

SMARTCANE BMP FUNDING TO CONTINUE

By Kate Gowdie
Smartcane BMP Manager

Smartcane BMP has been embraced by Queensland cane growers, there are accredited enterprises in all sugarcane areas.

The Smartcane BMP program that has been funded by the Queensland Government since its inception in 2014. It has been granted an extension and will now be funded past 30 June, until 31 December this year. During this time industry and government will negotiate a new contract to support the program longer term.

Having successfully met or exceeded all of its contractual targets to date, Smartcane BMP has well over 150,000 hectares of cane land now accredited, edging closer to 40% of the total cane area.

Over 20% of accredited growers are reaccredited, having maintained their accreditation for five years or more.

During Phase 3 of the program (October 2018 - present) there has been an average increase in accredited land of approximately 5% each year.

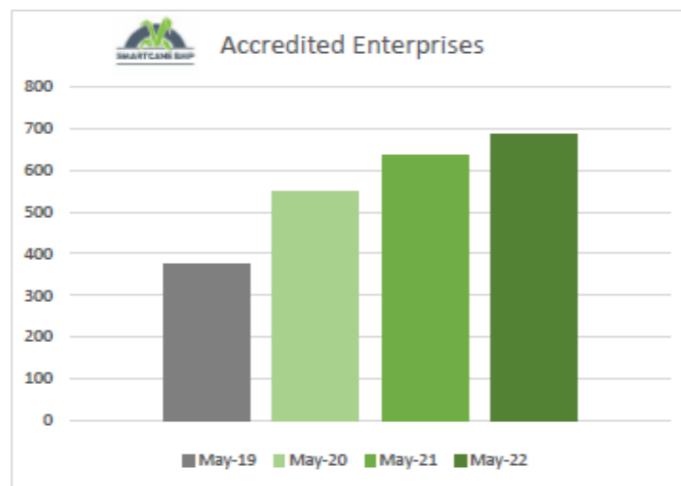
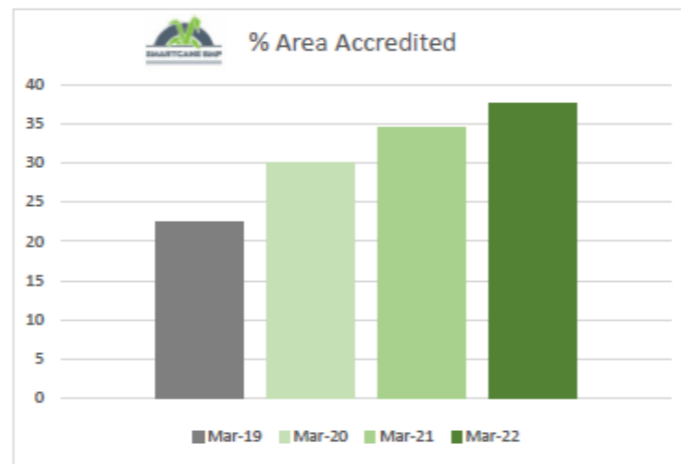
Each accreditation represents an average of 221 hectares. However accredited farms range in size from a handful of hectares through to thousands of hectares. There is no farm that is too small or too big for Smartcane BMP.

Accreditation gives growers recognition:

- Smartcane BMP is a Recognised Program under the Queensland Government's Reef Regulations and as such, accreditation in Smartcane BMP is deemed an alternate pathway to compliance.
- Alignment between Smartcane BMP standards and the requirements of Bonsucro and Vive/Protera is providing a pathway for the marketing of Australian sustainable sugar.
- Smartcane BMP standards have been recognised by several financial institutions as meeting their green credentials for responsible lending for their environmental and sustainability criteria.

FURTHER INFORMATION

To be part of this successful program and your industry's sustainable future, contact your local facilitator to find out what Smartcane BMP could mean for your business. Visit smartcane.com.au to find out more. ■



Smartcane BMP Accredited Land

Area Accredited: 153,568 ha

Accredited Enterprises: 694

1 in every 2.5 hectares of QLD cane land is accredited

20% of accredited enterprises are re-accredited

Each accreditation averages 221 hectares

Legend: = Accredited Area