



SECTION 1 – FARM OBSERVATIONS: SOIL HEALTH AND NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

A supporting statement of verification by a Smartcane facilitator or appropriately qualified officer e.g. productivity services stating the relevant observation/s selected below was sighted on farm.

1.1.1 Managing Compaction

- Row spacing and most machinery wheel spacing are matched
- Row spacing and all machinery wheel spacing matched

Comments:

- Rows initially established using GPS guidance
- GPS guidance used for all field operations: bed forming, planting, spraying and harvesting

Comments:

- Machinery operations delayed to avoid operating in wet field conditions where possible
- Machinery is not operated in wet field conditions

Comments:

1.2.1 Trash Management

- Green trash blanket is retained on suitable soils

Comments:

- In cold environments trash is raked from the stool and maintained in the interspace or cane is burnt prior to harvest

Comments:

- Where water logging risk exists cane is burnt prior to harvest

Comments:

- Is a green cane trash blanket retained throughout the crop cycle and after the final ratoon as fallow cover?

Comments:

1.3.1 Fallow Management

- Soil cover is maintained throughout the wet season, if yes is the cover trash blanket and sprayed out cane or a fallow crop e.g. legumes is grown

Comments:

- Living cane is sprayed out during the fallow period to break pest and disease cycles

Comments:

- Rotational crops are grown on all fallow land to break weed and pest cycles

Comments:

- Residues from rotational crops are maintained on the soil surface and not incorporated between crop cycles (*Cane is zero till planted into rotational crop stubble*)

Comments:

1.9.1 Placement

- Surface-banded fertilizer products incorporated by overhead irrigation as soon as possible or within 7 days?

Comments:

1.10.2 Timing

- Fertiliser is applied six to eight weeks after harvesting when cane is approximately 600mm high on early to mid-season cut cane, where practical

Comments:

- For late cut cane, weather is taken into consideration to determine when fertilizer is applied

Comments:

- Fertiliser is never applied when runoff from storms is expected before the nutrient can penetrate to the root zone

Comments:
