



## To: All Members of the Jamaica Association of Sugar Technologists

### Conference Reflections

The 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference held on November 7 & 8, 2013, was another successful event put on by the Association. Well over 200 persons registered each day and participated in the Conference. JAST is indeed proud of its continuing role in promoting technical discussions in the Jamaica Sugar Industry. It is this Association through its many events including Annual Conferences that has kept our industry focused, especially during the very challenging times.

The Symposium “*Tackling the Sugar Cane Production Needs of the Industry*” underscored many important points. The first step towards achieving the primary goal of 3.5 mil tonnes cane is to produce 2.0 mil tonnes by 2016.

Pan Caribbean Sugar outlined its many plans to upgrade its plant’s facilities, increase cane production to some 1.2 mil tonnes, upgrade the work skills of its people and strengthen its management capabilities.

The Wray & Nephew Group is advancing towards the 400,000 tonnes mark, but noted some important issues to be addressed. These include the continuation of an effective Extension Service to growers, establishment of Certified Seed Cane Nurseries, tackling the irrigation and drainage problems, improving productivity, improved management and urgently deal with the shortage of equipment.

Golden Grove Sugar has upgraded its factory and is on track to increase sugar cane production to well over 300,000 tonnes and has plans as well for co-generation

Everglades has carried out significant upgrading of its factory and is now focusing on increasing cane production towards the 200,000 tonnes mark.

Worthy Park has remained consistent, but its ability to expand is being restricted by cane supply. Their greatest concern is the access to additional lands on a long-term basis to meet production goals. The demand for high yielding, disease resistant sugar cane varieties remains high on the agenda to maintain high productivity and profitability.

Cane farmers are expected to contribute in excess of 1.4 mil tonnes cane of the required target. In this regard, Cambria Farms hopes to regain and maintain productivity levels above 10 ts/ha. Their desire is for the availability of more improved sugar cane varieties and in general better management of the Industry’s affairs.

### The Executive Committee 2013/2014

Results of ballots circulated for the election of the Executive Committee were announced at the 76<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, held on Thursday, November 07, 2013. The full list of the Executive including Vice-Presidents elected at the first

meeting of the Executive Committee held on Tuesday, January 28, 2014 are as follows:-

<b>President</b>	<b>Mr. Derek Little - SIRI</b>
<b>Agricultural Section</b>	<b>Ms. Paulette Wright, VP - SIRI</b> Mr. Gary Simpson - New Yarmouth Mr. James Fearon - SIRI
<b>Manufacturing Section</b>	<b>Mr. Delroy Foster, VP - Appleton</b> Mr. Richard Bryan - Appleton Mrs. Elaine Manning - SIRI
<b>Management/Accounting Section</b>	<b>Mr. Keith Scott, VP - SIA</b> Mr. Herman Chambers - W/Park Mr. Michael Martin - SPF
<b>Recording Secretary</b>	Ms. Paulette Wright - SIRI
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mr. Cecil Woolery - SIRI
<b>IPP</b>	<b>Mr. Ian Maxwell - Appleton</b>
<b>Ex Officio Members</b>	Dr. Earle Roberts - SIRI Mr. Trevor Falloon - SIRI

### Up Coming Event

The 45<sup>th</sup> Council Session of the International Sugar Organization (ISO), will be held in Jamaica at the Hilton Rose Hall Hotel, May 27-29, 2014, commencing with registration at 8:00 a.m.

This Council Session will attract delegates, including persons with ministerial portfolios, from well over sixty (60) countries.

The Conference will be held under the Theme “**Positioning for the New Market Frontiers**”. The occasion will highlight the importance of Jamaica’s Sugar Industry and will be a boost to Jamaica’s Tourism.

Chairman of the Council Session of the ISO is Ambassador Derick Heaven, Executive Chairman, Sugar Industry Authority, Jamaica.

There will be several presentations from overseas delegates as well as Jamaicans.

Persons desirous of attending should contact the following:  
**ISO Conference Coordinator:**

*Mrs. Sonia Rickards*  
Tel: 876 817 0948, 876 862 9768  
[email: sonmay3@yahoo.com](mailto:sonmay3@yahoo.com) or [sonmay3@gmail.com](mailto:sonmay3@gmail.com)

OR

*Mr. Keith Scott*  
Sugar Industry Authority  
Tel: 876 960 1224-30, 876 920 3650-3  
[email: kscott@cwjamaica.com](mailto:kscott@cwjamaica.com)

“JAST Keeping the Industry in the Forefront of Technology”