

Replicated Cane Trials Well Under Way in QLD.

Here is an update on how the trials are going in Bundaburg QLD. This update was provided by Robert Doyle, Manager of Research and Development at Croptech, Bundaberg.



Best v Best



12tr and 4 ut

John and Robert,
glad the dry tissue tests went well.
2 obvious points:

1. from the individual P and Si analysis we have an obvious approximately 30% to 40% increase in uptake of P and Si in the 'Guano' treated blocks, when compared to the 'standard' treated

2. Ca, P and S levels are also slightly higher in the combined guano treated blocks. I believe the extra Si levels in Guano are having a synergistic effect on Ca, P and to a certain degree S

This has occurred with a slightly lower basal application in the guano treatment as well. In basal fertiliser the standard treatment has had 9 extra units of N and 4 extra units of P, than what the guano treatment has had.

The Guano block is now 3 months planted, and is just being side dressed. The crop looks even across, ie. it is too early to see any obvious differences between treatments. Referring to the update I sent you on 5 Nov: as at 30 Oct - the shoot counts in the guano treatment was slightly lower, but the root mass greater, than in the standard treated.

Agrispon
Townson: a well established clean (weed free) block, being side dressed at the moment, no obvious visual differences across the block
Price: reasonable establishment within the block, some weeds present, no obvious visual differences across the block

As at 4 weeks ago both Price and Townson (both are lighter soils) have comparable germination in the treated v's the untreated blocks, however root development was slightly superior in the agrispon treated plots.

Zunker: due to our rain, which started mid morning and still going, I am unable to get into the block today to do an inspection. However observations on October 23 showed superior shoot emergence in the agrispon treated plots, and a similar root development across all of the assessed plots.
I will inspect this block asap next week.

Regards,
Robert Doyle

John and Robert,
I was back out at the 'Townsen' Agrispon site yesterday (Monday) morning and did spike counts for each of the 16 plots as shown in the sheet.

The untreated treatment in each repetition has ranked: 2nd, 1st, 3rd, and a tie 2nd over the 4 reps.

As we spoke on Friday, Agrispon may be directing the plants energy initially into root development, then focussing the plants energy into putting out the shoots. Therefore shoot development may be slower in the treated plots. I dug 1 plant up in each of the 16 plots, to inspect root development.



As the photos display the roots are somewhat more developed in the 'treated' plots, than in the untreated.

The first photo shows the lot; There are 4 UNTREATED plants, marked UT, and 12 treated plants, with no markings on them.

The photo 'Best UT v Worst Tr' shows the roots of the best 'untreated' (UT) performing better than the worst 'treated' (Tr).

The photo 'Best Tr v Worst UT' shows the roots of the best 'treated' performing far superior to the worst 'untreated'.

If this shoot emergence data has not been recorded before, it will be important for us to monitor it now.

Regards,
Robert Doyle

For more information or the latest updates on this trial call
Guano Australia (03) 5821 1100



Worst v Worst



Town Best TR v Worst UT



Best UT v Worst TR