Complementary Cropping in Burdekin Sugarcane Farming Systems

GRDC 00174

Field walk Handout – Oct 2012

Agronomic trials on grain break crops

Why we are doing this

- Develop agronomic information for growing grain break crops specific to the Burdekin, with mungbean and soybean as a priority for 2012.
- To provide growers and advisors with better and more relevant management strategies for growing sugarcane break crops.
- Provide growers and advisors with information that enable them to make more informed decisions for choosing suitable break crops.
- Ensure that break crops in the sugarcane system are managed effectively in order to maximise returns for both the break and sugarcane crops.

Current trials:

Mungbean planting date x variety x population

- To investigate the interactions between planting date, variety and planting density of mungbeans
- To refine:
 - o optimum planting/harvest times for specific varieties
 - o optimum planting density for specific varieties
 - o yield potential of different varieties
- Planting dates: August 2012, January 2013 & May 2013
- Varieties: Crystal, Satin II, Berken and Regur
- Planting population: 100 000, 300 000 & 500 000 plants per ha
- Located at Ayr Research Facility (refer to diagram)

Mungbean Potassium trial

- To investigate optimum potassium (K) levels for growing mungbeans
- 5 rates of K: 0, 35, 70, 105, 150kg/ha
- Planting date: 5th September
- Located on grower property at Giru











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Planned trials:

Soybean planting date x variety x population

- To investigate the interactions between planting date, variety and planting density of soybeans
- To refine:
 - o optimum planting/harvest times for specific varieties
 - o optimum planting density of different varieties
 - o optimum yield potential from planting rates
- Planting dates:
 - o Summer soys: December 2012, January 2013 & February 2013
 - o Winter soys: April 2013, May 2013 & June 2013
- Varieties: Leichardt, Stuart, Hayman, M-22 & M-17
- Planting population: 250 000 & 500 000 plants per ha
- Located at Ayr Research Facility

** We are looking for growers who would like to participate in the following trials:

Nutrition trials in soybeans

- Potassium (K) high and low K sites needed
- Zinc (Zn)

Nutrition trials in mungbeans

- Potassium (K) high and low K sites needed
- Zinc (Zn)

Please notify Susie Bateman (DAFF) if you are interested in taking part in any trials or demonstrations on 4720 5110 or 0416 280 434 or email at susanne.bateman@daff.qld.qov.au









