

FRENCH SUGARCANE EXPERTISE



ENHANCING YOUR PROJECTS WITH OUR EXPERTISE

Cirad, the French Agricultural Research Center for International Development, and eRcane, a research and varietal selection center based in Reunion Island, are the leading pillars of French expertise in sugarcane.

Our two organizations are long-standing partners, serving to complement each other's roles in supporting stakeholders of the sugarcane industry in both France and abroad.

Cirad is a French organization working in sustainable development in tropical and Mediterranean regions, and has a number of sugarcane specialists involved in a wide range of multidisciplinary research programs. Their fields of expertise include: a) knowledge of the plant itself, such as research in genetics, physiology, pathology; b) agroecological practices including weed control and integrated pest management; c) supply chain management, remote sensing and data management.

Located in Montpellier, in the south of France, far from any sugarcane production area, the sugarcane quarantine of Cirad, called 'Visacane', supplies healthy cane varieties to the sugar estates and to breeding centers worldwide. It also benefits from a plant pathology laboratory, and is the only entrance

point for any variety brought onto French territory. In Reunion Island, which is also Europe's leading sugarcane producer, eRcane has been a sugarcane breeding center since 1929, implementing a multi-local selection strategy in order to create varieties which are adapted to a diverse range of soil and climate environments. Teams work across seven experiment stations, hybridizing and selecting cane varieties that contribute to improving the sector's productivity, while conducting genomics research with the main objective of accelerating the genetic progress.

The agronomists and researchers at eRcane and Cirad are working together to understand and improve the development of sugarcane. Furthermore, eRcane has also developed skills in automation and innovative industrial processes in sugar factories. For its part, Cirad has also been developing its skills for several years, as shown by the many scientific and technical collaborations with many cane and sugar-producing countries in the tropics and around the Mediterranean.

This document details the key aspects concerning our expertise and know-how, which we look forward to sharing with you on your projects.

Enjoy your reading!



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