

# TALKING CANE TRASH

BLANKETING THE HERBERT WITH THE LATEST INFORMATION

## CHLORPYRIFOS ALTERNATIVES FOR PLANTING IN 2025

In 2024 APVMA removed the use of Chlorpyrifos (Lorsban™) from all sugarcane production.

This currently leaves sugarcane growers with only two alternatives for controlling wireworm, and no registered alternative for the control of Symphyla.

Active Ingredient	Example Product Names	Insect Control	Rates	When to Apply
Fipronil	Regent 200SC	Wireworms	1.1 – 1.8 ml / 100m of row or 73 – 120ml / ha	Apply to soil at planting.
	Albatross 200SC			
	Fipronil 200			
Bifenthrin	Talstar 250EC	Wireworms	2.25ml / 100m of row or 150ml / ha	Apply to soil at planting.
	Astral 250EC			
	Apparent Stockade Bifenthrin 250EC			

Wireworm Factsheet (SRA) - <https://sugarresearch.com.au/publication/wireworms-information-sheet>  
Link to APVMA decision on Chlorpyrifos - <https://www.apvma.gov.au/news-and-publications/media-releases/apvma-releases-chlorpyrifos-final-regulatory-decision>

## KEY DATES

**Canegrowers Herbert River Link 2 Country Expo**  
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> & Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May - Ingham Showgrounds.

**HCPSL SEED PLOTS NOW OPEN**  
(Pending infield conditions of individual plots).

**Ingham Line & Abergowrie:**  
Richard - 0400544301

**Stone River:** AI - 0417622129

**Macknade:** Adam - 0417610446

**Central:** Jarrod - 0499034968

## CONSIDERING MICRO-NUTRIENTS AT PLANT

Micronutrients are taken up by sugarcane in much smaller quantities than N, P, K & S. Some areas of the Herbert can be deficient in both Copper (Cu) and Zinc (Zn), in particular sandy soils with low organic matter.

Cu plays a role in both chlorophyll formation and photosynthesis. While, Zn is involved in chlorophyll formation, regulating the plant's growth rate and the plant's water use efficiency.

By conducting a standard soil test growers can identify if their soil is deficient in either Cu or Zn. Both Cu and Zn can be applied in liquid or solid (granular) forms. For convenience, both Cu or Zn can be added to your planting mix.

SRA Nutrition Manual - [https://sugarresearch.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/2022\\_SRA-Nutrition-Manual\\_F2.pdf](https://sugarresearch.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/2022_SRA-Nutrition-Manual_F2.pdf)



## HCPSL Approved Seed Plots: Variety Availability Estimate UPDATE

The uptake of some newer varieties was slower than expected during the pre-purchase ordering period. Inversely, several of the older varieties have sold out.

Reasonable quantities of **SRA26**, **SRA28**, **SRA36** and new variety **SRA40** are still available in some plots. Meanwhile, **Q253**, **Q200**, and **Q232** saw high demand during the pre-purchase ordering window with little to no material available outside of the current pre-purchase orders.

The table to the right is an estimate only of approved seed cane material still available for growers to purchase when plots start opening in May 2025.

Approximate tonnes available after pre-purchase orders closed (major varieties)					
Variety	Ingham Line	Macknade	Central	Stone River	Abergowrie
Q183	40t	-	2t	-	-
Q200	-	-	-	-	-
Q208	-	-	-	10t	20t
Q232	-	-	-	-	5t
Q240	10t	-	-	-	-
Q253	-	-	-	-	15t
SRA6	-	-	-	-	10t
SRA26	90t	-	45t	35t	70t
SRA28	75t	50t	50t	25t	-
SRA36	70t	-	25t	30t	-
SRA40	10t	-	15t	5t	-

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### SMALL MILL: EARLY CCS TESTING FOR 2025

To aid growers in harvest management and decision making, HCPSSL is offering small mill early CCS testing. Early CCS testing can provide insight into what block/s are best to be harvested early in the season.

Cane for testing is to be dropped off in the trailer located at the front of the HCPSSL/SRA Building on Fairford Road.

**DROP OFF DAY/TIME: Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May – BEFORE 9am**

#### HOW TO COLLECT A SAMPLE FOR TESTING:

1. Collect 8 stalks representative of the field.
2. Top stalks and strip them free of trash.
3. Tie stalks together at the butt end of the cane bundle.
4. Label the cane bundle with the following:
  - Grower Name
  - Grower Contact Number
  - Variety
  - Crop Class
  - Farm number
  - Block number



*Labels and zip ties will be available at the trailer for growers to label their cane bundle.*



### PLANTING AN ON-FARM SEED PLOT: Important Considerations

Ensuring your planting material is disease free is an essential preventative measure against diseases such as Ratoon Stunting Disease (RSD), Leaf scald, Sugarcane smut, and Chlorotic streak (CSD). The best way to manage this is to have a dedicated on-farm seed plot. When planting an on-farm seed plot, take the following into consideration.

- **SITE SELECTION:** Select an area of your farm that is well drained, free of problem weeds, and flood free if possible. Ensure the area has no recent history of pests or diseases.
- **PREVENT VOLUNTEERS:** Fallow the site prior and ensure you keep it free from cane volunteers.
- **PLANTING MATERIAL SOURCE:** Ensure your planting material is clean by planting tissue culture seedlings, hot water treating, or sourcing cane from HCPSSL's approved seed plots.
- **HYGENIE:** Wash and thoroughly disinfect all planting and cutting machinery.
- **MONITOR:** Inspect your on-farm seed plot regularly. Ensure you monitor the site for signs of diseases, pests and weeds. Manage these accordingly and in a timely manner.
- **KEEP RECORDS:** Record where you sourced the planting material for your seed plot, as well as treatments applied (fertilizer or chemical), and disease inspection sampling and results (RSD testing etc).

SRA Seed Plot Guidelines - <https://sugarresearch.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/Approved-seed-plot-guidelines-sixth-edition-2021.pdf>

**For further information or advice on any of the above topics, contact HCPSSL.**

**Phone: (07) 4776 1808 or [www.hcpsl.com](http://www.hcpsl.com)**