

POSTER ABSTRACT

THE CANE ASSESSMENT TOOLBOX

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Abstract

The Sugar Milling Research Institute has investigated a number of methods to assess the processability of sugarcane varieties. Some of these methods have been more successful than others in identifying varieties that may cause problems during processing. An assessment method will be regarded as a useful tool once it has met certain statistical criteria. For the tool to be used for variety selection it would need to process a large number of samples in a short period of time. The poster compares and contrasts the percolation rate (direct assessment method) to two indirect methods, namely displacement rate index (DRI) and shredded cane density, based on a standard cane preparation method. The DRI and shredded cane density methods were correlated with percolation rate method to test whether these faster, albeit less direct assessment methods, could be used in the cane variety selection process.

Keywords: sugarcane, characteristics, percolation rate, processability, variety, diffusion