

First Circular

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUGARCANE RESEARCH

Sugarcane for Sugar and Beyond (CaneCon 2021)



Period

19-22 June 2021

Venue

**Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU)
Coimbatore- 641 003
Tamil Nadu, India**

Organized by

**ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore
Society for Sugarcane Research and Development, Coimbatore**



Invitation

The ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute (ICAR-SBI), Coimbatore established in 1912 to breed sugarcane varieties for Indian sub-continent is nearing completion of 108 years of research in sugarcane by Oct 2020. The ICAR-SBI has been largely responsible for meeting sugarcane varietal requirements in the country in the past 10 decades and made India self-sufficient in sugar production. Co 205 was the first inter-specific hybrid variety (*Saccharum officinarum* x *S. spontaneum*) released from this institute in 1918. This and other improved inter-specific and tri-specific hybrid varieties evolved by ICAR-SBI were spread in larger areas in subtropical India and replaced low yielding traditional sugarcane clones which were in cultivation in North India prior to 1947. Knowing its importance, scientific services and contribution the then Viceroy of British India Lord Irwin in 1930 praised this Institute as “*Mecca of sugarcane research*”. Her Excellence the Queen Victoria Knighted Dr. T. S. Venkatraman, the “Legend of sugarcane research” with ‘Sir’ title. Hybridization with wild species has given faster and desired genetic improvement in sugarcane hence inter-specific hybridization / *nobilization in sugarcane has been heralded as the top five achievements in the annals of plant breeding*. In its 108 years of journey from 1912 to 2020, scientists of this institute has developed 3,151 improved sugarcane clones popularly known as ‘Coimbatore canes or Co canes’, of which, 174 attained “varietal status” and reached the farmers as commercial varieties. ‘Co varieties’ evolved at ICAR-SBI had spread to 28 countries in the World, thus serving the farming community across the globe. Shri C. Subramaniam, Former Union Minister of Agriculture, in 1987 complemented that “*agricultural sciences owe a great deal to the Sugarcane Breeding Institute which set the pattern for other agricultural research to undertake result-oriented work*”.

In 2018-19 sugarcane season, SBI's varieties including the wonder cane varieties Co 86032 and Co 0238 occupied 3.80 million ha, accounting 69.20% of the total cane area in India. Due to large scale cultivation of Co 0238 (2.59 million ha or 79.2% area in sub-tropical states) sugar recovery % in subtropical states rose to double digit (>10%). Cultivation of superior varieties, improvement in seedcane quality and sugarcane production technologies, along with the efforts by State and Central Governments and sugar industries made India a net surplus sugar producer continuously in the last 8-9 years and the country has become a regular supplier of sugar to the international market. Sugar production during 2018-19 sugar season (Oct-Sep) was 33.16 million metric tonnes as against 32.2 million metric tonnes during 2017-18 sugar season which is a record high production in the history of India and exceeded the production of Brazil (29.04 million metric tonnes). Now India ranks No. 1 in sugar production. Nonetheless, climate change, increasing intensity of biotic and abiotic stresses, shrinking natural resources, labour shortage, low adoption of mechanization, increasing cost of production, diversification of sugar industries for production of ethanol, cogeneration and value added products are the major emerging issues to be addressed at the global level to sustain sugarcane agriculture as more profitable. In this context, “**International Conference on Sugarcane Research: Sugarcane for Sugar and Beyond (CaneCon2021)**” is being organized during **19-22 June 2021 at TNAU, Coimbatore, India**. This conference will serve as a common platform to the sugarcane researchers, cane development officials, sugar industry personnel across the globe to deliberate on the past performance and formulate a path towards excellence in sugarcane research and development to meet the present and future challenges.

About the organizers

“CaneCon2021” is jointly organized by the ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University (TNAU) and the Society for Sugarcane Research and Development (SSRD).

ICAR-SBI: This Institute is currently engaged in evolving sugarcane varieties for India through conventional and molecular breeding approaches. Also the institute is engaged in developing ecofriendly and farmers' friendly production-cum-protection technologies to scale up the productivity of sugarcane in India. The institute is holding the largest sugarcane germplasm collections / gene bank in the world. The Institute is maintaining National Hybridization Garden for sugarcane which is a unique facility in India, utilized by 24 sugarcane research stations/institutes in India. State of the art micropropagation facility with production capacity of 1.0 lakh tissue culture plantlets/year is available at this institute. The Institute has a DBT accredited laboratory for viral indexing and genetic inactivate sett borne pathogens of sugarcane has been a success story and adopted worldwide to generate pathogen free sugarcane crop. Soil Moisture Indicator and Sett treatment device are another notable contribution by the Institute. Novel crystal toxin holotype gene *cry8Sa1* was isolated which is the *cry* gene isolated in India against a coleopteran pest.

TNAU: This is one of the leading Agricultural Universities in the country with an international reputation. Agricultural College, Coimbatore was one among the started as early as in 1906. The college was later elevated to the status of University in 1971. TNAU has established sugarcane research stations at Cuddalore, Sirugamani and Melalathur. About 35 cane varieties were released from the University including the high yielding and high sugar variety CoC 671 which made a remarkable sugar recovery gain in the tropical states of India.

SSRD: The Society for Sugarcane Research and Development was established in 2011 with an objective of promoting and fostering sugarcane research and developmental activities in India. Since inception, SSRD has been functioning in close association with ICAR-SBI and organized three international and six national symposia and two regional workshops. The *Journal of Sugarcane Research* is the of's e-publication portal.

The organizing committee has the privilege of inviting sugarcane researchers, cane development officials and sugar industry personnel for the International conference and requesting to contribute Research Paper (Extended Summary) for the conference.



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUGARCANE RESEARCH

Sugarcane for Sugar and Beyond (CaneCon2021)

Themes and sub-themes

1. Global Issues in sugarcane sector

- Research priorities for meeting global sugar requirement, export, product diversification
- International sugar trade-issues & way forward
- Climate change/COVID 19 & its impact in sugarcane sector, climate resilient technologies, carbon sequestration, climate change vs. emerging pests and diseases, drought management

2. Sugarcane improvement-From Conventional to molecular breeding

- Maintenance and conservation of sugarcane genetic resources, pre-breeding for enriching gene pool, genetic stock, inter-specific and wide hybridization
- Sugarcane improvement for yield, quality, earliness, resistance to biotic and abiotic stresses, breeding sugarcane for non-conventional purposes, energy cane
- Sugarcane biotechnology- genomics, transcriptomics, proteomics, metabolomics, phenomics, transgenics and biosafety, gene discovery and utilization, genome editing, bioinformatics, policy issues in sugarcane transgenics /molecular tools.
- Improvement in seed health, seed production and supply-chain management
- Success stories on seed quality improvement & sugarcane varieties


3. Advances in production technologies for maximising sugarcane and sugar yield

- Sugarcane agronomy, improving soil fertility and soil health, water & nutrition management
- Advancement in technologies for increasing input-use efficiency, precision farming, resource optimization, modelling, decision support systems
- Organic sugarcane cultivation, biofertilizers, biopesticides, plant growth promoting microbes, extracts.
- Improving physiological efficiency for increasing cane and sugar productivity
- Success stories of farmers who adopted improved production technologies

4. Advances in management of sugarcane pest and diseases

- Advancement / standardization of techniques / management of sugarcane pests / diseases through chemicals, newer molecules for pest and disease management, novel delivery systems for crop protection chemicals, non-chemical approaches for management of pests and diseases.
- Advancement / standardization of protocol for mass multiplication of biocontrol agents, pheromones, EPN.
- Molecular diagnosis of diseases, on site diagnostic tools, host-pathogen interactomics, molecular variation in insects and pathogens, pathogen virulence, emerging diseases and pests, epidemiology, climate change on pests and disease dynamics.
- Success stories in plant protection, extension pathology /entomology.

5. Mechanization of sugarcane production system - planting to harvest

- Design, development of location specific implements for sugarcane planting to harvest.
 - Challenges and opportunities in popularizing sugarcane mechanization
 - Success stories in sugarcane mechanization
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6. Sugar Industry: Challenges and opportunities

- Challenges, opportunities to produce sugar for domestic and global requirements -Country Report, Sugar & co-products trade, policy issues, forecast etc.
- Technological advancement in cane to sugar process, energy saving technologies
- Diversification- alternate feed stock for production of ethanol, high value chemicals/therapeutics, cogeneration etc.
- Management of effluent, waste water, solid wastes, environmental issues in distilleries
- Innovative technologies, success stories of sugarcane production, enhancing sugar recovery, quality of outputs, mill management.

7. Sugarcane extension, cane development and statistics

- Farmer's innovations-sharing experience of innovative farmers, indigenous technical know-how in sugarcane agriculture, digitization /automation in cane supply chain, ICT tools for sugar industry and sugarcane growers, value addition
- Entrepreneurship in sugarcane sector, capacity building for sugarcane growers, women friendly farm tools and implements, increasing income of women, retaining rural youth in sugarcane sector
- Impact analyses of sugarcane varieties, technologies, advancement in statistical tools, estimation of sugarcane area and production
- Doubling farmers' income in sugarcane agriculture-Success Stories.

Call for Extended Summary

Researchers, Cane Development Officials and sugar industry personnel are requested to submit the Extended summary (up to 3 pages or 3000 words) under the theme areas to the **Organizing Secretary, CaneCon2021** through E-mail ID canecon2021@gmail.com on **before 30 April, 2021**. Accepted papers will be communicated to the corresponding authors after review. The decision to assign the paper for oral or poster presentation will be vested with the organizers. Best oral presentation and posters will be recognized and awarded.

Date & Venue

The conference will be conducted from **19.06.2021 to 22.06.2021** at **Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India**. On 22.06.2021 visit to ICAR-SBI, TNAU and local sight-seeing will be arranged.

Registration Fee

Early Bird Registration (till 30 April 2021)	Spot Registration (on 19 June 2021)	Accompanying Persons
Indian delegates : ₹. 4,000	Indian delegates : ₹. 5,000	Indian delegates : ₹. 2,000/-
Foreign delegates : \$ 150	Foreign delegates : \$ 150	Foreign delegates : \$ 125
Students : ₹. 2,000	Students : ₹. 2000	

Registration fee covers the local transport, welcome dinner, lunch, refreshments and conference kit. Accompanying persons are not entitled for symposium kit.

Accommodation: Rooms are available at concessional rates for the delegates and their accompanying guests in hotels identified by us. The hotel list will be posted in our website (<http://sugarcane.icar.gov.in>). The delegates may directly book room(s) in the any of the hotel or contact the organizers for booking or alternative accommodations in Govt. guest houses. For foreign delegates and Special invitee the organizers will bear the accommodation charges.

Exhibition: Scientific companies, service providers, industries and exhibitors may utilize the opportunity to exhibit their products and services at the conference venue for wide publicity among the stakeholders. The exhibitors are requested to approach the organizers at the earliest to book their stall preferably before **30 April 2021**. As only limited numbers of stalls are available, allotment will be made on first-come-first-served basis.

Dates to be Remembered

Last date for submission of extended summaries	: 30 th April 2021
Last date for early bird registration	: 30 th April 2021
Conference dates	: 19 th - 22 nd June 2021

Contact

Dr. BAKSHI RAM

Chairman, Organizing Committee (CaneCon2021)
Director, ICAR - Sugarcane Breeding Institute
Coimbatore - 641 007, Tamil Nadu, India
Mobile : +91-9894044711; Landline : +91-422-2472986
Email : director.sbi@icar.gov.in Website: <http://sugarcane.icar.gov.in>

Further Information Contact

Dr. C. PALANISWAMI

Organizing Secretary (CaneCon2021) & Head (Crop Production)
ICAR - Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore - 641007, Tamil Nadu, India
Mobile: +91-9488202493 Email: canecon2021@gmail.com

Dr. S. GEETHA

Member Secretary (CaneCon2021) & Director, Centre for Plant Breeding and Genetics
Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore - 641 003, Tamil Nadu, India
Mobile : +91-9489056702, Email : geethagovind1@gmail.com

Dr. R. KARUPPAIYAN

Member Secretary (CaneCon2021) & General Secretary, SSRD
ICAR - Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore - 641007, Tamil Nadu, India
Mobile: +91-8015927937 Email: ssrd.coimbatore@gmail.com

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chief Patron : Dr. T. Mohapatra, Secretary DARE & Director General, ICAR, New Delhi

Patron : Dr. N. Kumar, Vice Chancellor, TNAU, Coimbatore
Dr. T.R. Sharma, DDG (Crop Science), ICAR, New Delhi

Chairman, Organizing Committee :
Dr. Bakshi Ram, Director, ICAR-SBI & President, SSRD, Coimbatore

Convener : Dr. R.K. Singh, ADG (Commercial Crops), ICAR, New Delhi

Advisory Board :

Shri Shivajirao Deshmukh, Director General, VSI, Pune
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Shri Tarun Sawhney, VC & MD, Triveni Engineering & Industries Ltd.
Mrs. Nandhini Nopany, Chairperson, K.K. Birla Group of Sugar Companies
Dr. S.V. Balasubramaniam, Chairman, Bannari Amman Sugars, Coimbatore
Dr. M. Manickam, Executive Chairman, Sakthi Sugars Ltd
Shri V. Ravichandran, MD, EID Parry (India) Ltd
Mrs. Rajshree Pathy, Chairman and MD, Rajshree Sugars, Coimbatore
Shri Atul Chaturvedi, Executive Chairman, Shree Renuka Sugars Ltd
Shri Ramakoteswara Rao, Vice Chairman & MD, NSL Sugars
Shri Ajit S. Shriram, Joint MD, DCM Shriram Ltd.
Shri Gaurav Goel, MD, Dhampur Sugar Mills Limited
Shri Gautam Dalmia, MD, Dalmia Sugars Ltd.
Shri Rajkumar Adlakha, MD, Uttam Sugar Mills Ltd
Shri Goutam R. Morarka, Executive Chairman, Dwarikesh Sugar Industries Ltd.
Shri Rana Inder Pratap Singh, MD, Rana Sugars Ltd
Shri Samir Somaiya, Chairman & MD, Godavari Biorefineries Ltd
Shri Ranjit Puri, Chairman, Saraswati Sugar Mills Ltd
Shri Alok B. Shriram, Sr. MD & CEO, DCM Shriram Industries Ltd
Shri N. Ramanathan, MD, Ponni Sugars Ltd
Shri E. Manivel, President, SNJ Sugars and Products Ltd
Shri Prafulla V. Shirgaokar, Chairman, The Ugar Sugar Works Ltd
Shri Roshan Lal Tamak, ED&CEO, DCM Shriram Ltd
Shri Sunil K. Sachdeva, CEO, Saraswati Sugar Mills Ltd.
Shri G. Venkateswara Rao, COO, KCP Sugars & Industries Ltd
Shri K. Nagendran, Special Director, Thiru Arooran Sugars Ltd
Shri M. Krishnan, Consultant (Sugar), Australia

REGISTRATION FORM

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUGARCANE RESEARCH Sugarcane for Sugar and Beyond (CaneCon 2021) 19-22 June 2021

Title: Prof./Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms

Name :
Designation :
Organization :
:

Contact details

Address :
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Phone : Mobile : Fax :
E-mail :

Passport Details Nationality:

Passport No. Date of issue: Valid till:

Whether submitting an extended summaryor only participation.....

If submitting an extended summary, title of the paper:
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Theme :

Mode of payment of registration fee: Delegates may credit the registration fee through online in the **CaneCon2021** A/c No. **39675570156** (Current Account) at the State Bank of India, Veerakeralam Branch (Branch code: 10618), IFSC Code: SBIN0010618 and SWIFT CODE: SBININBB294. Demand drafts are also accepted. The demand drafts should be drawn in favour of "CaneCon2021", payable at SBI, Veerakeralam Branch, Coimbatore and should be sent to the Organizing Secretary, at the address mentioned below:

Dr. C. PALANISWAMI

Head (Crop Production) & Organizing Secretary (CaneCon2021)
ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore-641 007, Tamil Nadu, India
Phone : +91-422-2472621 Ext: 222, Mobile: +91-9488202493
Email : canecon2021@gmail.com

Delegates are requested to return the filled in registration form along with payment details to the Organizing Secretary before the respective due dates.

Registration form can be downloaded from the website: <http://sugarcane.icargov.in>