SBI 2007-291 has been registered with NBPG( INGR No. 14011) as a short duration clone

The clone SBI 2007-291 was developed from the cross CoSnk03-044x Co 86002. The clone was evaluated along with 12 other clones, all characterized with Brix above 22% and red rot resistance, during 2011-12 crop season. Among the entries, SBI 2007-291 showed the advantage with 22.75% sucrose at 300 days, with clear superiority over CoC 671, and exhibited resistance to red rot. SBI 2007-291 shows promise as a short duration clone, satisfying the norms fixed for such a clone i.e. exceeding 18% sucrose and 85% purity at eight months of crop growth. The clone is characterized by high tillering habit, medium thick canes and early flowering nature. This is also resistant to Co 94012 isolate and moderately resistant to CoC 671 isolate of red rot pathogen. In the subsequent year, the clone was compared against the short duration standard viz. Co 8338 (with 18.57% sucrose) and at 10 months age, it showed clear superiority over it.

In order to assess its’ suitability as a short duration clone, the clone was ratooned and performance evaluated in the ratoon crop at monthly intervals from 8 to 11 months. In the first week of October when the crop was eight months old, 2007-291 recorded 18.36 %sucrose, more than two units over the standard CoC 671 amounting to 13.47 % improvement. Its Brix was 21.18%, a clear 16.50% improvement over the standard, and purity was 86.67%. With sucrose content of 22.68% at 10 months it was again superior to CoC 671, thus exhibiting consistently higher sucrose content during the early maturity period and its establishing its suitability for early harvest. The crop growth was good by virtue of high tillering potential. Flowering was observed in the canes in October and hence better gains from the clone could be achieved by harvesting it early during the crushing period. Based on these findings, the clone was registered for the following characters:

i. A clone combining early high sugar (sucrose > 18% at 240 days and > 22.00% at 10 months) with red rot resistance

ii. A clone with high cane population and ratooning potential, suitable as a short duration clone (for harvesting from 240 to 300 days after planting)

The genotype is characterised by medium thick, greenish yellow wax coated canes with long internodes, narrow yellow growth ring, light brown dewlap and bud groove extending to one third of the internode.

G. Hemaprabha, R.M. Shanthi and K. Mohanraj
ICAR-SBI, Coimbatore - 641 007.