



High levels of soil sodicity can severely reduce cane yield

Field Guide

Diagnosis of sodicity and related problems of soil and irrigation water in the sugar industry

This booklet is part of a Field Kit, the other components of which are shown below. The Field Kit is for diagnosis of sodicity, salinity and related problems of soil and water in the field. Consequences and management options are discussed in the Sodic Soils Manual and gypsum recommendations can be made with the help of the computer program 'Gypsy'.

Field kit components

- 1 Soil corer (or auger if corer not available)
 - 2 Electrical conductivity (EC) meter with calibration solution and spare batteries
 - 3 pH meter with calibration solutions (buffers) and spare batteries
 - 4 Sodium (Na) meter with calibration solution and spare batteries
 - 5 pH kit
 - 6 Disposable pipettes
 - 7 Bottle of hydrochloric acid (1M HCl)
 - 8 Distilled or deionised water (5 L bottle and wash bottle)
 - 9 Containers for making soil extracts and measuring dispersion
 - 10 Plastic bags and marker pen for taking samples
 - 11 Sample map sheets (and clipboard)
 - 12 Paper towel and tissues
 - 13 Teaspoons
 - 14 Notebook
 - 15 Tape measure
 - 16 Cheese grater and stirring rod
- Optional**
- 17 EM38 salinity meter



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