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U.S. SUGAR SCHEDULED TO START ANNUAL SUGARCANE HARVEST OCTOBER 1, 2011

2011-2012 HARVEST STARTS SATURDAY WITH CLEWISTON REFINERY EXPECTED TO TOP 15 MILLION CWT.

Clewiston, FL – September 30, 2011—With U.S. Sugar's Clewiston Refinery on pace for another record-breaking year, the Company is scheduled to begin its annual sugarcane harvest early Saturday, October 1. The Clewiston Sugar Factory will commence processing the first railcars of cane Saturday as well. Both the harvesting and processing operations operate 24/7 during the sugarcane harvest season that runs through late March.

"This crop has been hampered by extreme drought, a drought that was exacerbated by the Corps's deliberate flushing of fresh water from Lake Okeechobee to tide," said Judy Sanchez, senior director of corporate communications and public affairs. "With the weather roller coaster that we've been on the past several years, it's getting harder to remember what a normal crop was like."

"Summer rains have helped some with its recovery, but we've lost tens of millions of dollars of sugar and energy production from this cane crop," Sanchez said. "The smaller crops of the last few years are especially painful given that sugar prices have been running higher than average due to more global demand and weather issues in Brazil and India."

Sanchez said that U.S. Sugar expects to harvest approximately 6.2 million tons of sugarcane. The Clewiston Refinery is projecting another record-breaking year, anticipated to produce 15 million cwt. of refined sugar for the first time in company history.

U.S. Sugar's 2010-11 sugarcane crop that suffered devastating freezing temperatures produced 5.6 million tons of cane that yielded 594,000 tons of raw sugar. To support the Refinery's continued record-breaking pace, U.S. Sugar imported 90,000 tons of foreign raw sugar for refining – enabling the Clewiston Refinery to produce over 13.86 million cwt. of refined sugar. In addition to sugar production, the 2010-11 crop produced over 36 million gallons of molasses and produced 210,000 MWhr of electric power. Both molasses and energy are annual co-products of the cane milling process.

"Our company's green, renewable energy production from sugarcane replaces 70 million gallons of fuel oil or 1.63 million barrels of fossil fuels each year, Sanchez said. "We produce enough clean, green renewable energy to power the equivalent of more than 20,000 households for a year."

All of the company's refined sugar products are marketed by United Sugars Corporation, a marketing cooperative that includes U.S. Sugar and beet sugar farmers and processors American Crystal Sugar and Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative.

U.S. Sugar's state-of-the-art sugar milling and refining operations make its Clewiston Sugar Factory the world's largest fully integrated and automated cane sugar processing facility.

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