The highest grain yield per ear (damaged and healthy) recorded in SB-2415 which ranged from 42.00 to 43.80 with an average of 42.90 gms. This was followed by SB-1079 ranging from 33.60–37.20 gms with an average of 34.00 gms. The entries which recorded the lower yield per ear were 323A x SB-5501 (19.00 gm) and SB-2413 (23.50 gms).

Based on the incidence of the tussock caterpillar per ear head grades assigned to different sorghum varieties and mean grain yield per ear, the present investigation recorded CS-3541 x 4-D-12 and 2219A x SB-1079 were found to be less susceptible to the tussock caterpillar. The genotypes SB-2202 and CSH-5 were found to be highly susceptible to the tussock caterpillar by recording more number of caterpillar per ear, this is in confirmity with Kulkarni *et al.*, (1976) where they recorded more number of larvae on these genotypes. There was no relation between days to 50% flowering and resistant genotypes to pest.

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Age of the Seedlings in Relation to Coriander Blight - Caused by *Colletotrichum Gloeosporioides*

Coriander blight incited by *Colletotrichum gloeosporioides* (Penz.) Penz. & Sacc., is one of the major disease occurs in an epidemic form in Karnataka (Naik, *et al.*, 1988). To screen the germplasm and to understand the epidemiolgy of the disease there is very necessity of identifying the most critical susceptible stage of the crop for infection. In this direction a pot-culture experiment was planned and the results obtained are discussed here-under,

Earthen pots were filled with sterilized soil and planted with a susceptible local coriander variety. In all ten treat-

ments were maintained with three replications. In the first set of pots, seeds were mixed with pathogenic *C. gloeosporioides* conidial suspension (10^6 conidia/ml) and sown. The remaining pots were planted with apparently healthy surface sterilized seeds with 0.1 per cent mereuric chloride solution. Seven days after seed germination a set of three pots were sprayed with conidial suspension of *C. gloeosporioides*. Before and after inoculation the seedlings were exposed to high humidity for 24 hr. Subsequent sets were also sprayed in similar way with inoculum at an interval of 7 days and incubated in glass house in asceptic condition for symptom development. Incidence and intensity of blight was recorded ten days after every inoculation. Seedlings sprayed with sterile water served as control.

It was very much clear that the blight incidence and the intensity on different aged seedlings differed significantly from each other. The artificial inoculation with conidial suspension of *C. gloeosporioides* on 35 day old (5th week) seedlings yielded 93.33 per cent blight incidence with 78.36 per cent intensity. In subsequent aged seedlings though there was 100 per cent blight incidence, the intensity decreased considerably i.e. from 78.36 to 3.95 per cent. Similar results were obtained by Naik (1986) working with *C. gloeosporioides*. The least blight incidence and severity was observed on the seedlings of below 21 days old, which were sprayed with the conidial suspension. This clearly indicates that the young seedlings below the age of 7 or 15 days do not get infected by *C. gloeosporioides*. However, many workers observed the establishment of latent infections of diseases incited by the isolates of *C. gloeosporioides* on muscadina grape (Davkin and Micholland, 1984), avacado (Binyamini and Schiffmann Nodes, 1972) and orange (Adam *et al.*, 1949). Lenne and Sonoda (1979) noticed significant reduction on emergence and survival of seedlings when the seeds of *Stylosanthes hamata* inoculated with conidial suspension of *C. gloeosporioides*. In the present study, though coriander seeds were mixed with conidial suspension of *C. gloeosporioides* before sowing, there was no bad effect either on its germination or on seedlings till harvest. Five and six weeks old coriander seedlings took maximum infection indicating the susceptibility stage of the crop, which coincided with the flower initiation and just seed setting. Probably, the fungus requires rich carbohydrates present either in inflorescence or in immature seeds.

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A Note on the Possibility of Improving Recovery in Sugar Mills of North Karnataka

Sugarcane is an important cash crop of the world. India is one of the premier countries next to Brazil with respect to area and production. It forms 7% of the gross value of agricultural product with only 2% of area under the crop. Of late the domestic consumption is increasing appreciably as a result the internal demand coupled with external demand for sugar is increasing. This has necessitated a sizable improvement in the sugar productivity and production. The agro-climatic situations of Northern Karnataka are very much congenial for high productivity. However, the present productivity is below its production and productivity of sugar mills has been made.

North Karnataka with eight districts accounts for 66% of cane area and 56% of production in the state with an average cane production of 66 t/ha. At present, 16 sugar factories are in operation and a few more are in the offing. The crushing season extends from mid October to as late as May, however, the average crushing days are just 133 days (Table 1). Some sugar mills crush for nearly 195 days in Belgaum region. Under limited cane supply due to moisture scarcity it may be even less than 100 days. The recovery picture is particularly variable recording lower recoveries during early part (October-November) and fag end (April-May) of the season. The variation in recovery is