

A Note on the Record Yield of C0419 Sugarcane in Kuniamuthur Village, Coimbatore.

By

P. K. NATESA AIYAR, B.A., B.Sc., (Ag),
Special Agricultural Demonstrator,
Sugarcane Development Scheme, Coimbatore.

Maximisation of food production is the crying need of the hour but increase in sugar production is also equally important. Results of research are translated in the cultivators' fields with the object of securing increased yields. The following is an account how increased yields of sugarcane were obtained by a progressive farmer, Sri P. G. Venugopal Naidu, Kuniamuthur.

The field which gave such a phenomenal yield of 20,240 lb. of jaggery per acre is situated on a village road running parallel to the Kurichi channel on its northern bank four furlongs away from the Madras-Calicut trunk road, and about four miles from Coimbatore. The area planted with cane was six acres, irrigated from a well. The soil is black loam and well-drained. The crop was planted in furrows 36 inches apart and and watered regularly every tenth day, earthed up properly and the canes were induced to grow erect and tall. The canes were also propped up.

After the harvest of the previous crop of ragi in June 1949, six ploughings were given up to August 1949. Ridges and furrows were formed 36 inches apart as against 30" which is the local practice. The crop was planted by the middle of August, 1949.

The previous crop of ragi was not manured, nor was any basal dressing of organic manure given. During the period September to October 1949, one acre was top dressed with 960 lb. of Parrys' Manure Mixture giving 172 lb. of Nitrogen and 5 acres were manured with 70 cwt. of ammonium sulphate, giving 1575 lb. of Nitrogen. The application was done in a single dose and the crop was then earthed up. Thus the crop was earthed up thrice, during October 1949, December 1949 and February 1950. The crop was also trashed twice, by removing all dry leaves. In April 1950 clumps of canes in adjacent rows were tied up at the top with green trash, to prevent lodging. The crop arrowed in September to October 1950 and the over-all height of the crop was 22-24 ft. The average length of millable cane was 11 to 12½ feet.

The early-planted crop in two acres was harvested by the end of October 1950. 3.14 acres were harvested from 1st November 1950 to 4th

December 1950 and the remaining 0.86 acres from 5th to 16th December 1950. The yield of jaggery on an average worked out to 9 tons 80 lb. per acre as detailed below :—

YIELD OF JAGGERY

Area harvested	Period of harvest	Yield in Tons lb.	Remarks.
2.00	Before October 1950	18 — 192	Average yield of jaggery.
3.14	1—11—'50 to 4—12—'50	24 — 288	Per acre =
0.86	5—12—'50 to 16—12—'50	12 — 0	9 Tons 80 lb.
6.00		54 — 0	

The cultivator Sri P. G. Venugopal Naidu, was awarded a certificate of merit by the Deputy Minister, Food and Agriculture.

The cost of cultivation of this crop is appended below.

Cost of cultivation of Co.419 crop on an acre in survey No. 654/2 of Kuniamuthur.

Particulars of operations	Bullock labour at Rs. 3/8 per pair	No. of men at Rs. 1/8	No. of women at Re. 0-12-0	Rs.		
				Rs.	A.	P.
Preparatory cultivation.						
Ploughing 6 times	10	23	...	69	8	0
Breaking clods, levelling etc., (on contract)	...	...	...	58	14	0
Forming ridges furrows with mamotty and with ridger	½	4½	...	7	10	0
				136	0	0
Manures and manuring.						
Cost of manure 2 bags (84 lb.) of Parrys' Mixture 7 bags (of 224 lb.) of Ammonium sulphate	...	...	...	240	0	0
Labour for application	...	...	5	3	12	0
				243	12	0
Seed and sowing.						
Cost 30,000 sets at Rs. 9/- per 1000 sets	270	0	0
Labour for planting	5	3	12	0
				273	12	0

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Particulars of operations	Bullock labour at Rs. 3/8 per pair	No. of men at Rs. 1/8	No. of women at Re. 0-12-0	Rs.	A.	P.
Irrigation.						
42 irrigations						
Labour for guiding water	...	28	...	42	0	0
Charges for electric current		(L.S.)	...	116	10	8
				158	10	8
After cultivation						
Weeding once, earthing up thrice	...	70	20	120	9	0
Stripping and removing trash		(on contract)		77	5	4
Propping	24	0	0
				221	5	4
Supervision charges, Maistry for 18 months at Rs. 50/- per month for six acres			...	150	0	0
Harvesting and manufacture of jaggery (on contract) 54 tons 480 lb. of jaggery at Rs. 66-8-0 per ton for 6 acres	600	14	0
Cost of chemicals	10	0	0
Extra labour for transport from field to yard	80	60	0	0
				670	10	0
				1864	6	0
Profit and loss.						
Value realised from 6 acres.						
42 tons 480 lb. jaggery at Rs. 700 per ton				Rs. 29,550	0	0
12 tons ,, at Rs. 504 per ton				Rs. 6048	0	0
				35598	0	0
Value per acre				5933	0	0
Net profit per acre				4078	10	0

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