



100%
Locally grown
Australian owned
Certified sustainable

SUNSHINE SUGAR
T/A MANILDRA HARWOOD SUGARS
ABN 27 193 549 446
Corporate Office: Suite 1 Level 1
Cnr River & Martin Streets Ballina NSW 2478
T: +61 2 6681 2700 F: +61 2 6681 2799
E: ballina@sunshinesugar.com.au

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MEDIA RELEASE

New Chapter in the Processing of Sugarcane

A partnership between Sunshine Sugar and Sustinent, is set to deliver environmental, nutritional and commercial returns for the NSW Sugar Industry and beyond.

The industry has been working for many years on a viable system for processing sugar cane trash, or leaf matter – it has been a key focus of research programs.

In an effort to find a long-term solution, Sunshine Sugar co-financed a feasibility study with Sustinent to investigate innovative fibrous waste utilisation solutions. Sustinent is an Australian biotechnology company based in NSW. They develop scalable, clean, safe ways to transform crop stalks, timber and garden waste, into livestock feed.

The primary objective of the feasibility study was to find an effective method of processing sugar cane waste (trash) on a scale that is; environmentally friendly, commercially viable for all parties including the growers, and able to work on a scale required for Sunshine Sugar's operational size.

Sunshine Sugar CEO, Chris Connors is pleased to announce; "Extensive laboratory testing by Sunshine Sugar and Sustinent has confirmed a viable production process for Nutritionally Enhanced Sugarcane Straw (NESS) for use in stockfeed."

A ready market is awaiting the production of the NESS product as a ruminant stockfeed, along with a proven distribution channel for the fibre supplement as part of a targeted equine feed having been identified.

Driven by the ongoing demand for livestock feed products, Sunshine Sugar, under the guidance of Sustinent, is aiming to set up a large (10,000 tonne) pilot production at their Harwood Mill site, with anticipated product output by September 2020.

Peter Tomich CEO of Sustinent said; "There have been some excellent results in the protein enrichment trials undertaken and we have established strong pre-sale contracts for the NESS product. We believe that following the pilot plant, a large-scale facility can be established, which can eventually deal with all the NSW sugar cane trash. During this process, we have developed a very strong and productive relationship with Sunshine Sugar and are looking forward to building on the strong foundation to date."

For further information:

CHRIS CONNORS | CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER | P: 02 6681 2706

VIVIEN MILLER | COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER | P: 02 6640 0467 | M: 0458 477 474

PETER TOMICH | CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER – SUSTINENT | P: 0450 574 908