POSTER SUMMARY

TIME ACCOUNT FOR DUAL-TANDEM FACTORIES

VISRAM K AND MADHO S

Sugar Milling Research Institute NPC (SMRI), c/o University of KwaZulu-Natal, Howard College Campus, Durban, 4041
kvisram@smri.org smadho@smri.org

Abstract

An important part of reported factory performance figures is the time account, which relates to the number of hours that a factory was able to crush sugarcane, the number of hours for which it was stopped and the reasons for the stops. Several of the SMRI member factories are dual-tandem factories, which are defined as factories with dual extraction plants, each with its own mixed juice tank, scale and sampling point. The calculation of overall factory time account figures for dual-tandem factories can give misleading results, especially when the tandems are not running concurrently. This poster gives the correct time account formulae for dual tandem factories, namely, Overall Time Efficiency (OTE), Lost Time % Available (LTA), Mechanical Efficiency and Tonnes Cane per Hour (TCH), as approved by the Factory Control Advisory Committee (FCAC), a sub-committee of the South African Sugar Technologists' Association (SASTA), at a meeting on 26 July 2019.

The time account formulae for both single- and dual-tandem factories have been added to the SASTA Laboratory Manual (Chapter 3 – Calculations). All SMRI member factories are to follow the procedure to ensure that there is consistency in the benchmarking of factory figures.

Keywords: Dual tandem, OTE, LTA, TCH, GTA, Mechanical efficiency