

**Expert Workshop for the How2Guide for Bioenergy**  
Biomass Resources and Bioenergy Potential in South America

# Tools for Assessing Production Costs

**Carlos Eduardo O Xavier**  
PhD Researcher PECEGE  
University of Sao Paulo

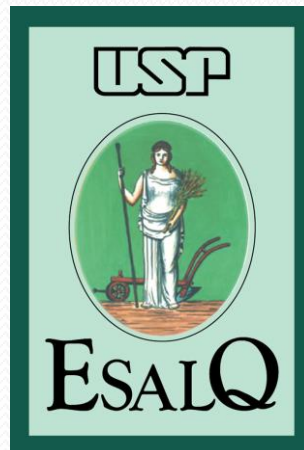
Piracicaba – Brazil  
November 29<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

# AGENDA

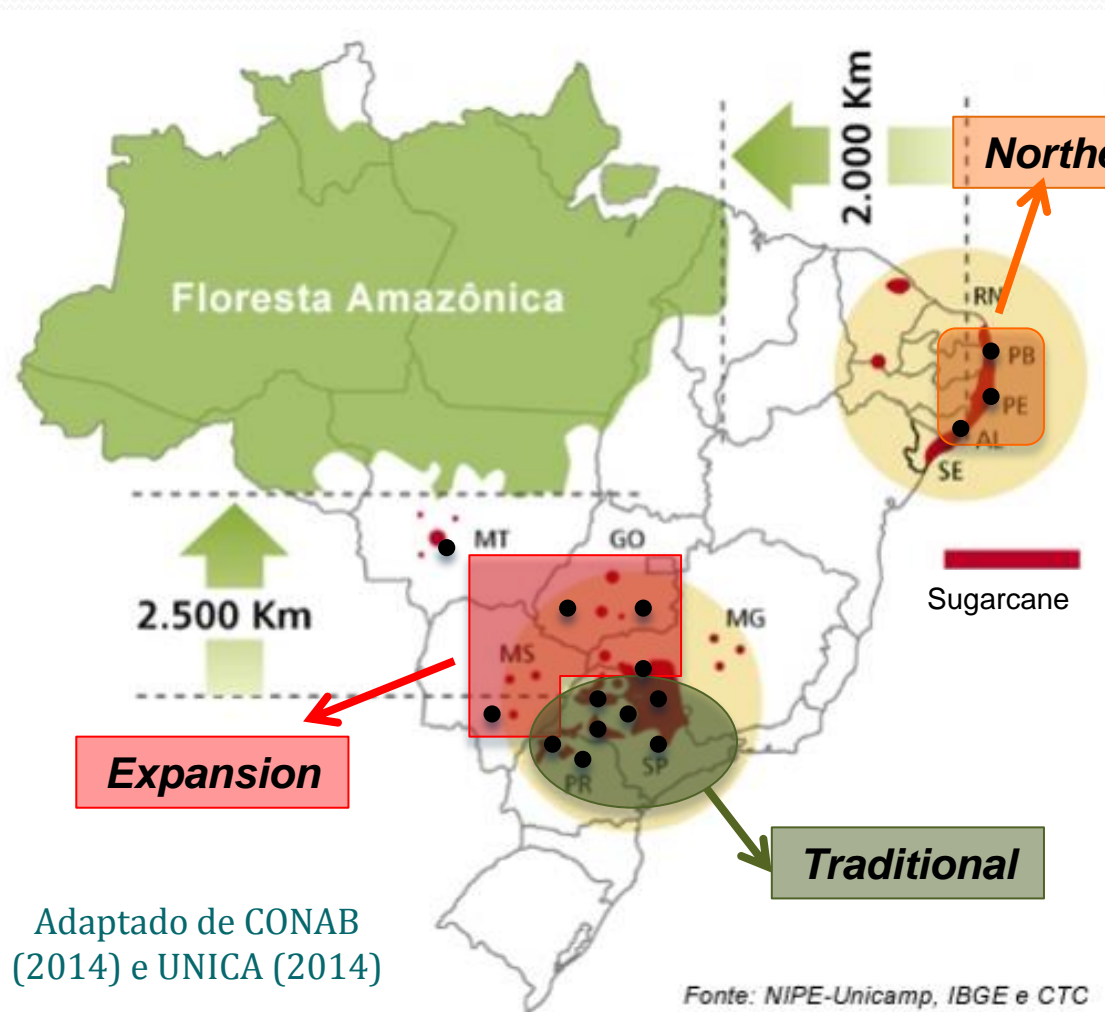
1. The university extension project
2. Methodology
3. Key results
4. Take-way messages

# The extension project

- Started in 2008 organized by PECEGE (University of Sao Paulo Extension Group) and 100% funded by CNA (Brazilian Confederation of Agriculture and Livestock);
- Goal of create a methodology to measure and survey crop-year average costs of sugarcane, sugar and ethanol in Brazil.

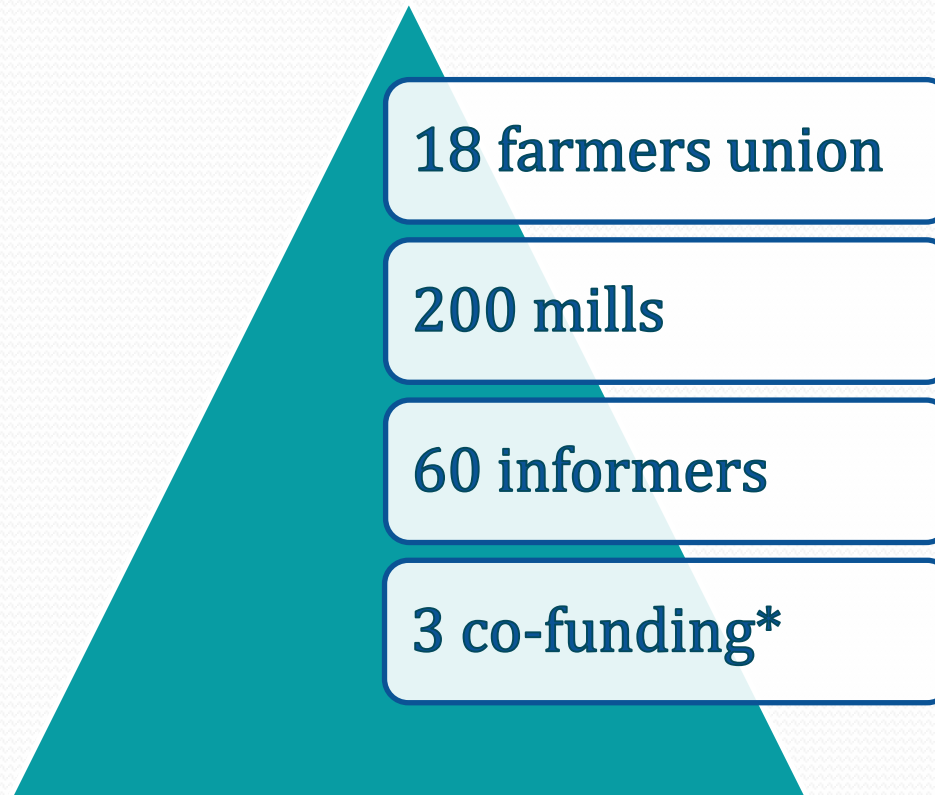


# The extension project



- Define crop-year averaged costs of 3 Brazilian production regions;
- Collect the average farmer cost in the 15 most important cane farmers unions
- Invite all the mills in the main areas of the analysis to participated of the survey

# The extension project - Sample



\* Subscribers of "Portal PECEGE de Informações Sucreenergéticas"

## Sample in 2014:

- 1/3 of Brazilian cane production (213 million tons);
- 16 of the 30 top players.

# Methodology

***FARMERS “PAINEL”*** – MEETING WITH FARMERS TO DEFINE THE “TYPICAL” FARMER IN THE AREA ESPECIFING TECHNOLOGY, CONSUMPTION AND PRICES.



CATANDUVA - SP



GOIATUBA - GO

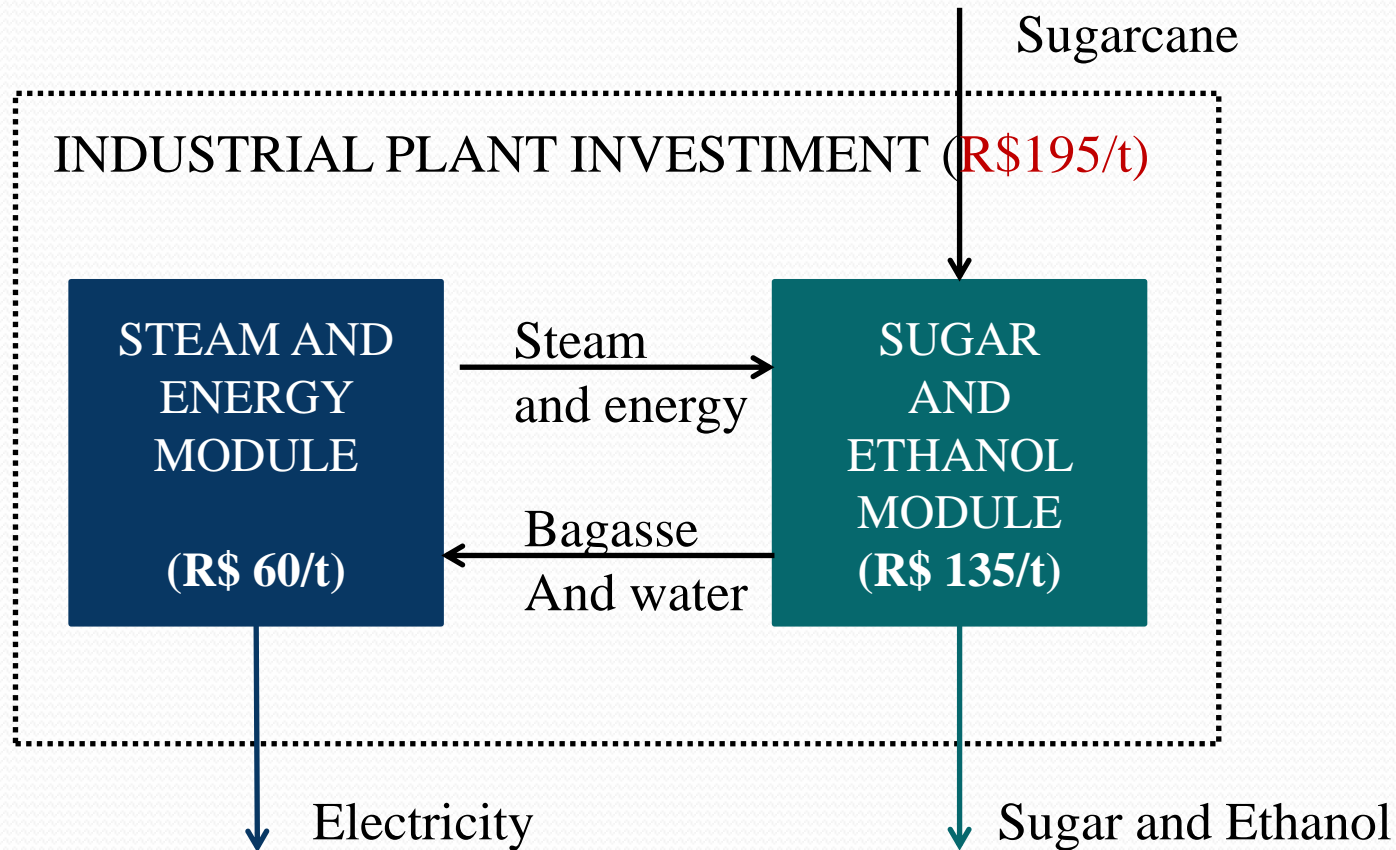


SERTÃOZINHO - SP

***MILLS***– PHONE CONTACT, FOLOWED BY QUESTIONNARY FILLED USING PECEGE’S SYSTEMS ASSISTANCE.



# Methodology



## ASSUMPTIONS:

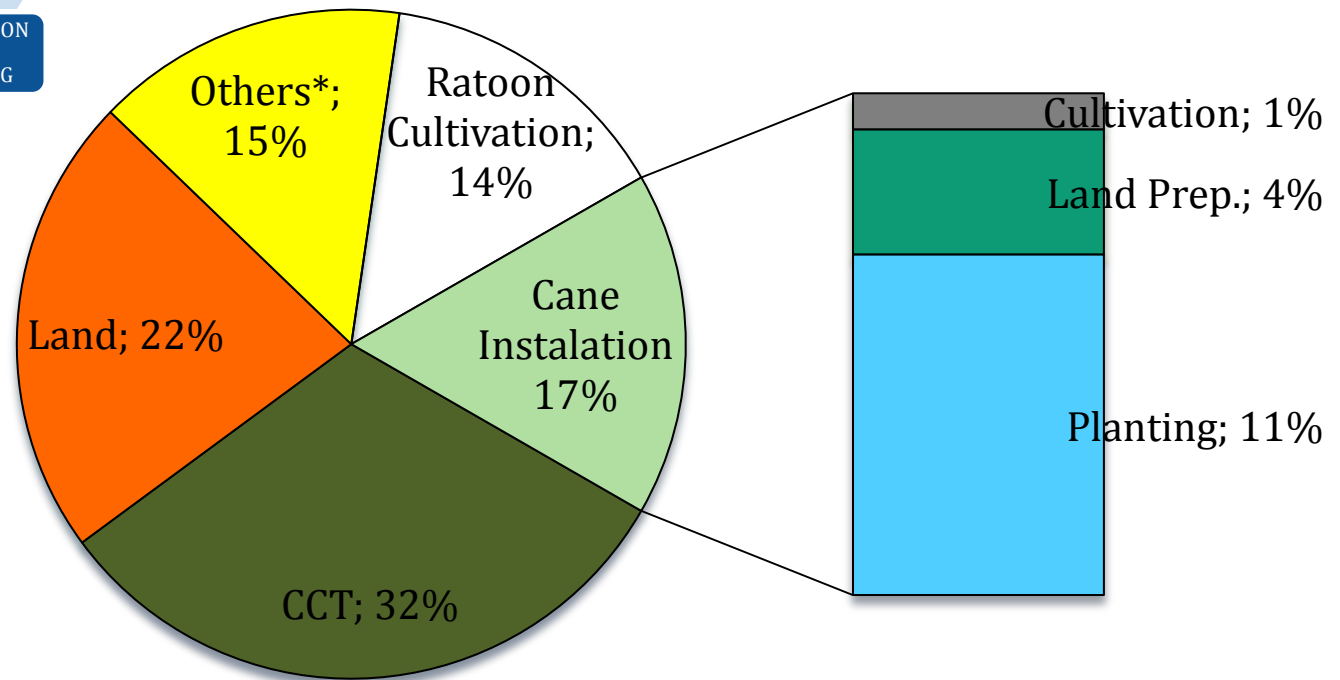
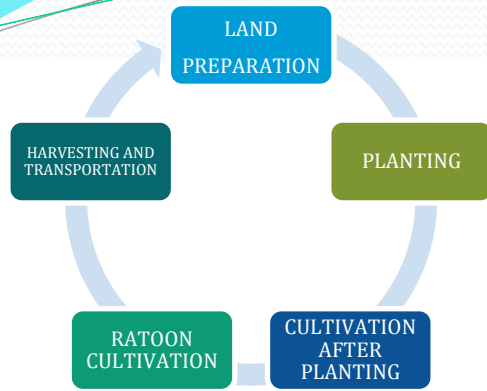
*Sugarcane planting is considered stable each year*

*Mill of 2,4 million tons cane crushing capacity*

*Linear depreciation: 30 year*

*Opportunity cost to capital investment: real interest rate 6% a.y.*

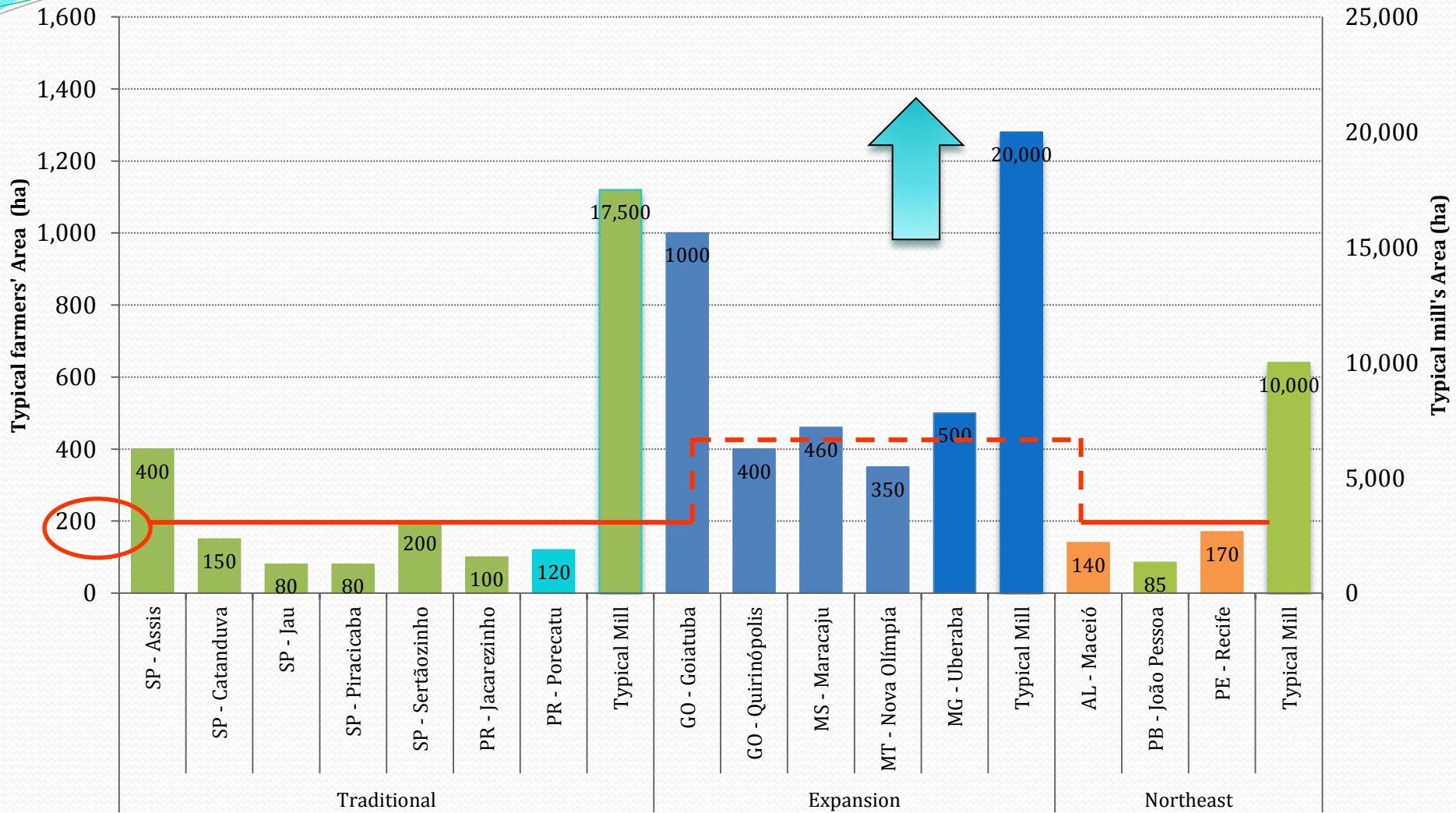
# Methodology/Key Results



*\*Management costs, working capital, assets depreciations, Farmers wage and capital cost (but land)*

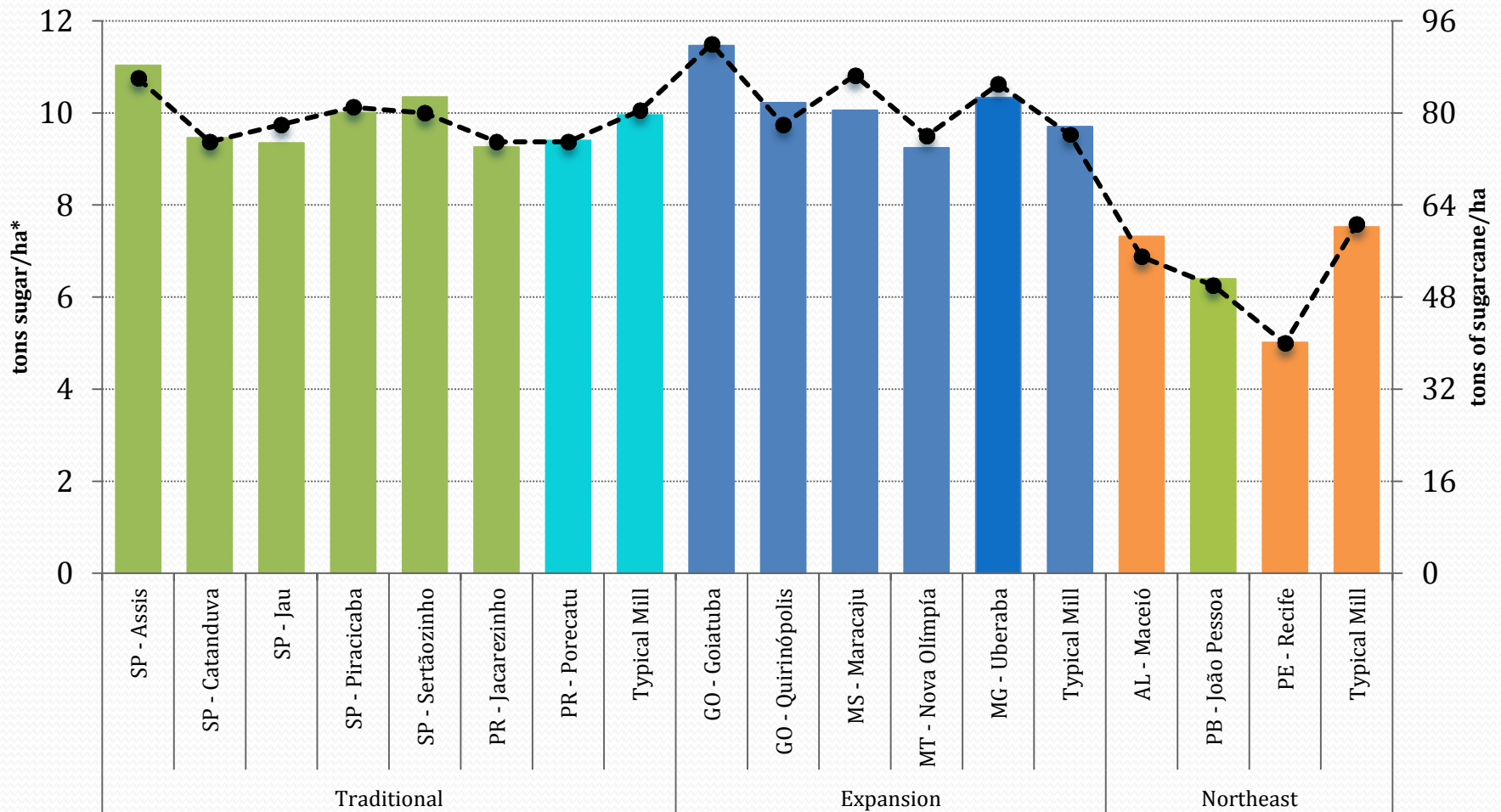


# Key Results



Only in Goiatuba and Maracaju region the typical famer share its cane production area with another crop which is soybeans in both cases and use 50% of the area

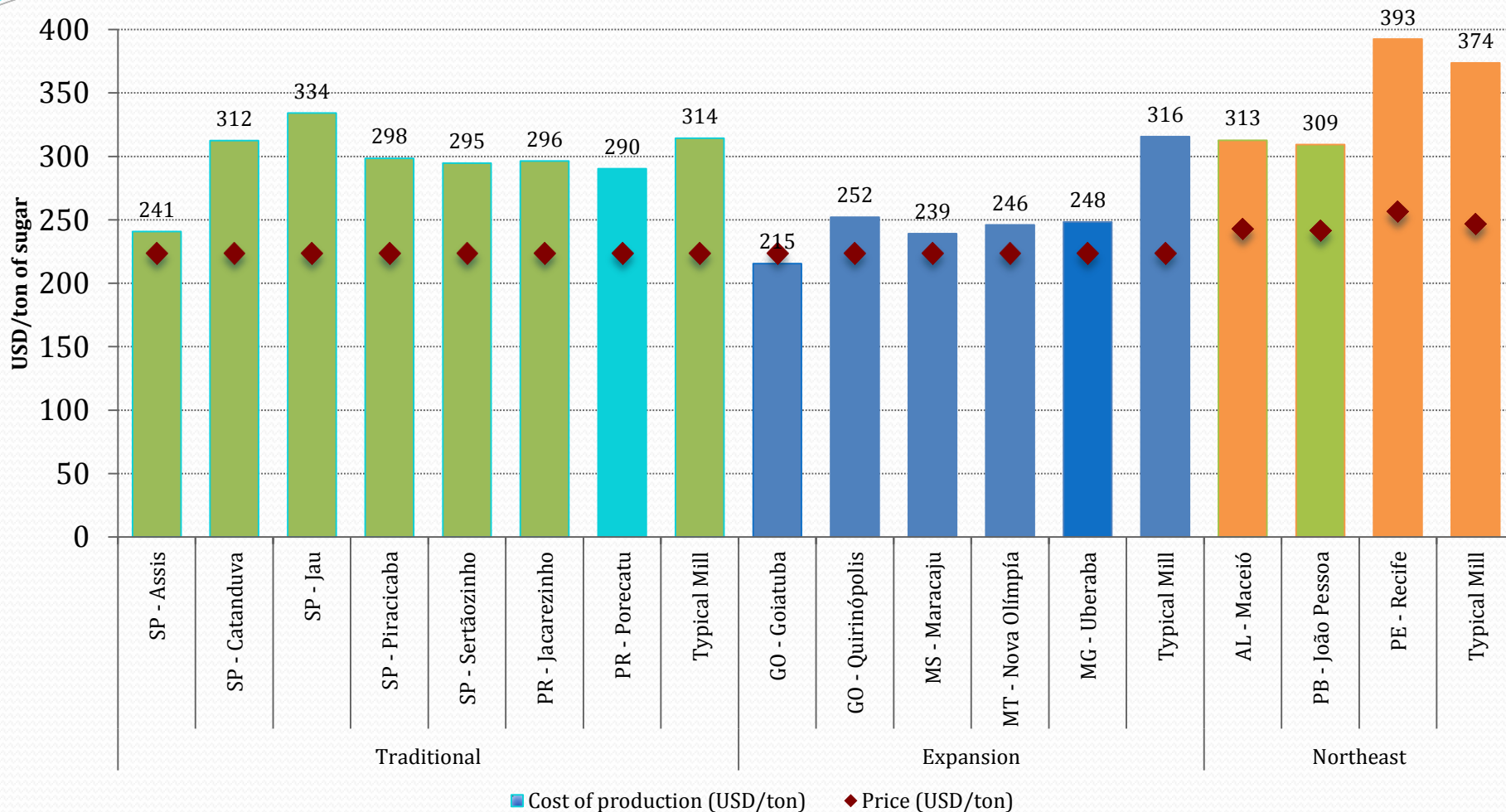
# Key Results – *Productivity in 2014 (farmers)*



\* The sugar production considers the use of all sugar content of cane (sucrose and other) considering the production of 0,95 ton of sugar per ton of ATR . This assumption is only possible if there is a join production of sugar and ethanol as happens in the Brazilian industry.

**The average sugar production in Center-South (Traditional and Expansion) of Brazil was 10 tons of sugar/ha while in the Northeast was 6.3 tons/ha**

# Key Results – Cost of production in 2014 (farmers)



\* The exchange rate considered was 2,15 R\$/USD

1/3 of cane produced by farmers get 50% discount in the price paid to harvesting and transportation services (its represent around USD 45/ton of sugar)

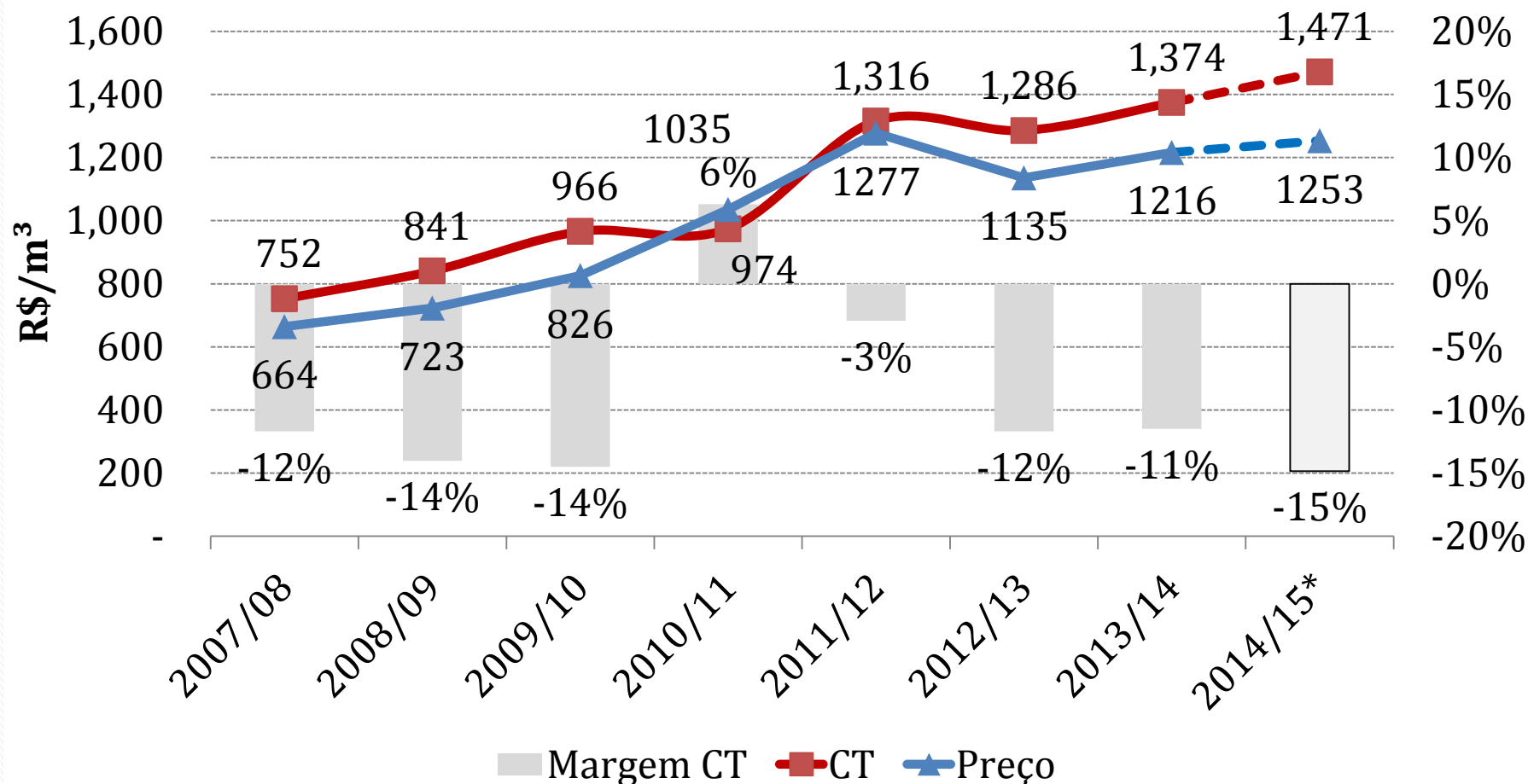
## Key Results – *Farmers costs*

Key Indicators	Values
sugar cane yield (ton/ha)	80
sugar content (kg of sucrose equivalent per ton)	125,77
working hours per ha	17,5
labour costs per (USD/h)	USD 4,90
sugar cane price (USD/ton)	USD 28,15
sugar cane seeds use (ton/ha)	15
seed costs (USD/ha)	USD 514,92
harvest cost (USD/ton)	USD 6,29
loading costs (USD/ton)	USD 1,94
transport costs to sugar cane mil (USD/ton)	USD 3,22
type of mechanisation	Mechanized
harvesting and transportation	contracted

\* Avegared number for 2014 considering R\$/USD= 2,15

# Key Results

## Hydrated ethanol cost, price and margin evolution in Traditional region



**Averaged annual losses of R\$ 106/m³ (-9% do TC) in the last 8 crop-years.**  
**Only 50% of the cost of the investment was paid**  
**In 2013/14 crop-year electricity profits could recovery 50% of ethanol losses**

# Key Results

## *Distribution of Ethanol cost in Brazil in 2013/14 crop-year*

**LOW: ↓ R\$ 1.200 m<sup>3</sup>**

**16% of mills**

*31% of mills Traditional  
11% of mills Expansion*

**REGULAR: R\$ 1.200-1.350/m<sup>3</sup>**

**28% of mills**

*32% of mills Expansion  
32% of mills Traditional*

**HIGH: R\$ 1.350-1.500/m<sup>3</sup>**

**27% of mills**

*25% of mills Expansion  
26% of mills Traditional  
38% of mills Northeast*

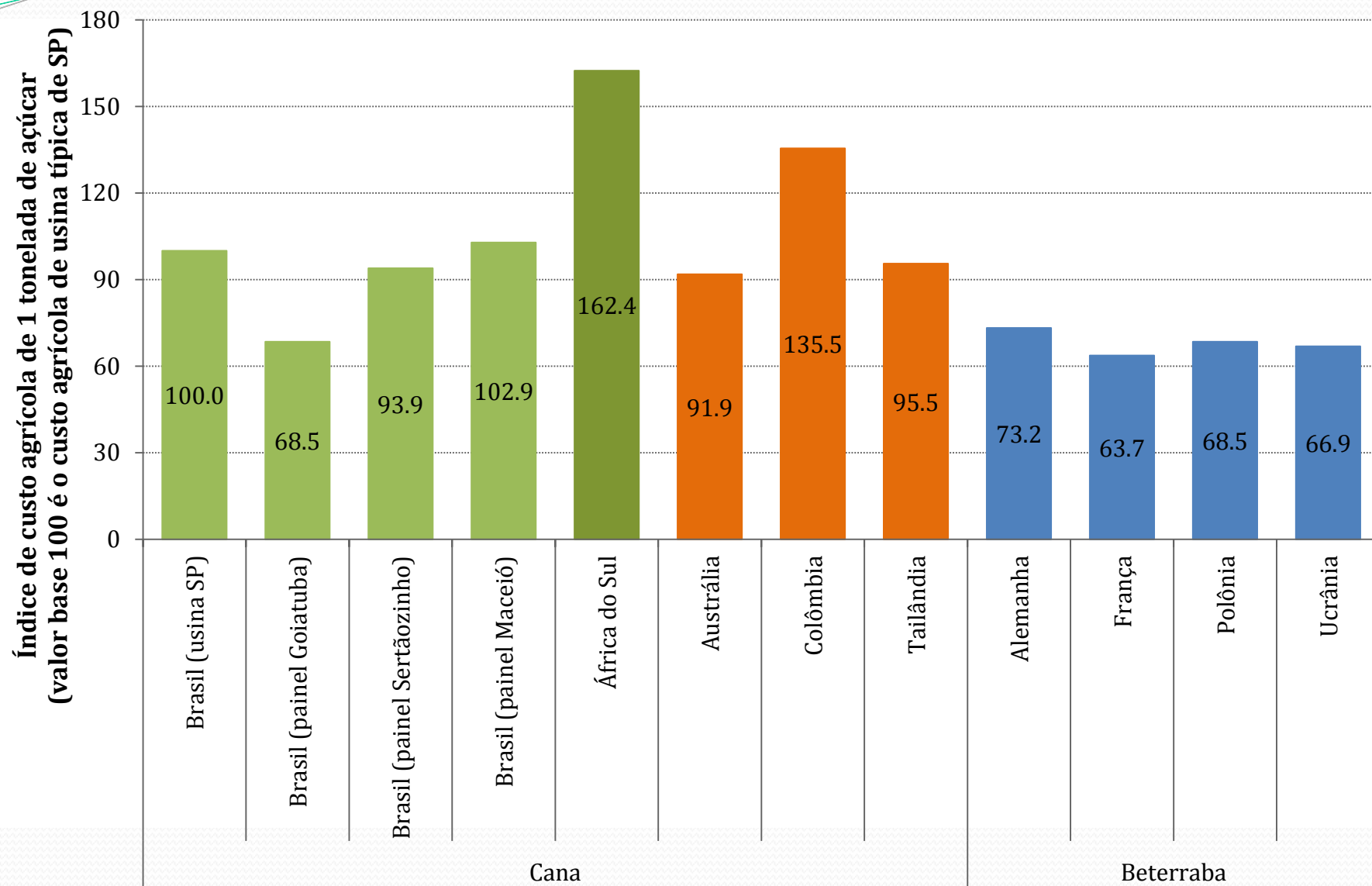
**VERY HIGH: ↑ R\$ 1.500/ m<sup>3</sup>**

**29% of mills**

*32% of mills Expansion  
11% of mills Traditional  
62% of mills Northdeast*

# Key Results

## Sugar content agricultural cost – World Benchmark



Source: PECEGE (2010, 2013a, 2013b), Agribenchmark (2014) adapted by the author  
Averaged number of 2014 considering R\$/USD=2,15



## Take-away messages

- Huge opportunity for average producers follow the best practices examples;
- Reduction in costs will be deeply foster by higher productivity levels and quality of the use machines, mainly harvesters and planters;
- It is highly probably that the path for lower cost practices will be long! The plans should consider the goal of a cane cycle .

# OBRIGADO!



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INFORMAÇÕES SUCROENERGÉTICAS

Documentos digitais para  
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**Carlos E. O. Xavier**

**Phone: +55 (19) 3435-1022 Mobile: +55 (19) 98112-5860**

**ceox@pecege.usp.br**

**[www.pecege.esalq.usp.br/portal](http://www.pecege.esalq.usp.br/portal)**