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## QUIET SEASON

The sugar cane season begins in February and ends in July at the latest.

Canes are at their most abundant in March and April and during this period the Damoiseau distillery works from 3 o'clock in the morning until 4 o'clock in the afternoon in two shifts.

It is essential to take advantage of the time when canes are at their most abundant to produce as much rum as possible. In May, heavy rain can reduce the richness of the crop and even hinder harvesting because the cane fields become impassable.

The hurricane season, which begins at the end of June every year, can also disrupt harvesting if a particularly early tropical storm or hurricane arrives over Guadeloupe.

From August until the end of January the following year, the abundance of the sugarcane deteriorates so much that it becomes almost impossible to extract enough juice to distil rum agricole.

Between August and January, activity slows down but it does not stop altogether. The quiet season is a key time for preventative maintenance works, to ensure that the production tool remains operational, and for modernising the distillery to improve safety, quality, and energy efficiency.

The next season therefore benefits from the quiet season. With updated and finely tuned equipment and the latest technological innovations installed, Damoiseau Rhum Agricole improves in quality year-on-year

### Three Golden Rules

1. The cane cutters, rolls, etc are fully dismantled, cleaned and reassembled.
  2. Tools are precision tuned (speed of mills, spacing of rolls, etc) as errors in adjustment will make them inoperative.
  3. The column still is dismantled, scrupulously cleaned and leak-proofed.
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