



RESEARCH PAPER

Evaluation of fungicide against whip smut in sugarcane

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Abstract : The evaluation of fungicidal management practices against whip smut in sugarcane was conducted by the District Agricultural Advisory and Transfer of Technology Centre (DAATTC), Vizianagaram, across five farmers' fields during 2021–22, 2022–23, and 2023–24. The findings revealed that the incidence of the disease was substantially lower in fungicide-treated plots compared to the farmers' practice. A yield enhancement of 8.46% was observed in the demonstration plots (73.14 t/ha) over the farmers' practice (68.34 t/ha). The net returns were higher in the fungicide-treated plots (₹ 71,545/ha) compared to the farmers' practice (₹ 57,296/ha). The recorded extension gap, technology gap, and technology index were 5.63 t/ha, 2.17 t/ha, and 2.89%, respectively. The relatively lower technology index indicated that the demonstrated fungicidal practice is technically feasible and economically viable under farmers' field conditions.

Key Words : Sugarcane, Whip smut, Technology gap, Extension gap, Technology index

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