

TALKING CANE TRASH

BLANKETING THE HERBERT WITH THE LATEST INFORMATION

NOW IS THE TIME TO SOIL TEST

Soil testing fallow blocks immediately after harvest provides you with the best picture of your soil nutrient reserves. It also provides a larger window of opportunity to apply lime or calcium-magnesium products prior to the wet season.

Key Soil Sampling Points for Growers...

- The best time to soil sample is immediately after harvest and before cultivation.
- Liming products work best when applied 6 months prior to planting.
- Early soil testing helps growers apply the right product at the right time.
- HCPSL has soil augers available for growers to lend (contact HCPSL office).

SIMPLE TIPS FOR EFFECTIVE SOIL SAMPLING - <https://hcpsl.com/using-soil-testing-to-match-crop-nutrition-requirements>

KEY DATES & INFO

- HCPSL OFFICE CLOSED**
5th October
(King’s birthday public holiday)
- HCPSL AGM**
27th October (8am)
- TISSUE CULTURE ORDERS**
Deadline: 28th October
(for Spring 2027 delivery)

CONTROLLING PESKY NUTGRASS

Nutgrass can be a pesky problem, which can be difficult to control without a targeted approach. Aside from glyphosate in the fallow period, there are two primary options growers can use to help control nutgrass. One strategy to help put a dint in your nutgrass problem is to apply Imazapic (Flame) as a pre-emergent and follow up with Halosulfuron (Sempra) as a knockdown to take out escapees.

Active (Common Name)	When to Apply	Rate	Important Notes
Halosulfuron (Sempra)	For best results apply just prior to seed head emergence while nutgrass is actively growing.	65 – 130g/ha apply with non-ionic surfactant (Banjo etc)	Only apply once per season if using higher rate. ALWAYS read label for full instructions.
Imazapic (Flame)	Apply as pre or post emergent. (generally for suppression of nutgrass only).	400ml/ha apply with oil adjuvant (Hasten etc)	Do not apply more than once per season. Always read label for full instructions.

2026 RSD RESULTS

Disappointingly, 2026 RSD testing followed the same trend as 2025 with 1 in every 8 blocks sampled returning a positive result.

The Central Herbert returned the highest percentage of positive results with 1 in every 5 blocks being infected. This was true across the whole of that productivity zone regardless of proximity to the HCPSL Approved Seed plot.

- Varieties with the highest percentage of positive results;
- Q242 - 37.5% (8 tests)

SRA28 - 16% (187 tests)

SRA26 - 21.8% (110 tests)

Q240 - 11.6% (86 tests)

Q253 - 20.25% (376 tests)

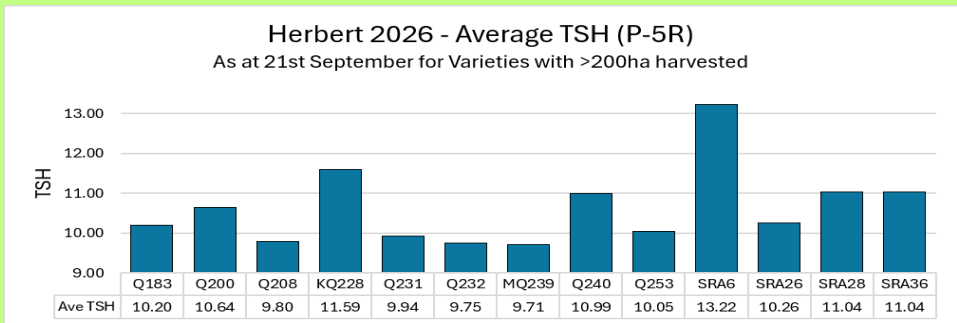
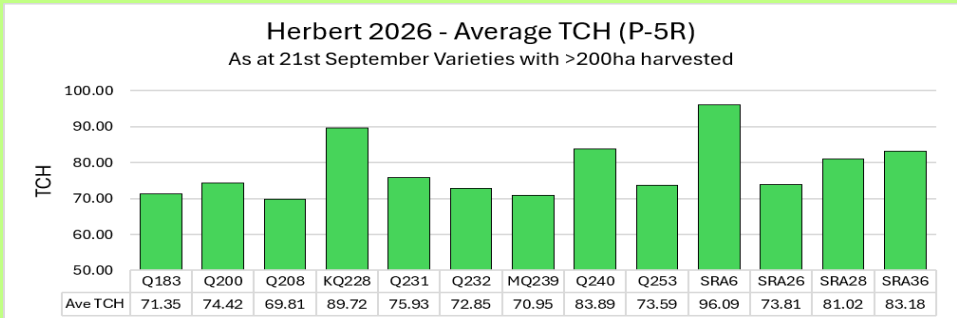
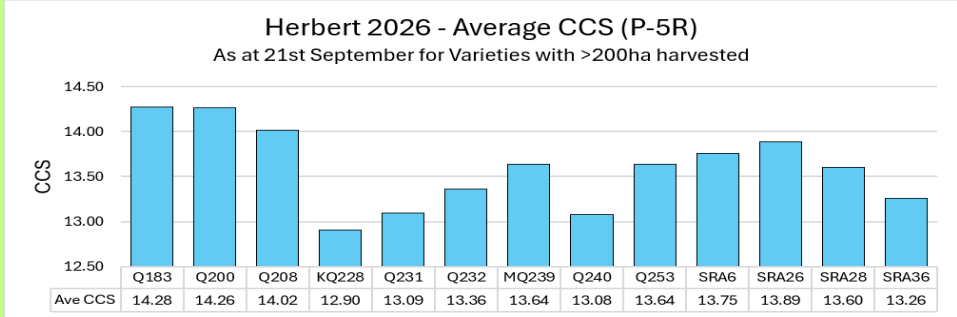
Q200 - 10.4% (249 tests)
- (total number of samples tested)

Variety	Number of Samples Tested	Number of Positive Tests	Infection Rate (%)
Ingham Line	256	22	8.6%
Central Herbert	402	78	19.4%
Lower Herbert	455	51	11.2%
Wet Belt	236	33	14%
Stone River	199	20	10.1%
Abergowrie	256	22	8.6%
Herbert (All)	1804	226	12.5%

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VARIETY PERFORMANCE



The charts to the left show the average CCS, TCH and TSH for varieties with greater than 200ha harvested (P – 5R only) since the start of the 2026 Herbert crush.

Q183, Q200, and Q208 topped the list for CCS, while SRA6, KQ228, Q240, and SRA36 topped the list for TCH.

The biggest surprise was SRA6 with nearly 2 units of TSH more than its nearest competitor. Almost 55,000 tonnes (570ha) has been delivered to the mill, which provides a good level of confidence in this result.

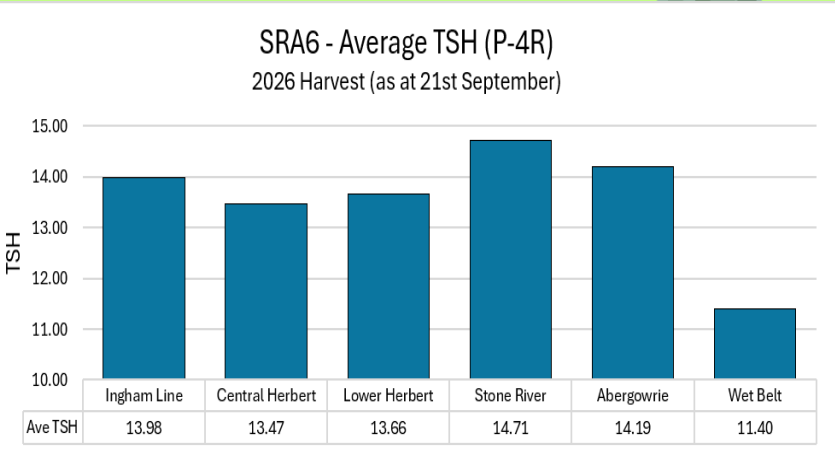
Data sourced from the Wilmar Sugar Grower Web.

SPOTLIGHT ON SRA6

The chart to the right shows the average TSH (P-4R) for SRA6 across the 6 Herbert productivity zones since the start of the 2026 crush.

Aside from the Wet Belt (Hawkins Creek, Tara, Seymour and Lannecost) SRA6 is showing consistent performance across all other productivity zones.

Abergowrie has the highest average yield (109 TCH), while Central Herbert has the highest average CCS (14.28 CCS).



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