

THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN

Sugar imbalance

I AM bloody sick and tired of hearing all this rubbish about making the farmer more efficient by deregulation. If the end-users were anywhere near as smart as us framers, the end product to the consumer would be half the price of what it is.

The canefarmers' share of the money in these products: 1 cent in a tin of coke; 5c in a 550g tin of jam, which is 66 per cent sugar; 1c in a can of peaches.

If the money that the cane-farmer gets was given back to these processors — in other words we give them the sugar for free — it would not make any change in the price you pay for these products, as most of these goods at times have a discount of up to 50c.

If the manufacturers were to stop paying big salaries to the people at the top, how much would the price of these goods come down? Big multinationals suck up to governments at election time with millions of dollars to be able to get away with nothing short of criminal acts.

I say, import your sugar, because I would rather go broke sitting in the shade of a mango tree than busting my gut for the big end of town in the boiling sun.

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