fuel	gal	\$3.50	2.10	7.36
Repair & Maintenance	acre			8.51
Digital Ag Service Fee	acre			10.00
Other	acre			0.00
Other	acre			0.00
Interest on Oper. Capital	acre			57.40
<b>Projected Purchased Seed Cane Expenses</b>				<b>\$753.07</b>

Table 5, page 11 in 2024 Projected Sugarcane Costs and Returns

<b>Wholestalk Seed Cane Harvest</b>				
<b>Expense Item</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Labor	acre			21.61
Fuel	gal	\$3.50	10.90	38.15
Repair & Maintenance	acre			32.30
Digital Ag Service Fee	acre			10.00
Other	acre			0.00
Other	acre			0.00
Interest on Oper. Capital	acre			8.43
<b>Projected Wholestalk Seed Cane Harvest Expenses</b>				<b>\$110.49</b>

Table 6, page 12 in 2024 Projected Sugarcane Costs and Returns

<b>Billet Seed Cane Harvest</b>				
<b>Expense Item</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Labor	acre			24.56
Fuel	gal	\$3.50	15.16	53.06
Repair & Maintenance	acre			57.33
Digital Ag Service Fee	acre			10.00
Other	acre			0.00
Other	acre			0.00
Interest on Oper. Capital	acre			11.97
<b>Projected Billet Seed Cane Harvest Expenses</b>				<b>\$156.92</b>

Table 7, page 13 in 2024 Projected Sugarcane Costs and Returns

Total variable expenses per acre are automatically transferred to the whole farm cost and returns summary on worksheet #2.

## Worksheet # 5: Planting Operations

Planting information requires a larger appropriation of the operating expense compared to the fallow field and seed cane activities. Fertilizer input prices (F6 to F9) and application rates (G6 to G9), special planting labor wages (F11 and G11), and fuel (F13 and G13) can be tailored to reflect hand or mechanical methods of plating the wholestalk or billet cane. These inputs combined with herbicide (H10), repair and maintenance (H14), interest on capital (H18), and "other" cost categories (H15 to H17) are totaled (H19) and used for further economic analysis.

<b>Hand Planting, 1-Row Wholestalk</b>				
<b>Expense Item</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Fertilizer - Nitrogen	lbs of N	\$0.59	0	0.00
Fertilizer - Phosphorus	lbs of P	\$0.75	0	0.00
Fertilizer - Potassium	lbs of K	\$0.43	0	0.00
Fertilizer - Other	lbs			0.00
Herbicides	acre			53.50
Special Planting Labor	acre	\$25.00	3	75.00
Labor	acre			29.06
Fuel	gal	\$3.50	17.98	62.93
Repair & Maintenance	acre			28.83
Digital Ag Service Fee	acre			10.00
Other	acre			0.00
Other	acre			0.00
Interest on Oper. Capital	acre			3.12
<b>Projected Wholestalk Hand Planting Expenses</b>				<b>\$262.44</b>

Table 8, page 14 in 2024 Projected Sugarcane Costs and Returns

<b>Mechanical Planting, 1-Row Wholestalk</b>				
<b>Expense Item</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Fertilizer - Nitrogen	lbs of N	\$0.59	0	0.00
Fertilizer - Phosphorus	lbs of P	\$0.75	0	0.00
Fertilizer - Potassium	lbs of K	\$0.43	0	0.00
Fertilizer - Other	lbs			0.00
Herbicides	acre			53.50
Special Planting Labor	acre	\$25.00	2	50.00
Labor	acre			24.27
Fuel	gal	\$3.50	14.75	51.63
Repair & Maintenance	acre			21.54
Digital Ag Service Fee	acre			10.00
Other	acre			0.00
Other	acre			0.00
Interest on Oper. Capital	acre			16.78
<b>Projected Wholestalk Mechanical Planting Expenses</b>				<b>\$227.72</b>

Table 9, page 15 in 2024 Projected Sugarcane Costs and Returns

<b>Mechanical Planting, 1-Row Billet</b>				
<b>Expense Item</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Fertilizer - Nitrogen	lbs of N	\$0.59	0	0.00
Fertilizer - Phosphorus	lbs of P	\$0.75	0	0.00
Fertilizer - Potassium	lbs of K	\$0.43	0	0.00
Fertilizer - Other	lbs			0.00
Herbicides	acre			53.50
Special Planting Labor	acre	\$25.00	1	25.00
Labor	acre			24.27
Fuel	gal	\$3.50	14.75	51.63
Repair & Maintenance	acre			21.54
Digital Ag Service Fee	acre			10.00
Other	acre			0.00
Other	acre			0.00
Interest on Oper. Capital	acre			14.71
<b>Projected Billet Mechanical Planting Expenses</b>				<b>\$200.65</b>

Table 10, page 16 in 2024 Projected Sugarcane Costs and Returns

Total variable expenses per acre are automatically transferred to the whole farm cost and returns summary on worksheet #2.

**Worksheet # 6: Field Operations**

Field operations command the largest share of sugarcane production expenses on a per acre basis. Similar to fallow and planting operations in-field, fertilizer prices and application rate (F6 to F10 and G6 to G10), and fuel consumption rates (F15 and G15) can be customized to reflect on-farm production strategies. General cost categories such as herbicides (H11), insecticides (H12), service fees (H13), labor (H14), repair and maintenance (H16), "other" field expenses (H17 to H19), and interest on capital (H20) are also present for data input. The total variable cost per acre (H21) is totaled for plant cane operations, first stubble operations, and second stubble and older operations. These values are referenced throughout the whole farm costs and returns table as well as the breakeven analysis.

<b>Plant Cane Cultivation and Field Operations</b>				
<b>Expense Item</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Custom Aerial Appl.	appl.	\$9.00	1	9.00
Fertilizer - Nitrogen	lbs of N	\$0.59	80	47.20
Fertilizer - Phosphorus	lbs of P	\$0.75	0	0.00
Fertilizer - Potassium	lbs of K	\$0.43	80	34.40
Fertilizer - Sulfur	lbs	\$0.34	24.00	8.16
Herbicides	acre			107.39
Insecticides	acre			17.44
Service Fees	acre			9.00
Labor	acre			17.18
Fuel	gal	\$3.50	8.91	31.19
Repair & Maintenance	acre			10.67
Surfactant	acre			9.90
Digital Ag Service Fee	acre			10.00
Other	acre			0.00
Interest on Oper. Capital	acre			13.04
<b>Projected Plant Cane Cultivation Expenses</b>				<b>\$324.57</b>

Table 11, pages 17-18 in 2024 Projected Sugarcane Costs and Returns

<b>First Stubble Cultivation and Field Operations</b>				
<b>Expense Item</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Custom Aerial Appl.	appl.	\$9.00	2	18.00
Fertilizer - Nitrogen	lbs of N	\$0.59	100	59.00
Fertilizer - Phosphorus	lbs of P	\$0.75	40	30.00
Fertilizer - Potassium	lbs of K	\$0.43	100	43.00
Fertilizer - Sulfur	lbs	\$0.34	24.00	8.16
Herbicides	acre			101.99
Insecticides	acre			17.44
Ripener	acre			0.00
Service Fees	acre			9.00
Labor	acre			17.55
Fuel	gal	\$3.50	9.08	31.78
Repair & Maintenance	acre			11.16
Surfactant	acre			15.84
Digital Ag Service Fee	acre			10.00
Other	acre			0.00
Interest on Oper. Capital	acre			15.38
<b>Projected First Stubble Cultivation Expenses</b>				<b>\$388.25</b>

Table 12, pages 19-20 in 2024 Projected Sugarcane Costs and Returns

<b>Second Stubble Cultivation and Field Operations</b>				
<b>Expense Item</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Custom Aerial Appl.	appl.	\$9.00	2	18.00
Fertilizer - Nitrogen	lbs of N	\$0.59	110	64.90
Fertilizer - Phosphorus	lbs of P	\$0.75	40	30.00
Fertilizer - Potassium	lbs of K	\$0.43	100	43.00
Fertilizer - Sulfur	lbs	\$0.34	24	8.16
Herbicides	acre			79.75
Insecticides	acre			17.44

Total variable expenses per acre are automatically transferred to the whole farm cost and returns summary on worksheet #2.

### Worksheet # 7: Harvest Operations

There are two harvest methods presented in this section, a one-row combine harvester, and a two-row wholestalk harvester unit. Fuel price and consumption rates (F7 to F8 and G7 to G8) can be tailed to reflect tractor and combine efficiency and performance rates per acre. Data for labor (H6), repair and maintenance (H9), "other" expenses (H10 to H12), and interest on capital (H13) can also be entered. The total variable cost per acre to harvest the sugarcane (H14) is included in the whole farm costs and returns summary as well as the breakeven analysis.

<b>Harvest - 1-Row Combine Harvester</b>				
<u>Expense Item</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Labor	acre			43.74
Fuel - Tractors	gal	\$3.50	19.70	68.95
Fuel - Combine Harvester	gal	\$3.50	8.40	29.40
Repair & Maintenance	acre			78.13
Digital Ag Service Fee	acre			10.00
Other	acre			0.00
Other	acre			0.00
Interest on Oper. Capital	acre			17.41
<b>Projected Combine Harvest Expenses</b>				<b>\$247.63</b>

Table 14, page 23 in 2024 Projected Sugarcane Costs and Returns

<b>Harvest - 2-Row Wholestalk Harvester</b>				
<u>Expense Item</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Cost</u>
Labor	acre			34.62
Fuel - Tractors	gal	\$3.50	11.33	39.66
Fuel - Wholestalk Harvester	gal	\$3.50	6.38	22.33
Repair & Maintenance	acre			41.63
Digital Ag Service Fee	acre			10.00
Other	acre			0.00
Other	acre			0.00
Interest on Oper. Capital	acre			11.22
<b>Projected Wholestalk Harvest Expenses</b>				<b>\$159.46</b>

Total variable expenses per acre are automatically transferred to the whole farm cost and returns summary on worksheet #2.

### Worksheet # 8: Calculating Weighted Averages for Mill Share

Each sugar mill that the producer ships sugarcane to can be identified by the total number of tons hauled (F6) and the mill's share of the sugar returns (H6), expressed as a percentage. A weighted average (H11) is then calculated based on the same principle as the previous sheet.

<b>Weighted Average Mill Share for Total Tons of Sugarcane Hauled</b>		
<u>Mill Name</u>	<u>Tons Hauled</u>	<u>Mill Share</u>
1 Mill A	5,000.0	38.0%
2 Mill B	5,000.0	40.0%
3 Mill C	20,000.0	39.0%
4		
5		
<b>Weighted Average Mill Share for Total Tons of Sugarcane Hauled =</b>		<b>39.0%</b>



**Worksheet # 9: Calculating Weighted Averages for Plant Cane and Stubble crops (per tract per acre)**

A sugarcane producer can enter the tract acreage (F6 to F30), ton per acre yield (H6 to H30), and sugar per ton (J6 to J30) of up to 25 individual tracts of land currently in production (C6 to C30). The model calculates a weighted average for each of the aforementioned categories from the imputed data across the entire farming operation. This table is duplicated so that a producer can enter the same type of data for first, second, third, and older stubble crops by tract. The weighted averages for tons per acre (H31), CRS (L33), and sugar per ton (J32) can then be entered into the cells in the Cost and Returns summary worksheet (Sheet # 2).

Weighted Average Plant Cane Tonnage and Sugar Yields per Harvested Acre				
Tract Name	Acres	Tons/Acre	Sugar/Ton	Sugar/Acre
1 Tract PC - 1	10.0	37.0	223	8,251
2 Tract PC - 2	10.0	35.0	217	7,595
3 Tract PC - 3	20.0	36.0	220	7,920
4				0
5				0
6				0
7				0
8				0
9				0
10				0
11				0
12				0
13				0
14				0
15				0
16				0
17				0
18				0
19				0
20				0
21				0
22				0
23				0
24				0
25				0
Weighted Average Plant Cane Harvested Yield (Tons/Harv. Acre) =		36.0		
Weighted Average Plant Cane Sugar per Ton (Pounds/Ton) =			220.0	
Weighted Average Plant Cane Sugar per Harvested Acre (Pounds/Harv. Acre) =				7,922

Weighted Average First Stubble Tonnage and Sugar Yields per Harvested Acre				
Tract Name	Acres	Tons/Acre	Sugar/Ton	Sugar/Acre
1 Tract FS - 1	10.0	38.0	223	8,474
2 Tract FS - 2	10.0	36.0	217	7,812
3 Tract FS - 3	20.0	37.0	220	8,140
4				0
5				0
6				0

**Worksheet # 10: Calculating Weighted Average for Land Rents**

The weighted average for land rent (H36) for up to 30 landlords (C6 to C35) is identified by the amount of acres that the producer rents(F6 to F35) and the corresponding crop share paid to that particular landlord (H6 to H35).

Weighted Average Land Rent Crop Share		
Landlord	Acres Rented	Crop Share
1 Landlord 1	250.0	16.7%
2 Landlord 2	250.0	16.7%
3 Landlord 3	500.0	20.0%
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
26		
27		
28		
29		
30		
Weighted Average Land Rent Crop Share =		18.4%

**Ending Notes**

Information that is entered into this model is intended to serve as a planning tool/production cost estimator to allow the producer to (1) project whole farm costs and returns from sugarcane production, (2) to make adjustments to those projections as the production year progresses and (3) to examine the impact of changes in yields, input prices, and other factors have on the overall projected profitability of the entire farming operation. It can be applied to the sugarcane operation as a forward-planning tool and ongoing analysis method to account for units of input and amount of sugar produced per tract less mill and land charges.

Portions of the worksheet pages are protected to prevent changes or deletions of cells containing formulas. The protections on these cells or worksheet pages can be removed to allow more flexibility in the use of this decision tool. For example, tables could be added to allow entry of individual field data and computation of average values for specific items (e.g., herbicide costs on fallow fields). To unprotect any worksheet page, click on "Tools/Protection/Unprotect Sheet."



Louisiana State University Agricultural Center  
Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service / Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station