

## **INTRODUCTION**

This trial set out to demonstrate the relative yield performance of nutrient application via a Bio Dunder® liquid fertiliser formulation and a commercial granule formulation on a sandy loam in Chelona, Queensland.

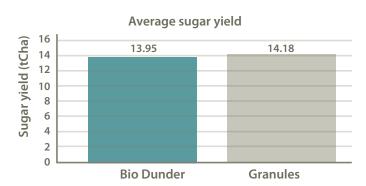
## TRIAL SITE AND TREATMENT

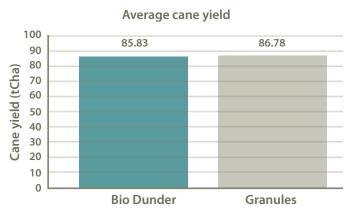
Treatment	Bio Dunder	Granules
Product	Spring 1	Homebush Ratooner
Rate	4.5m³/ha	740 kg/ha
Total N (kg/h)	182.2	185.0
Total P (kg/ha)	21.4	22.2
Total K (kg/ha)	115.5	118.4
Total S (kg/ha)	32.0	26.0

The site selected was a non-irrigated crop of 1R Q208 cane blocks. The trial area consisted of 10 plots: five replicated plots for Bio Dunder treatments, and five for granular treatments. Total area for the trial was approximately five hectares.



### **RESULTS**



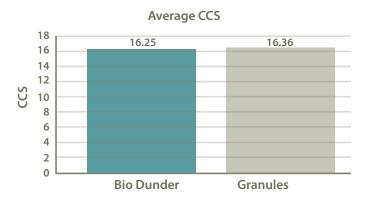




# **TRIAL REPORT SUMMARY**



#### RESULTS (CONTINUED)

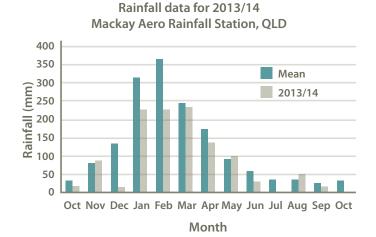


The above illustrates the results for CCS (Commercial Cane Sugar – the sugar content of cane), average cane yield and average sugar yield between treatments. The trial data showed no significant difference between treatments (p>0.05), and therefore no yield advantage or disadvantage based on Bio Dunder application compared to conventional practice.

Economic analysis indicated a very slight (non-statistically different) benefit (\$71/ha or <2%) in direct measurable financial terms for the granule application. What this analysis ignores is the convenience, benefits and opportunity cost advantages of the Bio Dunder contractor application service.

In the early growth stage it was observed that plots treated with Bio Dunder were more vigorous and darker green in colour. By the time of harvest however, there were no observable differences.

#### Rainfall



It was observed that 20mm of rain fell on the trial area 20 minutes after application, providing an excellent opportunity for early growth. The growing season was marked by a lower than average rainfall, with a particularly dry December, and there can be little doubt that the crop would have benefited from an extra 100 mm of well-distributed rainfall in December.



## **CONCLUSION**

The trial results demonstrated that there was no yield advantage or disadvantage based on applying Bio Dunder liquid fertilisers compared to conventional fertiliser practice.

Wilmar acknowledges and appreciates the support of Gary Petersen and team, without which this trial would not have been possible.

