

## Information sources used and suggestions made by the Sugarcane growers for adoption of recommended ratoon management practices in Kolhapur district of Maharashtra

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### ABSTRACT

Sugarcane is one of main cash crop and plays a very important role in economic development of rural areas. In case of sugarcane, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri has given the recommendations for the ratoon management to decrease the cost of cultivation. The study was undertaken in purposively selected Karveer Tahsil of Kolhapur district of Maharashtra in the year 2008. The data were collected from 50 ratoon following sugarcane cultivators. University Scientists / State Department of Agriculture should take efforts to disseminate the information regarding the recommended ratoon management practices through group discussions, demonstrations and farmers rallies. Demonstrations of bio-fertilizer application should be conducted on farmer's field by the University authority and State Department of Agriculture.

### INTRODUCTION

India is predominantly sugarcane growing country. It is well known that Maharashtra sugarcane industry occupies supreme position in the economy of State. Sugarcane is one of main cash crop and plays a very important role in economic development of rural areas. The productivity of sugarcane is decreasing day to day. In case of sugarcane, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri has given the recommendations for the ratoon management to decrease the cost of cultivation. Here, the efforts were made to study the personal profile, information sources used by the sugarcane growers and suggestions made by them for better adoption of recommended ratoon management practices from the Kolhapur district of Maharashtra, India.

### METHODOLOGY

The study was undertaken in purposively selected Karveer Tahsil of Kolhapur district of Maharashtra in the year 2008. The five villages having maximum sugarcane area, viz., Vadanage, Prayag-Chikhali, Shirolu Dumala, Nigawe and Sadoli-Dumala were selected for the study in consultation with the office of the Superintending Agricultural Officer, Kolhapur district. Ten farmers following ratooning were

selected from each village randomly with the help of VEW of the State Department of Agriculture. Thus, the data was collected from 50 ratoon following sugarcane cultivators. The data was collected personally with the help of structured interview schedule. The same was analyzed and presented in the following tables.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings of the present study as well as relevant discussion have been summarized below:

#### Personal and socio-economic characteristics of the sugarcane cultivators:

From Table 1, it is observed that, 54.00 per cent sugarcane cultivators were from middle age group *i.e.* to 50 years, 46.00 per cent sugarcane cultivators had secondary education *i.e.* Std. 5<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, 44.00 per cent of them were having 11<sup>th</sup> Std. and above education.

It is also revealed from Table 1 that 56.00 per cent of the sugarcane cultivators possessed medium family size *i.e.* 6 to 9 members and 56.00 per cent of them owned land from 1 ha to 2 ha.

In case of annual income, it was observed

#### Key words :

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