OUR PURPOSE
To be a global player in growing cane and manufacturing sugar, with a particular focus on specialty sugars.

OUR BUSINESS MODEL
Our cane business is primarily a commodity business, shaped by supply and demand dynamics in the global sugar market. In addition to being a price-taker globally, our Mauritian operations are subject to pricing for the local sugar sector determined centrally by the Mauritius Sugar Syndicate (MSS). As a price-taker, our business model is determined largely by our ability to drive efficiency gains in our growing and milling activities, and by securing a price premium through our distinct offering of specialty sugars. We also benefit from our state-of-the-art technology and skills in the mechanisation of cane growing and harvesting.

In the context of the current low-price environment and continuing challenges in the global sugar market, we have adopted a predominantly defensive strategy aimed at driving operational efficiencies across our activities. Our most significant costs are related to labour, followed by repairs and maintenance, fuel and fertilisers. Informed by the recent activity-based costing exercises undertaken in our fields, mills and garage, we are further optimising our production. In addition to delivering enhanced efficiencies at our Belle Vue operation, we have been identifying ways to lower production costs at our Côte d’Ivoire operations. We are continuing to review possible growth opportunities internationally that harness our recognised technological and process skills.

Terra has been growing sugar cane and producing sugar since 1838, when the Harel brothers acquired the Belle Vue sugar estate in the north of Mauritius. Today, we have around 6,000 hectares of agricultural land, and we operate one of the most modern sugar producing factories on the island with a processing capacity of 336 tonnes of cane per hour. In a typical year, the mill processes around 875,000 tonnes of sugar cane and produces 93,000 tonnes of sugar. We also jointly manage two sugar estates and factories in Côte d’Ivoire.


People
No. of employees:
Terra Milling: 159 permanent and 240 temporary
Terragri (Agriculture): 387 permanent and 171 temporary

Injury rate:
Terra Milling: 48 accidents ▼ 28%
Terragri (Agriculture): 28 accidents ▼ 15%

Natural
5,195 hectares of land under cane cultivation ▼ 5%
6.2 million m³ of water consumed ▼ 34%
751,121 tonnes of sugar cane milled ▼ 13%
14,117 tonnes of organic fertilisers ▼ 34%
1,569 tonnes of liquid mineral fertilisers ▼ 9%
1,043 tonnes of solid fertilisers ▼ 7%
688 m³ of diesel ▼ 1%

356,494 tonnes of own cane harvested ▼ 8%
80,400 tonnes of specialty sugars produced ▼ 18%
4,395 tonnes of CO₂ from diesel ▼ 18%
13.5 m³ of used oil ▼ 7%
17.6 tonnes of used vehicle tyres ▼ 11%

Social
Quality relationships with key stakeholders including: MCIA, MSS, Terragen, planters, employees and labour representatives, and service providers

Employee turnover rate: 4%
Zero day lost to strike action
MUR 0.3 million of CSR contribution

Intellectual
Renewal of international certifications, including BRC, GMP, Halal and C-TPAT
Continuous improvement in manufacturing techniques

Financial
Cane cluster total equity (Jan 2018):
MUR 8,283.8 million
Debt financing: MUR 532.5 million
Capital expenditure: MUR 125.8 million

Turnover: MUR 835.7 million ▼ 23.3%
Loss: MUR 318.9 million ▼ 321.3%
Cane cluster total equity (Dec 2018):
MUR 7,723.0 million
Net cash and cash equivalents: MUR 49.4 million
CANE

Continuing volatility in global sugar prices – In 2018 we experienced a record low in sugar prices. This has had a profound negative impact on all global sugar producers outside tariff-protected countries. In Mauritius, the price of sugar was MUR 8,800 per tonne (2017: MUR 11,000; 2016: MUR 15,571), substantially below our break-even price.

Challenging sugar trade dynamics – The global sugar market was profoundly affected by the European Union’s abolition of sugar quotas in October 2017, which contributed to a supply surplus and resulting lower sugar prices. The global sugar market is also impacted by strong protectionist measures in many sugar-producing countries, as well as increasing regulatory pressures (such as sugar taxes) and broader trade developments such as the current US/China trade dispute.

Structural challenges in the Mauritian sugar sector – The Mauritian sugar sector has some unique features, including a highly-regulated labour environment and a centralised organisation responsible for the marketing and sale of all locally-produced sugar. Due in part to its regulations resulting from its historical legacy, the country’s sugar sector has comparatively high labour costs that negatively impacts its global competitiveness.

Sustaining supply from small-scale cane producers – The productivity of our mill and the production capacity of our specialty sugars, require a regular supply of cane from independent small-scale cane producers. Due to the current price challenges, some farmers are leaving the sector, and there is generally low interest from the younger generation to work in the fields. This year, the volume of cane secured from planters was 395,395 tonnes, down from 442,000 tonnes last year and 478,000 tonnes ten years ago.

Rainfall patterns and water availability – 60% of our fields are directly dependent on local rainfall, and thus susceptible to the uncertainties of changing weather and climate. In terms of irrigation for the remaining 40% of our fields, we face increasing competition from other users as the economy grows in the water-stressed north of Mauritius.

CANE (cont’d)

Our response

- With low sugar prices anticipated to continue at least for the short term, we have maintained a strong focus on enhancing efficiencies across our growing and milling operations. We are working to increase sugar yields and to optimise the production of our specialty sugars that command a premium price.

- We are working actively with the MSS to assist them in strengthening the branding and marketing of Mauritian sugar, and to identify new market opportunities, particularly for our distinctive specialty sugars. We believe that the longer-term fundamentals for sugar remain strong, particularly given growing consumer demand in emerging markets.

- Given the challenging changing trade and price dynamics in the global sugar market, and the substantial contribution of sugar to the Mauritian economy, we are engaging with Government to encourage measures to enhance local competitiveness. Suggested measures include: reviewing the current regulatory context for labour; providing better reward for the sector’s renewable energy sources; and ensuring that millers receive fair return from the Sugar Insurance Fund Board (SIFB).

- To ensure a regular flow of cane to our mill, we are placing a strong focus on reviving the interest of existing and prospective independent cane planters. We are working with authorities to identify opportunities to appropriately motivate the next generation of planters.

- We have undertaken a detailed assessment of water-related risks and opportunities facing the business and we are implementing measures to optimise our water consumption and ensure better utilisation of effluents for irrigation.

- We invested MUR 69.9 million in enhancing the mill’s performance and improving operational efficiencies. This year, the mill crushed an average of 5,734 tonnes of cane per day (2017: 6,287 tonnes) and it operated on average 18.9 hours per day. The extraction rate of the mill stood at 97.20 (2017: 97.36), while the milling rate was 303.4 tonnes per hour (2017: 316.1 tonnes). Through our efficiency initiatives, we reduced the cost of production of milling by MUR 47.3 million (a reduction of 9% on 2017), and the cost of growing by MUR 37.6 million (a reduction of 5% on 2017). We anticipate valuable additional efficiency improvements over the next three years through the various measures that we have been introducing.

- To drive efficiencies in our growing activities, we have been implementing more efficient harvesting and soil preparation measures, and introducing new technologies and field maintenance activities, including through the increased use of artificial fertilisers and drones. Early in the year we introduced a new procurement strategy, which has already delivered significant savings, achieved by negotiating prices and terms with existing suppliers, and through more efficient on-boarding of new suppliers.

- We have also made valuable progress in further instilling a culture of health and safety in our operations, through a combination of investments in technical equipment and a continuing focus on internal communication and employee training. These activities contributed to reducing the accident occurrence to 28 at Terragri (Agriculture) (down 15%) while at Terra Milling, the number of occurrence was 48, similar to 2017.

CÔTE D’IVOIRE: A DISAPPOINTING YEAR

This has been a disappointing year for the two sugar estates and factories in Côte d’Ivoire that we manage jointly with SIFCA, our Ivorian partner. Sucrivoire sold 109,777 tonnes of sugar (comprising 87,977 tonnes of own production and 21,800 tonnes imported), compared to 108,034 tonnes in 2017. This year, production from our factories in Borotou and Zuenoula, which collectively supply half of the sugar consumed in the country, amounted to 87,977 tonnes, compared to 82,064 tonnes in 2017. The revenue for 2018 was at par with 2017, despite a marginal increase in volume sold combined with a lower mean selling price, due to the sales mix. There were significant increases in depreciation and finance charges. No major exceptional item was recorded in 2018. Sales declined, compared to 2017 when we received insurance compensation for the fire which occurred at our factory in Zuenoula in October 2015. The above explains the losses incurred in 2018.

Furthermore, in 2018 we noted a poor management of mosaic disease in some sugarcane fields (this will take around three years to recover), low cane purity in fields, poor extraction in mills, and an inadequate monitoring of the cost of production.

Given the Côte d’Ivoire’s encouraging GDP growth rate (7.70% in 2018), we believe that the country offers valuable growth potential. Our short-term objective is to grow sugar production from current levels to around 160,000 tonnes by 2025. To do so, however, we will need to substantially increase productivity and drive further efficiencies, reducing production costs to international norms. We will continue to be involved in the operation and will be actively exploring opportunities to drive the necessary improvements.

In Mauritius, the price of sugar was MUR 8,800 per tonne (2017: MUR 11,000; 2016: MUR 15,571), substantially below our break-even price.

For irrigation – 60% of our fields are impacted by strong protectionist measures in many sugar-producing countries, as well as increasing regulatory pressures (such as sugar taxes) and broader trade developments such as the current US/China trade dispute.

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OUR STRATEGIC OUTLOOK

Our recently approved 2022 Vision for the cluster aims to ensure our continued resilience and growth in the current very challenging price environment. Our primary focus is on managing those activities where we are currently invested, improving efficiencies and further optimising production.

We have prioritised the following areas:

• Driving further efficiency and productivity gains across our operations and workforce, including through control and process automation, introducing leaner organisational structure at all levels, delivering enhanced productivity specifically in our bagging, workshop and laboratory areas, and improving stock management and transportation logistics;
• Maintaining a strong focus on embedding a change of culture across the operation;
• Ensuring continuous improvement in our manufacturing techniques;
• Optimising the production of our specialty sugars, and continuing to collaborate with MSS to enhance the global marketing, pricing and volumes of Mauritian specialty sugars;
• Partnering with others to identify and deliver solutions to motivate and retain small-scale farmers;
• Further improving our water consumption and ensuring better utilisation of effluents for irrigation.

On the back of these initiatives we are confident that we will become more competitive, hopefully also aided by Government policy changes that will assist the local sugar sector to be able to play on a more level playing field. With the recently announced closure of Medine sugar factory, we expect a volume of canes from Medine Factory Area to be rerouted to Terra Milling. We are looking to be more directly involved in our Côte d’Ivoire’s operations, which needs a significant investment in upgrading its skills-sets and equipment to sustain its future profitability. In addition to driving lean techniques across our existing operations, we will continue to explore opportunities for global diversification, harnessing our recognised technological and process skills in those regions that offer the right balance in terms of risk versus the potential return on investment.

PERFORMANCE GRAPHS

TURNOVER (MUR million)

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<th>Year</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Value</td>
<td>1,310.9</td>
<td>1,089.2</td>
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PROFIT/(LOSS) AFTER TAX (MUR million)

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<tr>
<td>Value</td>
<td>90.5</td>
<td>74.7</td>
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SUGAR PRICE (MUR per tonne)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Value</td>
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CANE HARVESTED BY TERRAGRI (Agriculture) (Tonnes)

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YIELDS PER HECTARE

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<td>CANE YIELDS (Ha)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUGAR YIELDS (Ha)</td>
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MILLING - CANE CRUSHED AND SUGAR PRODUCTION

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>CANE CRUSHED</td>
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<td>394,150</td>
<td>398,201</td>
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<td>SUGAR PRODUCTION</td>
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<td>84,000</td>
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<td>88,000</td>
<td>90,000</td>
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Cane (cont’d)