

**AGRICULTURAL
CUBA, PP. 3-42**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649274635

Agricultural Cuba, pp. 3-42 by Various

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

VARIOUS

**AGRICULTURAL
CUBA, PP. 3-42**

[Loose map catalogued & filed with
map collection]

EAS.

3/22/26

AGRICULTURAL CUBA

[Bankers' loan & securities co.,]
= New Orleans.

Condensed Facts Regarding the Products
and Possibilities of Agricultural
Development of the
Republic.

Including
Statistics and Data of
Reference

~~Bancroft Library~~
1077 Bancroft Library
University of California
WITHDRAWN

F1787
B18

AGRICULTURAL CUBA

1898
1899
1900
1901
1902
1903
1904
1905
1906
1907
1908
1909
1910
1911
1912
1913
1914
1915
1916
1917
1918
1919
1920
1921
1922
1923
1924
1925
1926
1927
1928
1929
1930
1931
1932
1933
1934
1935
1936
1937
1938
1939
1940
1941
1942
1943
1944
1945
1946
1947
1948
1949
1950
1951
1952
1953
1954
1955
1956
1957
1958
1959
1960
1961
1962
1963
1964
1965
1966
1967
1968
1969
1970
1971
1972
1973
1974
1975
1976
1977
1978
1979
1980
1981
1982
1983
1984
1985
1986
1987
1988
1989
1990
1991
1992
1993
1994
1995
1996
1997
1998
1999
2000
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
2017
2018
2019
2020
2021
2022
2023
2024
2025

THE Cuban Department of Agriculture, Commerce and Labor while under the direction of a member of the National Cabinet, is sub-divided into three distinct departments for purposes of efficiency. One section supervises the sugar and tobacco plantations, maintains an agronomic station and experimental farm and publishes an official bulletin along educational lines. This department has in charge agricultural colonization, the official cattle register and the meteorological service.

The second section has in charge all matters pertaining to Mines, Forests, Banks, Mercantile Establishments and Corporations. The Copyright, Trade-mark and Patent Offices, as well as the Bureau of Weights and Measures and the Bureau of Labor and Colonization and in short all matters relating to the promotion and regulation of Commerce and Industry come under the control of this section.

A third section regulates hunting, fishing, the protection of birds and deals with the protection against pests.

In this work we deal more particularly with agricultural products as they are known in the United States, instead of attempting to cover the varying duties of the Department as a whole.

At first glance it would appear that this department is too broad in its scope but when we realize that the Republic of Cuba in area is about the same size as our Pennsylvania, the reason for grouping these departments will be apparent.

SUGAR THE LEADING CROP

The production of cane sugar represents seventy-seven per cent of the agriculture of Cuba. Climate and soil make Cuba the natural sugar growing country of the world and a reading of the following will demonstrate the importance of this crop in international commerce.

AVERAGE PRODUCTIVITY

An acre of ground in Cuba ordinarily produces about ten (10) sacks, but the average for the Island is about twelve sacks, since considerable of the new land will produce far more than the average. Twelve sacks per acre represents 3900 lbs. of sugar, each sack weighing thirteen arrobas of twenty-five pounds each, or a total of 325 pounds per sack. Thus, even under minimum conditions, a sack of sugar is worth approximately \$8.50. If the grower plants on land belonging to the mill his share is from forty-five to fifty per cent on the "first" sugar, that is, the first-grade sugar. This is about four and one-half or five per cent of the weight of the cane, and at twelve sacks to the acre will amount to from \$45.90 to \$51.00 per acre. If the owner plants on his own land, he receives from fifty-five to sixty per cent of the first-grade sugar, or approximately five and one-half to six per cent of the weight of his cane in sugar, which would amount to from \$56.00 to \$61.00 per acre; the remainder going to the mill. The mill receives the benefit of all second grade sugar, which is from one and one-half to two sacks of sugar to the acre. It also receives all of the molasses.

Sugar cane is a crop to count upon and it is one that does not require the care and delicate attention necessary for the production of tobacco and other sensitive crops. To those of limited circumstances, cane offers great opportunities since the mills make liberal allowances in advances to the growers, furnishing them with oxen, implements and provisions necessary to carry them through the (crop) season. The production of cane does not require a great amount of skill. The plowing for Spring planting is done in January, February and March, and planting in April and May. Fall planting is done in August and as late as September, sometimes.

CUBA'S CANE SUGAR PRODUCTION

According to Mr. H. A. Himely, Sugar Statistician, Cuba has produced the greater portion of the world's sugar supply since 1854, as shown by the following figures:

Year	Tons	Year	Tons
1853.....	322,000	1885.....	631,967
1854.....	374,000	1886.....	731,723
1855.....	392,000	1887.....	646,578
1856.....	348,000	1888.....	656,719
1857.....	355,000	1889.....	560,333
1858.....	385,000	1890.....	632,368
1859.....	536,000	1891.....	819,760
1860.....	447,000	1892.....	976,789
1861.....	466,000	1893.....	815,894
1862.....	525,000	1894.....	1,054,214
1863.....	507,000	1895.....	1,004,264
1864.....	575,000	1896.....	225,221
1865.....	620,000	1897.....	212,051
1866.....	612,000	1898.....	305,543
1867.....	597,000	1899.....	345,260
1868.....	749,000	1900.....	308,543
1869.....	726,000	1901.....	635,856
1870.....	726,000	1902.....	850,181
1871.....	547,000	1903.....	998,878
1872.....	690,000	1904.....	1,040,228
1873.....	775,000	1905.....	1,163,258
1874.....	681,000	1906.....	1,198,749
1875.....	718,000	1907.....	1,427,673
1876.....	590,000	1908.....	961,958
1877.....	520,000	1909.....	1,513,582
1878.....	533,000	1910.....	1,804,349
1879.....	670,000	1911.....	1,480,217
1880.....	530,000	1912.....	1,893,687
1881.....	493,764	1913.....	2,429,240
1882.....	595,837	1914.....	2,596,567
1883.....	460,397	1915.....	2,582,845
1884.....	553,987	1916.....	3,205,571 (Estimated)

It will be noted that there has been a general increase in production since 1897, when 212,000 tons were produced, as against 3,000,000 tons, estimated, in 1916.

The value of Cuba's sugar crop forms an accurate index to her commercial prosperity. The average annual value for some years past has been in the neighborhood of \$165,000,000.00. The first year of the European War raised this figure to \$204,000,000.00, and with the increased acreage of cane, which high prices naturally brought forth, some 3,000,000 tons have been produced in 1916, at a value of over \$250,000,000.00. In all Latin-American countries, there is no one industry that yields comparatively anything like this sum for export, and when one considers that the area of Cuba is but 47,000 square miles, and that her population is but 2,500,000, a clear conception can be formed of the importance of the sugar industry in Cuba.

This industry alone produces an average of \$100.00 for every man, woman and child in the Republic.

Every acre in cane in Cuba means \$90.00 to \$100.00 of wealth, and only about one-fifth of the available land is utilized for sugar growing. Many an estate, during the last year, has yielded a return that more than equals the full value of the property, including land and implements.

Because of the careful method of handling, both by individual owners of plantations, and for the purpose of recording the shares of "Colonas" or tenant farmers, it is possible to definitely publish a table of costs which may be taken as authentic in sugar production:

ESTIMATE OF THE COST

Of converting one hundred acres of grass land into sugar cane together with the profits derived from same during a period of two years.

FIRST YEAR

Cost of plowing, planting and cultivating, first year.....	\$ 2,400.00
Cost of cutting 240,000 arrobas (15 pounds).....	2,400.00
Cost of hauling to mill.....	1,200.00
Incidentals per 100 acres.....	1,200.00

\$ 7,200.00

Yield of cane per 100 acres, 240,000 arrobas.

Amount of sugar received in exchange for said cane at the rate of 6 arrobas for each 100 arrobas of cane, 14,400 arrobas.

14,400 arrobas—360,000 pounds of sugar @ 4c.....	\$14,400.00
Expense of planting, cultivating and delivering same, first year.....	7,200.00

Profit per 100 acres.....	\$ 7,200.00
Gross returns on 1,000 acres.....	144,000.00
Gross expenses on 1,000 acres.....	72,000.00

Net profit on 1,000 acres.....	\$72,000.00
Net returns per acre.....	72.00

SECOND YEAR

Cost of cleaning.....	\$ 1,200.00
Cost of cutting 100 acres of cane.....	2,400.00
Cost of hauling to mill.....	1,200.00
Incidentals per 100 acres.....	400.00

\$ 5,200.00

Gross returns on 1,000 acres.....	\$144,000.00
Gross expenses on 1,000 acres.....	52,000.00

Net profit on 1,000 acres.....	\$ 92,000.00
Net returns per acre.....	92.00

In the total profits, drawn at the conclusion, 1,000 acres are taken since the latter represent the usual size of a colona.