

## *News Release*

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### **USDA ANNOUNCES REVISIONS TO 2002-CROP CANE SUGAR MARKETING ALLOTMENTS AND ALLOCATIONS**

WASHINGTON, March 13, 2003 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) today announced the reassignment of unused cane sugar allocations from processors in Hawaii and Puerto Rico to processors in Louisiana, Texas and Florida.

While CCC is required to make a determination on the need for reassignments by May 1, CCC is taking this action earlier at the request of sugarcane producers and processors, to better reflect actual 2002-crop sugar supply, particularly in Louisiana. Hurricanes in Louisiana last November caused distortions in mill production levels relative to their allocations and unexpectedly prevented the marketing of sugar. In an effort to realign mill allocations, CCC sent out a survey to cane processors in February 2003 to capture revisions to expected 2002-crop sugar supply.

The Hawaiian cane allotment was reduced by 22,951 short tons, raw value (STRV), while Puerto Rico's allotment was reduced by 5,946 STRV. Florida gained 15,864 STRV, Louisiana gained 9,280 STRV and Texas gained 3,753 STRV.

The final allotments/allocations were calculated from a combination of two steps: First, because 50 percent of cane sugar state allotments and processor allocations are based on the estimate of current crop production, updated production estimates from the February survey yielded new allotments/allocations (See column B of the attached table). Cane sugar marketing allotments/allocations will change throughout the year as the estimates of current production improve. Second, based on the February survey results, 30,947 STRV were reassigned from Hawaii and Puerto Rico processors. This amount was then proportionately redistributed only to those cane processors, who revealed in the same survey, a shortfall in allocation for the current crop year. (See column C of the attached table).

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The revised 2002-crop cane sugar state marketing allotments and processor allocations are listed in the following table:

**Fiscal Year 2003 Sugar Marketing Allotments and Allocations (revised March, 2003)**

	B	C	D	E
	Jan 03 Revised Allotment/Allocation	Change in Allotment/Allocation due ONLY to New Processor Production Estimates	Change in Allotment/Allocation due ONLY to Reassignments	New Allotment/ Allocation
		--- Short Tons	Raw Value ---	
<b>OVERALL BEET/CANE ALLOTMENTS</b>				
Beet Sugar	4,456,700	0	0	4,456,700
Cane Sugar (includes P. Rico)	3,743,300	0	0	3,743,300
TOTAL (Overall Allotment Quantity)	8,200,000	0	0	8,200,000
<b>STATE CANE SUGAR ALLOTMENTS:</b>				
Florida	1,929,516	-6,424	22,288	1,945,380
Louisiana	1,330,912	4,673	4,607	1,340,192
Texas	157,872	1,750	2,002	161,625
Hawaii	318,829	49	-23,000	295,878
Puerto Rico	6,171	-49	-5,897	225
TOTAL CANE SUGAR	3,743,300	0	0	3,743,300
Florida				
Atlantic Sugar Assoc.	144,869	2,573	930	148,371
Growers Co-op. of FL	350,846	-7,135	701	344,412
Okeelanta Corp.	389,302	-9,128	7,602	387,776
Osceola Farms Co.	227,315	-2,212	4,472	229,575
Talisman Sugar Corp.	59,660	-947	0	58,713
U.S. Sugar Corp.	757,524	10,425	8,584	776,532
TOTAL	1,929,516	-6,424	22,288	1,945,380
Louisiana				
Alma Plantation	77,818	-6,006	823	72,635
Caire & Graugnard	5,597	495	0	6,091
Cajun Sugar Co-op.	97,645	2,940	471	101,056
Cora-Texas Mfg. Co.	116,530	2,388	379	119,297
Evan Hall Factory	2,797	121	-2,918	0
Harry Laws & Co.	58,181	-4,054	921	55,048
Iberia Sugar Co-op.	62,798	1,746	0	64,543
Jeanerette Sugar Co.	63,305	-1,283	400	62,422
Lafourche Sugars Corp.	72,494	-8,059	5	64,441
Louisiana Sugarcane Co-op.	82,781	-1,858	83	81,006

Lula Westfield, LLC	143,145	4,678	3	147,826
M.A. Patout & Sons	173,937	5,992	3,361	183,290
Raceland Sugars	78,082	4,323	111	82,516
St. Mary Sugar Co-op.	92,875	-4,531	325	88,669
So. Louisiana Sugars Co-op.	115,098	3,268	0	118,366
Sterling Sugars	87,830	4,512	644	92,986
TOTAL	1,330,912	4,673	4,607	1,340,192
Texas				
Rio Grande Valley	157,872	1,750	2,002	161,625
Hawaii				
Gay & Robinson, Inc.	62,163	2,135	0	64,298
Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company	256,666	-2,086	-23,000	231,580
TOTAL	318,829	49	-23,000	295,878
Puerto Rico				
Agraso	3,984	-32	-3,727	225
Roig	2,187	-17	-2,170	0
TOTAL	6,171	-49	-5,897	225

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