

SOUTH AFRICAN SUGAR INDUSTRY  
AGRONOMISTS' ASSOCIATION

Code: RIP.3/81/SW.SIS  
Cat No.: 1313

**Title:** RIPPING IN RATOON CANE IN A DUPLEX SOIL

**1. Particulars of the project:**

<b>This crop</b>	:	2nd ratoon	<b>Ripping method:</b>	
<b>Site</b>	:	SIS Field S6-6 Ltd		8 sprung tyne cultivator with Ford 5000
<b>Region</b>	:	Northern irrigated (Swaziland)	<b>Depth:</b>	150-200 mm
<b>Soil Set/Series:</b>		Z+H/Zwide + Homestead	<b>Soil condition:</b>	Moist clay % $\pm$ 20
<b>Design</b>	:	Randomised blocks with 8 replications	<b>Age:</b>	11,9 months
<b>Variety</b>	:	NCo 376	<b>Dates:</b>	25/6/81-16/6/82
<b>Fertilizer</b>	:	<b>N</b> <b>P</b> <b>K</b>	<b>Rainfall:</b>	680 mm
	kg/ha	96      19      96	<b>Irrigation:</b>	971 mm
			<b>Total:</b>	1 651 mm

**2. Objectives:**

To determine the effect of ripping the interrow of a winter cycle ratoon in a Duplex soil.

The operation was carried out about 11 weeks after harvesting the previous crop.

**3. Treatments:**

- Control
- Ripped

## 4. Results:

Table I: Yield

Treatment	tc/ha	Suc % cane	ts/ha
Control	124	11,1	13,9
Ripped	118	12,0	14,3
CV %	15,7	9,9	22,8
LSD (0,05)	22,5	1,3	3,8

Table II: Treatment effects on stalk heights (m to TVD)

Treatment	Months after ripping	
	4	7
Control	1,22	2,15
Ripped	1,21	2,15

## 5. Comments:

- There were large growth differences within treatments due to soil variation and this is evident in the very high CV % for yields.
- No benefits from the ripping operation could be detected in this experiment.
- The experiment has been terminated.

NBL/HDN  
22/10/82