

Jamaica Producers Group Limited 2003

Notes to the Financial Statements

December 31, 2003

1. The company

Jamaica Producers Group Limited ("company") is incorporated under the Laws of Jamaica.

The main activities of the company and its subsidiaries (note 28) are the cultivation, marketing and distribution of bananas and other fresh produce locally and overseas, juice manufacturing and distribution, shipping and the holding of investments.

The average number of employees during the year was 88 (2002: 82) for the company and 2,154 (2002: 1,978) for the group.

2. Basis of preparation, compliance and significant accounting policies

(a) Basis of preparation and compliance:

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB), as well as

interpretations issued by the International Financial Reporting Interpretations Committee of the IASB and practice statements issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Jamaica, and comply with the provisions of the Companies Act.

These are the group's first consolidated financial statements prepared in accordance with IFRS. Consequently, there have been significant changes in the accounting policies followed in these financial statements compared with the policies used in previous years. Accordingly, comparative figures have been restated to conform with the provisions of IFRS and the significant accounting policies in paragraphs (c) to (r) below.

IFRS 1, First-time Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards, effective for accounting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2004, has been adopted early in the preparation of the company's and the group's financial statements. An explanation of the effects of the transition to IFRS on the equity, results of operations, financial position and cash flows is provided in note 21.

The financial statements are presented in Jamaican dollars and are prepared on the historical cost basis, except for available-for-sale investments and certain classes of property, plant and equipment which are stated at fair value.

The preparation of the financial statements in accordance with IFRS requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets, liabilities and contingent assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date and the income and expenses for the year then ended. Actual amounts could differ from those estimates.

(b) Basis of consolidation:

Subsidiaries are those entities controlled by the company. Control exists when the company has the power, directly or indirectly, to govern the financial and operating policies so as to obtain benefits from its activities. The consolidated financial statements include the financial statements of all subsidiaries, made up to December 31, 2003.

Associates are those entities in which the group has significant influence, but not control, over the financial and operating policies. The consolidated financial statements include the group's share of the total recognised gains and losses of associated companies on an equity accounting basis (note 7).

Inter-company balances and transactions, and any unrealised gains arising from inter-company transactions, are eliminated in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

The company, its subsidiaries and associated companies are collectively referred to as the "group".

(c) Foreign currencies:

The group's foreign assets and liabilities are translated at the buying rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date [note 26(b)(iii)]. Items in the foreign subsidiaries' profit and loss account are translated at rates of 1 (pound) to J\$92.21 (2002: J\$71.32) and US\$1 to J\$58.13 (2002: J\$48.40), being the average rates of exchange ruling for the year.

Other transactions in foreign currencies are converted at the rates of exchange ruling at the dates of those transactions.

Gains and losses arising from translating income statement items are included in the profit and loss account. Unrealised portions of such gains are, ultimately, transferred to capital reserve. Exchange differences arising on other changes to stockholders' interests are reflected in other capital reserves (note 13).

(d) Property, plant and equipment:

(i) Owned assets

Items of property, plant and equipment are stated at cost, or deemed cost, less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses [see note 2(k)].

Certain items of property, plant and equipment that had been revalued to fair value on or prior to January 1, 2002, the date of transition to IFRS, are measured on the basis of deemed cost, being the carrying amount at that date.

(ii) Leased assets

Leases under which the group assumes substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership are classified as finance leases. Assets acquired under finance leasing arrangements in the United Kingdom are stated at an amount equal to the lower of the fair value and the present value of the minimum lease payments at inception of the

lease, less accumulated depreciation, calculated in accordance with the policy in (iii) below, and impairment losses [see note 2(k)]. After deducting interest attributable to future periods, the net amount payable is included in accounts payable.

(iii) Depreciation:

Property, plant and equipment, including leased assets, with the exception of freehold land on which no depreciation is provided, are depreciated on the straight-line basis at annual rates, varying between 2% and 50%, estimated to write off the assets over their expected useful lives. Computer software and equipment are depreciated on the straight-line basis at 33 1/3% and 100% per annum, respectively.

(e) Inventories:

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost determined principally on the first-in first-out basis, and net realisable value.

(f) Trade and other receivables:

Trade and other receivables are stated at their costs less impairment losses [see note 2(k)].

(g) Goodwill:

Goodwill represents amounts arising on acquisition of subsidiaries after 1995. Goodwill is stated at cost, less accumulated amortisation and impairment losses [see note 2(k)]. Goodwill is being amortised on the straight-line basis over a period of twenty years.

(h) Investments:

Investments acquired at the time of primary issue are classified as originated securities and are stated at amortised cost less impairment losses [note 2(k)]. Where the group has the positive intent and ability to hold securities to maturity, they are classified as held-to-maturity and stated at amortised cost less impairment losses. Other investments held by the group are classified as being available-for-sale and are stated at fair value with changes in fair value taken to fair value reserve. Where fair value cannot be reliably measured, these investments are stated at cost. Available-for-sale investments include certain debt and equity securities.

The fair value of available-for-sale investments is their quoted bid price.

Investments originated by the group and held-to-maturity investments are recognised/derecognised on the day they are transferred to/by the group. Available-for-sale investments are recognised/derecognised by the group on the date it commits to purchase or sell the investments.

(i) Securities purchased under resale agreements:

Securities purchased under resale agreements ('reverse repos') are short-term transactions in which the company makes funds available to other parties and in turn receives securities which it agrees to resell on a specified date at a specified price. Reverse repos are accounted for as short-term collateralised lending.

The difference between the sale and repurchase consideration is recognised on the accrual basis over the period of the transaction and is included in interest income.

(j) Biological assets:

Biological assets represent the cost of the banana plantations which are capitalised up to maturity. These are stated at cost, less accumulated amortisation and impairment losses [see note 2(k)], as fair value cannot be reliably determined. The costs are amortised over a period of twenty years.

(k) Impairment:

The carrying amounts of the company's and the group's assets are reviewed at each balance sheet date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated at each balance sheet date. An impairment loss is recognised whenever the carrying amount of an asset or its cash-generating unit exceeds its recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised in the profit and loss account.

(i) Calculation of recoverable amount

The recoverable amount of the group's investments in originated and held-to-maturity securities and receivables is calculated as the present value of expected future cash

flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate inherent in the asset. Receivables with a short duration are not discounted.

The recoverable amount of other assets is the greater of their net selling price and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pretax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. For an asset that does not generate largely independent cash inflows, the recoverable amount is determined for the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

(ii) Reversals of impairment

An impairment loss in respect of an originated and held-to-maturity security or receivable is reversed, if the subsequent increase in recoverable amount can be related objectively to an event occurring after the impairment loss was recognised.

In respect of other assets, an impairment loss is reversed, if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount.

An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation or amortisation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

(l) Trade and other payables:

Trade and other payables, including provisions, are stated at their cost. A provision is recognised in the balance sheets when the company and group have a legal or constructive obligation as a result of a past event, it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate of the amount can be made. If the effect is material, provisions are determined by discounting the expected future cash flows at a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and, where appropriate, the risks specific to the liability.

(m) Employee benefits:

Employee benefits are all forms of consideration given by the group in exchange for service rendered by employees. These include current or short-term benefits such as

salaries, bonuses, NIS contributions, annual leave, and non-monetary benefits such as medical care and housing; post-employment benefits such as pensions; and other long-term employee benefits such as termination benefits.

Employee benefits that are earned as a result of past or current service are recognised in the following manner: Short-term employee benefits are recognised as a liability, net of payments made, and charged as expense. The expected cost of vacation leave that accumulates is recognised when the employee becomes entitled to the leave. Post-employment benefits are accounted for as described below.

Post-employment benefits, comprising pensions and other post-employment assets and obligations included in the financial statements, are actuarially determined by a qualified independent actuary, appointed by management. The appointed actuary's report outlines the scope of the valuation and the actuary's opinion. The actuarial valuations are conducted in accordance with IAS 19, and the financial statements reflect the company's/group's post-employment benefit asset and obligation as computed by the actuary. In carrying out their audit, the auditors rely on the actuary's report.

Defined benefit pension plans

The group's net obligation in respect of its defined benefit pension plans is calculated by estimating the amount of future benefits that employees have earned in return for their service in the current and prior periods; that value is discounted to determine the present value, and the fair value of any plan assets is deducted. The discount rate is determined by reference to the yield at the balance sheet date on long-term government bonds of maturities approximating the terms of the company's obligation. The calculation is performed by a qualified actuary using the projected unit credit method.

When the benefits of the plan are improved, the portion of the increased benefit relating to past service by employees is recognised as an expense in the group profit and loss account on the straight-line basis over the average period until the benefits become vested. To the extent that the benefits are vested immediately, the expense is recognised immediately in the group profit and loss account.

All actuarial gains and losses as at January 1, 2002, the date of transition to IFRS, are recognised. In respect of actuarial gains and losses that arise subsequent to January 1, 2002, in calculating the group's obligation in respect of each plan, to the extent that any cumulative unrecognised actuarial gain or loss exceeds ten percent of the greater of

the present value of the defined benefit obligation and the fair value of plan assets, that portion is recognised in the profit and loss account over a period representing 50% of the average remaining working lives of staff members in the plan.

Where the calculation results in a pension surplus to the group, the recognised asset is limited to the present value of any future refunds from the plan or reductions in future contributions to the plan less any unrecognised actuarial losses and past service costs.

(n) Revenue:

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised in the group profit and loss account when the significant risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred to the buyer. Revenue from services rendered is recognised in the group profit and loss account in proportion to the stage of completion of the transaction at the balance sheet date.

(o) Finance costs:

Finance costs represent interest payable on borrowings calculated using the effective interest rate method.

(p) Interest income:

Interest income is recognised in the group profit and loss account as it accrues, taking into account the effective yield on the asset.

(q) Taxation:

Income tax on the profit or loss for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Income tax is recognised in the group profit and loss account except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly to equity, in which case it is recognised in equity.

Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year, using tax rates enacted at the balance sheet date, and any adjustment to tax payable in respect of previous years.

Deferred tax is provided using the balance sheet liability method, providing for temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the amounts used for taxation purposes. The amount of deferred tax provided

is based on the expected manner of realisation or settlement of the carrying amount of assets and liabilities, using tax rates enacted at the balance sheet date.

A deferred tax asset is recognised only to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profits will be available against which the asset can be utilised. Deferred tax assets are reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that the related tax benefit will be realised.

(r) Segment reporting:

A segment is a distinguishable component of the group that is engaged either in providing products (business segment), or in providing products within a particular economic environment (geographical segment), which is subject to risks and rewards that are different from those of other segments.

3. Accounts receivable

	Company		Group	
	2003 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2003 \$'000	2002 \$'000
Trade receivables	1,549	394	2,196,300	1,528,843
Staff receivables	31,107	20,885	34,338	23,176
Other receivables and prepayments	<u>91,823</u>	<u>66,911</u>	<u>314,331</u>	<u>258,643</u>
	124,479	88,190	2,544,969	1,810,662
Less: Provision for doubtful debts	<u>(34,763)</u>	<u>(30,931)</u>	<u>(126,420)</u>	<u>(101,833)</u>
	89,716	57,259	2,418,549	1,708,829
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Accounts receivable for the company and the group include \$201,000 (2002: \$8,000) receivable from directors of the company in the ordinary course of business.

4. Inventories

	Company		Group	
	2003 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2003 \$'000	2002 \$'000
Raw materials and consumables	-	-	294,128	179,076

Merchandise	-	-	184,909	159,690
Spare parts and other	<u>640</u>	<u>552</u>	<u>19,156</u>	<u>16,658</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====
	640	552	498,193	355,424
	=====	=====	=====	=====

5. Bank overdrafts and short-term loans

The overdraft facility of the company is unsecured (see note 11). The overdraft facility of a UK subsidiary is secured on that subsidiary's freehold property and by a fixed and floating charge over its assets. Interest is charged at between 1 1/2% and 2% above base rate. The bank overdraft of a Jamaican subsidiary is secured by a debenture over the fixed and floating assets of that subsidiary, stamped to cover \$12 million.

The company's short-term loan, which was unsecured, denominated in US dollars and bore interest at 6% per annum, was repaid during the year.

6. Accounts payable

	Company		Group	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Trade payables	42,702	29,603	2,223,471	1,359,868
Provisions	59,018	51,263	60,666	51,263
Other	<u>28,269</u>	<u>28,828</u>	<u>557,423</u>	<u>567,561</u>
	129,989	109,694	2,841,560	1,978,692
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Provisions represent employee benefits and are broken down as follows:

	Company		Group	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at beginning of the year	51,263	-	51,263	-
Provisions made during the year	59,018	51,263	60,666	51,263
Provisions used during the year	<u>(51,263)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(51,263)</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance at end of the year	59,018	51,263	60,666	51,263
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Provisions include \$35,126,000 (2002: \$33,436,000) due to directors of the company and the group.

7. Interests in subsidiary and associated companies

	Company		Group	
	2003 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2003 \$'000	2002 \$'000
Subsidiary companies:				
Shares, at cost, less amounts written off	21,455	21,495	-	-
Loan accounts receivable	534,120	431,518	-	-
Loan accounts payable	(792,175)	(713,810)	-	-
Current accounts receivable	893,865	1,194,903	-	-
Current accounts payable	<u>(599,210)</u>	<u>(659,832)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>58,055</u>	<u>274,274</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Associated companies:				
Shares, at cost, less amounts written off	1	1	28,927	21,927
Group's share of reserves	-	-	16,023	14,759
Loan accounts receivable	32,456	33,709	33,709	43,862
Current accounts (payable)/receivable	<u>(5,747)</u>	<u>(5,759)</u>	<u>(2,464)</u>	<u>10,937</u>
	<u>26,710</u>	<u>27,951</u>	<u>76,195</u>	<u>91,485</u>
	84,765	302,225	76,195	91,485
	=====	=====	=====	=====

An associated company, Belvedere Limited has its year-end at June 30 each year, while a subsidiary, Cia. Bananera del Tropic JP, S.A. has its year-end at September 30 each year. The consolidated profit and loss account includes the group's share of profits/losses of these companies, as well as Jamaica Producers Marketing (USA) Inc., based on the management accounts for the year ended December 31, 2003, The results of these companies are insignificant in relation to the group.

8. Investments

	Company		Group	
	2003 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2003 \$'000	2002 \$'000

Available-for-sale securities:

Quoted-long-term	1,877,143	1,258,377	1,877,288	1,268,463
Unquoted-long-term	34,961	379,210	34,968	395,149
	<u>1,912,104</u>	<u>1,637,587</u>	<u>1,912,256</u>	<u>1,663,612</u>
Originated loans and receivables:				
Government of Jamaica 2006 bonds	120,831	-	120,831	-
Promissory notes	27,406	23,461	27,406	23,461
Loan to employee share ownership Plan (ESOP)	81,207	85,346	81,207	85,346
Other debt securities	-	-	120,831	-
National Housing Trust (receivable in years 2001/2004)	39	39	76	76
Mortgage loans for staff housing	-	-	35	35
	<u>229,483</u>	<u>108,846</u>	<u>350,386</u>	<u>108,918</u>
	<u>2,141,587</u>	<u>1,746,433</u>	<u>2,262,642</u>	<u>1,772,530</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Market values of quoted investments are computed based on quotations received from stockbrokers.

It is the opinion of the directors that the value of unquoted investments approximates at least to their carrying value. Unquoted investments at December 31, 2002 include shares in a company which was listed on the Jamaica Stock Exchange on January 2, 2003. The fair value of these shares was \$344,249,000, based on their bid price at balance sheet date. Subsequent to listing, 84.4% of these shares were sold during the year.

The number of stock units (note 12) held by the ESOP at December 31, 2003 was 16,546,377 (2002: 16,091,609).

9. Employee benefit asset/liability

The group operates three benefits-based and two contributory pension schemes. These are managed by trustees and cover certain salaried employees of the company and certain of its subsidiary and associated companies, who have satisfied minimum service requirements.

(a) Contributions under the two contributory pension schemes during the year amounted to \$14,422,000 (2002: \$7,591,000)

(b) The amounts recognised in the balance sheet in respect of the defined benefit schemes are as follows:

(i) Plan asset/obligation:

	Asset		Obligation	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Present value of funded obligations	57,442	73,541	2,583,990	1,464,783
Fair value of plan assets	<u>(280,678)</u>	<u>(251,776)</u>	<u>(1,638,090)</u>	<u>(1,035,774)</u>
	223,236	178,235	945,900	429,009
Unrecognised actuarial gains/(losses)	69,651	48,227	(675,037)	(273,464)
Unrecognised asset due to limitation in economic benefit	<u>36,966</u>	<u>34,040</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Recognised (asset)/obligation	<u>(116,619)</u>	<u>(95,968)</u>	<u>270,863</u>	<u>155,545</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====

(ii) Movements in net asset/obligation recognised in the balance sheet:

	Asset		Obligation	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Net (asset)/obligation at January 1	(95,968)	(94,952)	155,545	141,130
Contributions paid	(6,565)	(6,718)	(62,795)	(76,526)
(Income)/expense recognised in the group profit and loss account	<u>(17,013)</u>	<u>(11,479)</u>	<u>119,134</u>	<u>64,617</u>
	(119,546)	(113,150)	211,884	129,221
Exchange loss on retranslation	-	-	58,979	26,324
Change in asset not recognised due to limitation on economic benefit	<u>2,927</u>	<u>17,182</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net (asset)/obligation at December 31	<u>(116,619)</u>	<u>(95,968)</u>	<u>270,863</u>	<u>155,545</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====

(iii) (Income)/expense recognised in the group profit and loss account:

	Asset		Obligation	
	2003	2002	2003	2002

Group

	Assets		Liabilities		Net	
	2003 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2003 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2003 \$'000	2002 \$'000
Property, plant and equipment	-	-	110,115	89,252	(110,115)	(89,252)
Employee benefits	75,593	-	38,844	17,282	36,749	(17,282)
Other liabilities	18,666	29,557	-	-	18,666	29,557
Other assets	-	216	9,875	5,018	(9,875)	(4,802)
Tax losses carried forward	<u>77,183</u>	<u>185,432</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>77,183</u>	<u>185,432</u>
	171,442	215,205	158,834	111,552	12,608	103,653
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

Movement on net deferred tax during the year is as follows:

	2003 \$'000	2002 \$'000
Net deferred tax assets/(liabilities) at beginning of year	103,653	(57,528)
Recognised in group profit and loss account [note 17(a) (ii)]	<u>(91,045)</u>	<u>161,181</u>
Net deferred tax assets at end of year	<u>12,608</u>	<u>103,653</u>
	=====	=====

11. Property, plant and equipment

Company

	Freehold land and buildings \$'000	Leasehold land and buildings \$'000	Furniture, machinery and motor vehicles \$'000	Work-in- progress \$'000	Total \$'000
At cost:					
December 31, 2002	43,884	26,310	117,122	-	187,316
Transfers	4,676	(4,676)	-	-	-
Additions	1,924	-	11,300	590	13,814
Disposals	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,894)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,894)</u>

December 31, 2003	<u>50,484</u>	<u>21,634</u>	<u>124,528</u>	<u>590</u>	<u>197,236</u>
Depreciation:					
December 31, 2002	9,531	10,164	80,745	-	100,440
Transfers	1,095	(1,095)	-	-	-
Charge for the year	1,346	1,298	24,702	-	27,346
Eliminated on disposals	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,894)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3,894)</u>
December 31, 2003	<u>11,972</u>	<u>10,367</u>	<u>101,553</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>123,892</u>
Net book values:					
December 31, 2003	38,512	11,267	22,975	590	73,344
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
December 31, 2002	34,353	16,146	36,377	-	86,876
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

Group

	Freehold land and buildings \$'000	Leasehold land, buildings and farm develop - ment costs \$'000	Furniture, equipment and vehicles \$'000	Work- in- progress \$'000	Total \$'000
At cost or deemed cost:					
December 31, 2002	531,757	872,440	2,496,891	7,306	3,908,394
Additions	8,483	2,877	195,292	74,570	281,222
Transfers	4,676	(8,430)	(1,730)	(764)	(6,248)
Disposals	-	(7,414)	(88,656)	-	(96,070)
Exchange adjustments	<u>155,503</u>	<u>155,940</u>	<u>608,007</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>919,450</u>
December 31, 2003	<u>700,419</u>	<u>1,015,413</u>	<u>3,209,804</u>	<u>81,112</u>	<u>5,006,748</u>
Depreciation:					
December 31, 2002	131,248	355,337	1,655,023	-	2,141,608
Charge for the year	18,551	43,177	276,349	-	338,077
Eliminated on disposals	-	(922)	(84,553)	-	(85,475)

Exchange adjustments	<u>40,691</u>	<u>27,403</u>	<u>375,683</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>443,777</u>
December 31, 2003	<u>190,490</u>	<u>424,995</u>	<u>2,222,502</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,837,987</u>
Net book values:					
December 31, 2003	509,929	590,418	987,302	81,112	2,168,761
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
December 31, 2002	400,509	517,103	841,868	7,006	1,766,786
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

Freehold land and buildings include land as follows:

	Company		Group	
	2003 \$'000	2002 \$'000	2003 \$'000	2002 \$'000
Deemed cost [note 2(d) (i)]	-	-	138,053	138,053
Directors' allocation of cost	4,507	4,507	4,857	4,857
At cost	<u>21,659</u>	<u>21,659</u>	<u>29,133</u>	<u>29,133</u>
Total land	<u>26,166</u>	<u>26,166</u>	<u>172,043</u>	<u>172,043</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Bank overdraft facilities (note 5) are supported by an undertaking from the company not to encumber real estate held at 6A Oxford Road while the company has credit arrangements.

12. Share capital

	2003 \$'000	2002 \$'000
Authorised:		
500,000,000 ordinary shares of 10c each	50,000	50,000
	=====	=====
Issued and fully paid:		
187,024,006 ordinary stock units of 10c each (note 8)	18,702	18,702
	=====	=====

13. Reserves

	Company	Group
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	2003	2002	2003	2002
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Capital:				
Share premium	135,087	135,087	135,087	135,087
Fair value reserve	1,624,123	1,358,581	1,624,127	1,358,585
Other [see (a) below]	<u>1,379,429</u>	<u>1,481,172</u>	<u>2,430,372</u>	<u>1,954,308</u>
Total capital	3,138,639	2,974,840	4,189,586	3,447,980
Revenue [see (b) below]:				
Retained profits/(deficit)	<u>294,935</u>	<u>(183,494)</u>	<u>2,242,818</u>	<u>1,452,860</u>
	3,433,574	2,791,346	6,432,404	4,900,840
	=====	=====	=====	=====

(a) Other capital reserves comprise gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment and investments, unrealised exchange gains and unclaimed distributions to stockholders (note 22).

(b) Revenue reserves include:

(i) \$80,759,000 (2002: \$56,750,000) for the company and \$80,789,000 (2002: \$56,751,000) for the group of franked income available for distribution without deduction of tax.

(ii) Incentive profits of \$47,195,000 (2002: \$47,195,000) for the company and \$358,090,000 (2002: \$358,090,000) for the group, which can be distributed to local stockholders without deduction of tax.

As of April 1, 2002, dividends declared by publicly listed companies are not subject to withholding tax.

14. Long-term loans

	Company		Group	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
(a) Bank loans	-	-	281,410	195,548
(b) Rehabilitation loans	-	-	-	5,252
(c) Jamaica Exporters Association (JEA)	-	-	17,247	22,507

(d) Banana Export Company Limited (BECO)	6,181	-	6,181	-
(e) Finance lease obligations	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,475</u>
	6,181	-	304,838	240,782
Less: Current portion	<u>(3,557)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(70,112)</u>	<u>(34,524)</u>
	2,624	-	234,726	206,258
	=====	=====	=====	=====

- (a) These are loans, denominated in Pound Sterling (pound), which are secured over a subsidiary company's freehold land and building and by a fixed and floating charge over its operating assets. The loans are repayable by monthly or quarterly instalments over a five to fifteen-year period.
- (b) The rehabilitation loans received during 1998 are repayable over a three- to five-year period by quarterly instalments after a moratorium period of one year. The loans are secured on the assets that were purchased from the proceeds. Previously, 75% of the loans were converted to grants and made interest-free, retroactive to their commencement.
- (c) The JEA loan is denominated in US dollars. It was received in 2000, supported by a bank guarantee and repayable over five years from disbursement, with a moratorium on principal for two years. Interest is charged at a fixed rate of 3% per annum.
- (d) This represents an interest-free loan, from the Banana Export Company Limited (BECO) and is repayable by twenty-four monthly payments with a six-month moratorium after the first disbursement.

15. Gross operating revenue

Gross operating revenue comprises investment income, the gross sales of goods and services of the group and commission earned by the group on consignment sales, This is shown after deducting returns, U.K. value added tax and Jamaican General Consumption Tax.

16. Profit before taxation and minority interests

Profit before taxation and minority interests is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2003	2002
	\$'000	\$'000

Directors' emoluments:		
Fees	1,616	1,430
Remuneration	88,140	85,016
Auditors' remuneration	16,678	15,258
Depreciation	338,077	294,360
Goodwill amortised	11,864	11,864
Staff costs	1,837,596	1,467,923
Interest income	(236,435)	(67,936)
Dividends received (gross)	(28,619)	(34,173)
	=====	=====

17. Taxation

(a) Recognised in the group profit and loss account.

The taxation charge is based on the group's results for the year, as adjusted for tax purposes, and comprises:

	2003	2002
	\$'000	\$'000
(i) Current tax charge		
Taxation on share of profits of associated companies	1,016	487
United Kingdom Corporation tax @ 30% (2002: 30%)	102,608	231,621
Corporation tax (other than U.K.)	-	285
	<u>103,624</u>	<u>232,393</u>
(ii) Deferred taxation:		
Origination and reversal of temporary differences (note 10)	<u>91,045</u>	<u>(161,181)</u>
Total taxation in group profit and loss account	<u>194,669</u>	<u>71,212</u>
	=====	=====

(b) The effective tax rate for 2003 was 18.08% (2002: 7.68% - restated) of \$1,076,952,000 (2002: \$927,618,000 - restated) pre-tax profits, compared to the statutory tax rate of 33 1/3% (2002: 33 1/3%). The actual charge differs from the "expected" tax charge for the year as follows:

2003	2002
------	------

	\$'000	\$'000
Computed "expected" tax charge	358,625	308,897
Taxation difference between profit for financial statements and tax reporting purposes on -		
Overseas taxation	(10,273)	(9,676)
Effect of (tax)/trading losses	(7,578)	(19,773)
Gain on sale of property, plant and equipment and investments	(107,499)	(113,787)
Disallowed expenses, depreciation and other related capital adjustments	(21,402)	75,332
Tax losses utilised	(108,249)	(8,600)
Deferred tax	<u>91,045</u>	<u>(161,181)</u>
Actual tax charge	194,669	71,212
	=====	=====

(c) Four subsidiary companies operated under relief from taxation on agricultural income as follows:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Income Tax Order</u>	<u>Effective dates</u>	
		From	To
Eastern Banana Estates Limited	Income Tax (Approved Farmer) (No. 3) Order 1993	1992	2001
Victoria Banana Company Limited	Income Tax (Approved Farmer) (Victoria Banana Company Limited) (No. 4) Order 1995	1996	2003
St. Mary Banana Estates Limited	Income Tax (Approved Farmer) (No. 3) Order 1993	1992	2001
Agualta Vale Limited	Income Tax (Approved Farmer) Order of 1984 and 1990.	1990	2000

(d) As at December 31, 2003, tax losses, subject to agreement by the Commissioner of Taxpayer Audit and Assessment, available for relief against future profits amounted to approximately \$Nil (2002: \$143,038,000 - restated) for the company and \$584,363,000 (2002: \$853,257,000 - restated) for the group. A deferred tax asset of \$167,794,000 in respect of tax losses of certain subsidiaries have not been recognised by the group as management does not believe that the asset will be realised in the foreseeable future.

18. Extraordinary items

		2003	2002
		\$'000	\$'000
Closure and reorganisation costs	- Jamaica	5,923	20,268
Redundancy costs	- Jamaica	-	3,783
		<u>5,923</u>	<u>24,051</u>
		=====	=====

These costs represent the group's restructuring and rationalisation exercise in various subsidiary and associated companies and the write-down of assets and other provisions in the banana farms.

19. Net profit for the year attributable to the group

Net profit dealt with in the financial statements of the company amounted to \$512,318,000 [2002: \$132,581,000 - restated (note 21 (c))].

20. Earnings per ordinary stock unit

The earnings per ordinary stock unit is calculated by dividing the profit for the year of \$897,737,000 (2002: \$725,914,000 - restated) and a profit of \$891,814,000 (2002: \$701,863,000 - restated [note 21(c)] attributable to the group before and after extraordinary items, respectively, by the total of 187,024,006 ordinary stock units of 10c each being the number of units in issue.

21. Explanation of transition to IFRS

An explanation of the effects of the transition from Jamaica Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (JGAAP) to IFRS [note 2(a)] on equity, financial position, results of operation and cash flows is set out in the following notes and tables.

(a) The nature of IFRS adjustments is set out in the notes below:

- (i) IAS 12 - Income taxes: Provision is made for deferred tax on all temporary differences between carrying amounts of assets and liabilities using the balance sheet liability method and tax rates enacted at the balance sheet date. Also, deferred tax asset is recognised on tax losses brought forward that are available for relief against all taxable profits. Deferred tax was not considered significant under JGAAP
- (ii) IAS 19 - Employee benefits: Employee benefit asset and other post retirement obligations are recognised under IFRS based on valuation results of the pension and other schemes carried out by Independent actuaries. Also, the value of outstanding vacation leave is accounted for under IFRS. These were not recognised under JGAAP.
- (iii) IAS 22 - Business combinations: Goodwill purchased on the acquisition of a subsidiary is now being capitalised in accordance with IFRS.
- (iv) IAS 37 - Provisions: General provisions made under Jamaica GAAP are reversed to conform with IFRS.
- (v) IAS 38 - Intangible assets: Certain assets that were being carried under Jamaica GAAP are being written to conform with IFRS.
- (vi) IAS 39 - Financial Instruments - recognition and measurement: Investments were carried at the lower cost and fair value under JGAAP. Under IFRS, investments classified as available-for-sale are shown at fair value. The resultant difference between the carrying values under JGAAP and IFRS is taken to fair value reserve.

(b) Reconciliation of 2001 group equity:

	Capital reserves \$'000	Fair value reserve \$'000	Retained earnings \$'000	Total \$'000
Balances at December 31, 2001:				
As previously reported	<u>1,467,078</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>819,645</u>	<u>2,286,723</u>
Effect of first-time adoption of IFRS:				
IAS 12 - Income taxes [a(i)]	-	-	(10,778)	(10,778)

IAS 19 - Employee benefits [a(ii)]	(1,090)	-	(4,359)	(5,449)
IAS 22 - Business combination [a(iii)]	237,286	-	(47,456)	189,830
IAS 37 - Provisions [a(iv)]	-	-	27,804	27,804
IAS 39 - Financial instruments - recognition and measurement [a(vi)]	-	460,389	-	460,389
Total effect of first-time adoption of IFRS	<u>236,196</u>	<u>460,389</u>	<u>(34,789)</u>	<u>661,796</u>
As restated	<u>1,703,274</u>	<u>460,389</u>	<u>784,856</u>	<u>2,948,519</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====

(c) Reconciliation of 2002 net profit:

	Company \$'000	Group \$'000
Net profit for the year:		
As previously reported	<u>117,527</u>	<u>588,251</u>
Effect of first-time adoption of IFRS:		
IAS 12 - Income taxes [a(i)]	16,038	119,992
IAS 19 - Employee benefits [a(ii)]	(984)	3,627
IAS 37 - Provisions [a(iv)]	-	1,857
IAS 38 - Intangible assets [a(v)]	-	(11,864)
Total effect of first-time adoption of IFRS	<u>15,054</u>	<u>113,612</u>
As restated	<u>132,581</u>	<u>701,863</u>
	=====	=====

(d) The summarised effects of (b) and (c) on the company's and group's financial position as at December 31, 2002 and in the preparation of an opening IFRS balance sheet as at January 1, 2002 (the company's and group's date of transition) are as follows:

Company

	<u>January 1, 2002</u>			<u>December 31, 2002</u>		
	Effects of			Effects of		
	Previous	transition to		Previous	transition to	
	JGAAP	IFRS	IFRS	JGAAP	IFRS	IFRS
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
CURRENT ASSETS						
Cash resources	40,657	-	40,657	11,135	-	11,135

Short-term investments	10,984	-	10,984	26,503	-	26,503
Securities purchased under resale agreements	28,017	-	28,017	729,113	-	729,113
Accounts receivable	119,342	-	119,342	57,259	-	57,259
Taxation recoverable	10,296	-	10,296	15,133	-	15,133
Inventories	30,390	-	30,390	552	-	552
	<u>239,686</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>239,686</u>	<u>839,695</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>839,695</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Bank overdraft and short-term loan	-	-	-	151,171	-	151,171
Accounts payable [(a)(ii)]	56,461	-	56,461	107,694	2,000	109,694
Unclaimed dividends	15,743	-	15,743	5,544	-	5,544
Current portion of long-term loan	2,500	-	2,500	-	-	-
	<u>74,704</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>74,704</u>	<u>264,409</u>	<u>2,000</u>	<u>266,409</u>
WORKING CAPITAL	164,982	-	164,982	575,286	(2,000)	573,286
INTERESTS IN SUBSIDIARY AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES						
INVESTMENTS [(a)(vi)]	562,329		562,329	302,225	-	302,225
DEFERRED TAX ASSETS [(a)(i)]	443,363	460,389	903,752	397,814	1,348,619	1,746,433
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT ASSET [(a)(ii)]	-	-	-	-	5,260	5,260
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	-	94,952	94,952	-	95,968	95,968
	<u>163,600</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>163,600</u>	<u>86,876</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>86,876</u>
	<u>1,334,274</u>	<u>555,341</u>	<u>1,889,615</u>	<u>1,362,201</u>	<u>1,447,847</u>	<u>2,810,048</u>
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY						
Share capital	18,702	-	18,702	18,702	-	18,702
Reserves [(a)(i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi)]	1,294,476	544,563	1,839,039	1,343,499	1,447,847	2,791,346
	<u>1,313,178</u>	<u>544,563</u>	<u>1,857,741</u>	<u>1,362,201</u>	<u>1,447,847</u>	<u>2,810,048</u>
DEFERRED TAX LIABILITIES						
[(a)(i)]	-	10,778	10,778	-	-	-
LONG-TERM LOAN	21,096	-	21,096	-	-	-
	<u>1,334,274</u>	<u>555,341</u>	<u>1,889,615</u>	<u>1,362,201</u>	<u>1,447,847</u>	<u>2,810,048</u>

Group

	January 1, 2002			December 31, 2002		
	Previous JGAAP \$'000	Effects of transition to IFRS		Previous JGAAP \$'000	Effects of transition to IFRS	
		IFRS \$'000	IFRS \$'000		IFRS \$'000	IFRS \$'000
CURRENT ASSETS						
Cash resources	762,564	-	762,564	1,125,526	-	1,125,526
Short-term investments	10,984	-	10,984	26,503	-	26,503
Securities purchased under resale agreements	28,017	-	28,017	729,113	-	729,113
Accounts receivable	1,580,324	-	1,580,324	1,708,829	-	1,708,829
Taxation recoverable	14,163	-	14,163	18,504	-	18,504
Inventories	420,127	-	420,127	355,424	-	355,424
	<u>2,816,179</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,816,179</u>	<u>3,963,899</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,963,899</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES						
Bank overdrafts and short-term loans	148,983	-	148,983	153,216	-	153,216
Accounts payable [(a)(ii),(iv)]	1,776,419	(36,280)	1,740,139	2,006,353	(27,661)	1,978,692
Taxation	106,666	-	106,666	124,595	-	124,595
Unclaimed dividends	15,743	-	15,743	5,544	-	5,544
Due to related companies	89,037	-	89,037	96,106	-	96,106
Current portion of long-term loans	35,362	-	35,362	34,524	-	34,524
	<u>2,172,210</u>	<u>(36,280)</u>	<u>2,135,930</u>	<u>2,420,338</u>	<u>(27,661)</u>	<u>2,392,677</u>
WORKING CAPITAL	643,969	36,280	680,249	1,543,561	27,661	1,571,222
INTERESTS IN						
ASSOCIATED COMPANIES	72,685	-	72,685	91,485	-	91,485
INVESTMENTS [(a)(vi)]	541,352	460,389	1,001,741	413,945	1,358,585	1,772,530
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT ASSET [(a)(ii)]	-	94,952	94,952	-	95,968	95,968
GOODWILL [(a)(iii)]	-	189,830	189,830	-	177,966	177,966
DEFERRED TAX ASSETS [(a)(i)]	-	27,791	27,791	-	215,205	215,205
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	<u>1,650,867</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,650,867</u>	<u>1,766,786</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,766,786</u>

	2,908,873	809,242	3,718,115	3,815,777	1,875,385	5,691,162
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY						
Share capital	18,702	-	18,702	18,702	-	18,702
Reserves [(a)(i), (ii), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi)]	2,421,810	661,796	3,083,606	3,252,057	1,648,783	4,900,840
	2,440,512	661,796	3,102,308	3,270,759	1,648,783	4,919,542
MINORITY INTERESTS [(a)(i),(ii)]	219,400	(21,512)	197,888	241,763	13,588	255,351
DEFERRED TAX LIABILITIES [(a)(i)]	58,148	27,828	85,976	54,083	57,469	111,552
DEFERRED INCOME	39,199	-	39,199	42,914	-	42,914
EMPLOYEE BENEFIT LIABILITIES [(a)(ii)]	-	141,130	141,130	-	155,545	155,545
LONG-TERM LOANS	151,614	-	151,614	206,258	-	206,258
	2,908,873	809,242	3,718,115	3,815,777	1,875,385	5,691,162
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

(e) The summarised effects of (c) on the company's and group's results of operations for the year ended December 31, 2002 are as follows:

Company

	Previous JGAAP \$'000	Effects of transition to IFRS \$'000	IFRS \$'000
Gross operating revenue	6,836	-	6,836
Cost of operating revenue	(5,404)	-	(5,404)
Gross profit	1,432	-	1,432
Other operating revenue:			
Sundry	8,173	-	8,173
Management fees - subsidiaries	128,604	-	128,604
Interest - other	32,277	-	32,277
- subsidiaries	27,807	-	27,807
Dividends and capital distributions - other	34,173	-	34,173
- subsidiaries	1,100	-	1,100
Impairment loss on investments	(1,869)	-	(1,869)

Joint venture operations	(5,174)	-	(5,174)
Administration expenses	(255,342)	-	(255,342)
Other operating expenses [(a)(ii)]	<u>(30,876)</u>	<u>(984)</u>	<u>(31,860)</u>
Loss from operations	(59,695)	(984)	60,679
Finance costs - interest	(4,076)	-	4,076
Net gain from fluctuations in exchange rates	31,806	-	31,806
Gain on disposal of investments	295,762	-	295,762
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	<u>14,289</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,289</u>
Profit before taxation and extraordinary items	278,086	(984)	277,102
Taxation [(a)(i)]	<u>-</u>	16,038	16,038
Profit after taxation and before extraordinary items	278,086	15,054	293,140
Extraordinary items	<u>(160,559)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(160,559)</u>
Net profit for the year	117,527	15,054	132,581
	=====	=====	=====

Group

	Previous JGAAP \$'000	Effects of transition to IFRS \$'000	IFRS \$'000
Gross operating revenue	14,097,166	-	14,097,166
Cost of operating revenue	<u>(11,401,493)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(11,401,493)</u>
Gross profit	2,695,673	-	2,695,673
Distribution costs	(876,102)	-	(876,102)
Administration and other operating expenses [(a) (ii), (v)]	<u>(1,310,911)</u>	<u>(3,049)</u>	<u>(1,313,960)</u>
Profit from operations	508,660	(3,049)	505,611
Share of loss in associated companies	(3,031)	-	(3,031)
Finance costs - interest	(28,466)	-	(28,466)
Net gain from fluctuations in exchange rates	36,387	-	36,387

Impairment loss on investments	(1,869)	-	(1,869)
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment and investments	341,360	-	341,360
Other income	<u>77,626</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>77,626</u>
Profit before taxation and minority interests	930,667	(3,049)	927,618
Taxation [(a)(i)]	<u>(232,298)</u>	<u>161,086</u>	<u>(71,212)</u>
Profit after taxation and before minority interests	698,369	158,037	856,406
Minority interests [(a)(i), (ii)]	<u>(86,067)</u>	<u>(44,425)</u>	<u>(130,492)</u>
Profit attributable to the group before extraordinary items	612,302	113,612	725,914
Extraordinary items	<u>(24,051)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(24,051)</u>
Net profit for the year attributable to the group	588,251	113,612	701,863
	=====	=====	=====

(f) Effect on statement of cash flows:

There was no adjustment between the net increase in cash resources for the year presented in the cash flow statement under IFRS and that presented under previous JGAAP

22. Distributions to stockholders

	2003	2002
	\$'000	\$'000
Capital distributions:		
First interim paid in respect of 2003 - 25c(2002 - 20c) per stock unit - gross	46,756	37,405
Special interim paid in respect of 2003 - 25c (2002 - Nil) per stock unit - gross	46,756	-
Second special interim paid in respect of 2003- 20c (2002 second interim - 24c) per stock unit - gross	<u>37,405</u>	<u>44,886</u>
	130,917	82,291
Ordinary dividends:		
Interim paid in respect of 2003 - 30c (2002: Nil) per stock unit - gross	<u>56,107</u>	<u>-</u>

Unclaimed distributions written back to capital reserve [note 13(a)]	187,024	82,291
	<u>(19,213)</u>	<u>(13,786)</u>
	167,811	68,505
	=====	=====

23. Contingent liabilities

- (a) The company has given a guarantee of \$1,000,000 to cover bank borrowings of a subsidiary. One of the company's bankers, Bank of Nova Scotia Jamaica Limited, has also issued a letter of credit in favour of Jamaica Public Service Company Limited for \$521,000.
- (b) On November 4, 2003, a subsidiary acquired a 100% shareholding in a company incorporated in Great Britain, for initial consideration of 800,000(pounds) (\$80,000,000). Additional consideration estimated at 868,000(pounds) (\$91,913,000) may be payable in 2004 and 2005, depending on certain performance milestones being achieved.

24. Commitments

- (a) Unexpired lease commitments at December 31, 2003 expire as follows:

	Company		Group	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Within one year	-	-	1,906	26,541
Subsequent years	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,308</u>	<u>58,278</u>
	-	-	36,214	84,819
	=====	=====	=====	=====

- (b) As at December 31, 2003, capital expenditure authorised but not committed amounted to approximately \$36,916,000 (2002: \$10,620,000) for the company and \$872,087,000 (2002: \$440,118,000 - restated) for the group.
- (c) At December 31, 2003, a subsidiary had purchase commitments of \$126,882,000 (US\$ 2,100,000) (2002: \$Nil), in the ordinary course of business in respect of forward exchange contracts.

25. Segment Reporting

Segment information is presented in respect of the group's business segments. The primary

associated companies	-	-	4,599	2,143	(1,253)	(5,174)	3,346	(3,031)
Profit before taxation and minority interests	204,607	309,430	293,635	350,503	578,710	267,685	1,076,952	927,618
Taxation							(194,669)	(71,212)
Minority interests							15,454	(130,492)
Extraordinary items							(5,923)	(24,051)
Net profit for the year							891,814	701,863
Segment assets	3,259,090	2,738,771	3,064,584	2,318,787	4,254,228	3,026,281	10,577,902	8,083,839
Segment liabilities	2,143,923	1,252,538	1,263,546	1,454,343	719,327	457,416	4,126,796	3,164,297
Capital expenditure	106,831	84,838	154,075	147,996	20,316	365	281,222	233,199
Depreciation and amortisation	195,182	177,385	119,679	101,592	35,080	27,247	349,941	306,224

26. Financial instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of an enterprise and a financial liability or equity instrument of another enterprise. For the purpose of the financial statements, financial assets have been determined to include cash resources, short-term investments, securities purchased under resale agreements, accounts receivable and investments. Financial liabilities include bank overdrafts and demand loans, accounts payable, due to related companies and long-term loans.

(a) Fair value of financial instruments:

Fair value amounts represent estimates of the arm's length consideration for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties who are under no compulsion to act. Fair value is best evidenced by a quoted market price, if one exists.

The fair value of cash resources, short-term investments, securities purchased under resale agreements, accounts receivable, bank overdrafts and demand loans, accounts payable, unclaimed dividends and due to related companies are assumed to approximate their carrying values due to their relatively short-term nature. The fair value of quoted investments is

at market value. The fair value of other investments, except for certain unquoted shares (note 8), are assumed to be cost less provision for impairment.

The fair value for long-term loans is assumed to approximate carrying value as no discount on settlement is anticipated.

(b) Financial instrument risks:

Exposure to credit, interest rate, foreign currency, market, liquidity and cash flow risks arises in the ordinary course of the company's and the group's business. No derivative financial instruments are presently used to manage, mitigate or eliminate exposure to financial instrument risk, except as shown in note 24 (c).

(i) Credit risk:

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation resulting in loss to the other party.

The company and the group manage this risk by:

- having a credit policy in place to minimize exposure to credit risk;
- performing credit evaluations on all customers requiring credit; and
- maintaining cash resources with reputable financial institutions.

Except for cash resources and accounts receivable, there were no other significant concentrations of credit risk and the maximum exposure to credit risk is represented by the carrying amount of each financial asset.

(ii) Interest rate risk:

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates.

The company and the group materially contract financial liabilities at fixed interest rates for the duration of the term. Bank overdrafts are subject to fixed interest rates which may be varied by appropriate notice by the lender. Financial liabilities subject to fixed interest rates are shown at note 14.

(iii) Foreign currency risk:

Foreign currency risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in foreign exchange rates.

The company and the group are exposed to foreign currency risk on transactions that are denominated in currencies other than the Jamaican dollar. The main currencies giving rise to this risk are the Pound Sterling (pound), United States dollar (US\$) and Costa Rican Colones (CRc).

The company and group manage this risk by matching foreign currency assets with liabilities as far as possible.

The net foreign currency assets at year-end were as follows:

	Company		Group	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	('000)	('000)	('000)	('000)
US dollar	US\$16,066	8,739	26,133	9,060
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Pound Sterling	Pound 786	219	7,028	3,427
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Costa Rican (CR) Colones	CRc -	-	57,050	26,197
	=====	=====	=====	=====

Buying exchange rates at:

	April 8, 2004		December 31	
			2003	2002
US\$1 to J\$	J\$ 60.64		60.42	50.55
UK 1 to J\$	J\$ 111.64		105.89	79.89
CRc1 to J\$	J\$ 0.14		0.14	0.13
	=====		=====	=====

(iv) Market risk:

Market risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices, whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual security, its issuer or factors affecting all securities

traded in the market.

The company and the group manage this risk by conducting research and monitoring the price movement of securities on the local and international market.

(v) Liquidity risk:

Liquidity risk, also referred to as funding risk, is the risk that the company will encounter difficulty in raising funds to meet commitments associated with financial instruments. Liquidity risk may result from an inability to sell a financial asset quickly at, or close to, its fair value. Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash and marketable securities, and the availability of funding through an adequate amount of committed facilities.

Due to the dynamic nature of the underlying businesses, the management of the company and the group aim at maintaining flexibility in funding by ensuring that sufficient cash resources are held or placed in short-term marketable instruments.

(vi) Cash flow risk:

Cash flow risk is the risk that future cash flows associated with a monetary financial instrument will fluctuate in amount. The company manages this risk by contracting, as far as possible, at fixed interest rates.

27. Subsequent event

Effective January 1, 2004, Jamaica Producers Ripening Company Limited became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Jamaica Producers Group Limited (note 28).

28. Subsidiary and associated companies

SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES*	% Equity held		Place of <u>incorporation</u>
	2003	2002	
Jamaica Banana Producers Steamship Company Limited	100	100	Jamaica
Agualta Vale Limited	100	100	"
St. Mary Banana Estates Limited	100	100	"
The Jamaica Producers Marketing Company Limited	100	100	"

Cariban Limited	100	100	Guernsey
JP Fruit Distributors Limited	65	65	England and Wales
Producers Fruit Distributors Limited	100	100	Jamaica
Jamaica Producers Ripening Company Limited (note 27)	51	51	"
JBFS Investments Limited	100	100	"
Crescent Developments Limited	100	100	"
Southern Shipping Company Limited	100	100	"
P.S.C. Limited	100	100	"
Jamaica Producers Shipping Company Limited	60	60	"
Jamaica Producers Marketing (U.S.A.) Inc.	100	100	U.S.A.
Caribbean Chartering Limited	100	100	Cayman Islands
Central American Banana Limited	100	100	"
Sunjuice Limited	100	100	England and Wales
Astrol Properties Limited	100	100	"
Regale Foods Limited [note 23(b)]	100	-	"
Cia. Bananera del Tropico JP, S.A.	100	100	Costa Rica
Cia. Comercializadora Productos Limon	100	100	"
Jamaica Banana Holdings Limited	-	55	Jamaica
Eastern Banana Estates Limited	100	100**	"
Victoria Banana Company Limited	100	100**	"
Agri Services Limited	100	100**	"
Trinjam Food Processors Limited	100	100	"

ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

Belvedere Limited	25	25	Jamaica
Frobishers Juices Limited	47.5	47.5	England and Wales

* The names of inactive subsidiary companies are omitted.

**In the previous year, these were 100% subsidiaries of Jamaica Banana Holdings Limited.
