

POSTER SUMMARY

STEPS TAKEN TO ADDRESS UNDETERMINED LOSSES AT THE PONGOLA SUGAR MILL

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Abstract

The estimated Undermined Loss (UDL) for a factory is a key performance indicator and an important parameter for process control. The UDL at Pongola (PG), where mud is returned to the diffuser, is determined by the following: the mass of sucrose lost undetermined = the mass of sucrose in mixed juice – the mass of sucrose in sugar – the mass of sucrose in molasses.

The UDL is not measured directly, but it is primarily determined by the difference between the input and output of sucrose. The close management of UDL is practised in the Pongola Mill by implementing a checklist and monitoring the operating parameters, to ensure that the real and apparent losses are controlled.

The UDL at this mill has been excessive and has been below the industry average for the past four seasons; however, and the steps taken to reduce it to an acceptable level are discussed in this poster paper.

Keywords: Undetermined Losses (UDL), checklist, Pongola, sucrose, performance, control