TALKING CANE TRASH

BLANKETING THE HERBERT WITH THE LATEST INFORMATION

CONTROLLING GUINEA GRASS IN RATOONS

Balance 750 WG, Bobcat i-Maxx SG and Amitron 700 WG are long term residual herbicides used on ratoon cane. The below rates are copies of the label and should be used as a guide only. In lighter soil types, lower rates should be used as crop damage can occur. Take into consideration your soil test CEC and clay content results to ensure your soil will have the ability to hold the pre-emergent herbicide in a safe manner that will not affect your ratoon cane. This information can be found on the appropriate chemical label.

See links to the right for the full chemical label.

ALWAYS READ THE LABEL for additional information and crop safety.

KEY DATES

National Biosecurity Week
25th – 31st August 2025

Read more on managing farm biosecurity on Page 2.

Links below to labels:

- Amitron 700 WG
- Balance 750 WG
- Bobcat i-MAXX SG

Situation	Herbicide	Rate	Water Rate L/ha
Blanket application. Flat Boom	**Balance 750 WG +** **Gramoxone 250 needs to be added @ 1.6 L/ha.** May be applied "over the top" of ratoon cane as a broadcast or band spray up to the two-leaf crop stage. **ALWAYS READ THE LABEL**	100 -125 g/ha Light soils 100 – 150 g/ha Medium soils 100 – 200 g/ha Heavy soils	250 +
Blanket application. Flat Boom	**Bobcat i-Maxx SG +** **Gramoxone 250 needs to be added @ 1.6 L/ha.** Heavy trash layers may prevent the product from reaching the soil. Apply to weed-free soil prior to weed germination. **ALWAYS READ THE LABEL**	500 – 630 g/ha	400 - 600
Blanket application. Flat Boom	**Amitron 700WG +** **Gramoxone 250 need to be added @ 1.6 L/ha**. ***CRITICAL COMMENTS*** **CROP STAGE: Ratoon Cane** – Pre-emergence to 5 leaf stage including post-harvest on to trash blankets. This product may cause transient leaf chlorosis and necrosis and stunting on some sugarcane varieties. Do not use these rates on very sandy soils (>90% sand). **Application:** Where shading of cane leaves prevents contact with the soil surface or small weeds, droppers with wide angle nozzle tips and/or leaf lifters should be used to provide complete soil coverage. **ALWAYS READ THE LABEL**	500 – 1000 g/ha	200 +

APPLYING SOIL AMENDMENTS: What are the benefits?

Soil amendments (lime, gypsum, mill mud/ash) are products or materials applied to the soil to improve soil chemical, physical or biological properties. Of these products, agricultural lime is one of the most common used across the Herbert.

Liming is considered the most effective method for improving soil pH and increasing soil calcium levels. While addressing soil acidification (low pH), liming also improves nutrient availability and reduces toxicity (such as Aluminum).

Liming recommendations as per your soil test provide sufficient lime for the duration of the crop cycle (4-5 years).

Ideally, lime should be applied in fallow, ~6months prior to planting.

For more information on soil pH and liming:
https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/land/management/soil/soil-properties/ph-levels

Herbert Cane Productivity Services Ltd. Bulletin 4, August 2025

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FERTILISING RATOONS: Converting product analysis (%) and rates

Just like plant, correctly managing the nutritional requirements of ratoons is key to a successful crop. Taking a soil test prior to planting provides valuable guidelines for ratoon fertiliser inputs. The calculations below provide an example of how to calculate your fertiliser rate based on ratoon nutrient requirements (as listed on a soil test). For further advice on soil testing and correctly fertilising your ratoon crop, contact HCPSL and speak with an Extension Agronomist.

Soil Requirements (6ES)			
N	P	K	S
140	15	100	10

Fertiliser Product Card (%)			
N	P	K	S
23.2	2.0	17.5	3.8

$$\text{RATE (KG/HA)} = \frac{\text{Required Nutrients (N from soil test)}}{\text{Nutrient \% from Product Card}} \times 100$$

For example: $\frac{140}{23.2} \times 100 = 603$ kg of fertilizer/ha

603 kg ÷ 124 = 4.9 bags/acre

SUGARCANE BIOSECURITY: What Every Grower Should Know

What is our Biosecurity Obligation?

Under the Biosecurity Act, everyone in Queensland has a general biosecurity obligation to ensure that they do not spread a pest, disease or contaminant.

Biosecurity Zones for Sugarcane

There are 6 biosecurity zones for sugarcane in Queensland - https://sugarresearch.com.au/growers/biosecurity

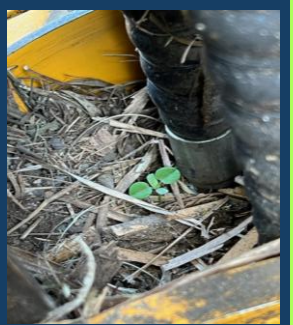
Biosecurity Obligations for Growers

Across Biosecurity Zones:

- Sugarcane plant material CANNOT be moved between biosecurity zones without a special permit from Biosecurity Queensland.
- All machinery and equipment that has come into contact with sugarcane, or soil used to produce sugarcane, MUST be inspected before moving between biosecurity zones.

Within Biosecurity Zones:

Every grower has a biosecurity obligation to ensure they do not spread pests, diseases or contaminants. This includes taking measures such as sterilising machinery and equipment and ensuring sugarcane material used for planting is free from pests and diseases, such as Ratoon stunting disease or Chlorotic streak.



HCPSL Biosecurity Support Services

HCPSL provides several biosecurity related services for members that helps to support our industry, including;

- Provision of Approved seed
- On farm seed inspections (RSD etc)
- Pest & weed advice
- Machinery inspections (free to members)

Do you have a biosecurity related question, or see something that doesn't look right in your crop? Call HCPSL on (07) 47761808.

Biosecurity Manual For Sugarcane Producers: https://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Biosecurity-Manual-for-Sugarcane-Producers.pdf

For further information or advice on any of the above topics, contact HCPSL.
Phone: (07) 4776 1808 or www.hcpsl.com

HCPSL
Herbert Cane Productivity Services Ltd.