

Rain brings relief to growers after long dry spell

While storm winds have unfortunately caused chaos and destruction in some Mackay and surrounding areas, rain from the super cell storms raging across Isaac, Mackay and Whitsundays last night has been a boon for the region's cane growers and the 2018 sugarcane crop.

Chairman of CANEGROWERS Mackay Kevin Borg said while heavy falls had been received on crops in isolated areas, generally the falls had been very welcome, but moderate.

"We are now very hopeful the forecast for coming days of more rain - with some predicting accumulated totals of around 200-250mm - come to fruition," Mr Borg said.

"Good follow-up rain, soaking rain spread over a period of time, would be just the break the 2018 crop needs after a concerning long dry spell through January and the first half of February.

"The long dry period put the crop's growth rate virtually on hold and as it stands now, the crop is behind where it should be – rain will go a long way to bringing it back," he said.

ENDS

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