

Sugar Cane Sampling & Growth Stages

Timing: Begin sampling at vegetative stage (3-7 months), continue until complete row close

Sample volume: 20-30 leaves from large plants, 30 whole plants for small plants

Sampling: Select leaves from stems of average height. Sampling the third leaf from the top of the stem, this usually corresponds with the first visible dewlap

Growth stages describe the stage most plants within a crop have reached (60% or more)

Primary Stage	Secondary Stage	Description	Comments
1			<i>Leaf development</i>
	1.3		3 leaves unfolded
	1.6		6 leaves unfolded
3			<i>Stem elongation</i>
	3.1		First node detectable
	3.9		9 or more nodes detectable
5			<i>Inflorescence emergence, heading</i>
	5.1		Beginning of tassel emergence tassel detectable at top of stem
	5.3		Tip of tassel visible
	5.5		Middle of tassel emergence: middle of tassel begins to separate
	5.9		End of tassel emergence: tassel fully emerged and separated

Growth Stage numbering system is in accordance to the extended BBCH, a uniform coding of phenologically similar growth stages for all plant species

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