

## The Effects of Doses and Methods of Lime Placement to N, P, K, Ca, Mg Content into the Leaves and Sugarcane Growth in Ultisol Seputih Mataram Lampung Tengah

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### ABSTRACT

Land circumstances on Seputih Mataram, Lampung included in dried area consisted of ultisols soil. Ultisol has pH less than 5.5 caused the amount of soil nutrient absorbed to be not optimal yet. This research aimed to know the effect of adding dolomite to the soil chemical content (pH of H<sub>2</sub>O, KCL, content of N, P, K, Ca, Mg, Organic-C, C/N, Al-exc, H-exc, CEC), nutrient content on the leaves (N, P, K, Ca, Mg), and sugar cane physic. This research used Completely Randomized Design in 2 factors with 3 replication. The first factor was the dolomite doses with 6 levels: without the dolomite (K0), 500 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (K1), 1,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (K2), 2,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (K3), 4,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (K4), and 6,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (K5). The second factor (R) was the depth of dolomite application: (R1) dolomite with 0-20 cm deep, and (R2) dolomite with 20-40 cm deep. The observation was done to know the soil chemical content, the leaves nutrients, and the variables that could be used into the research. The result showed that the depth of dolomite did not have significant effect to the amount of Nitrogen (N), Phosphorus (P), Potassium (K), Calcium (Ca), and Magnesium (Mg) in leaves. Dolomite addition had significant effect for Calcium (Ca) absorption in leaves, but it did not significantly affect the leaves absorption. Dolomite addition had significant effect in the leaves content and Magnesium (Mg) leaves absorption. 6,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> dolomite for physical soil characteristic (pH H<sub>2</sub>O, pH KCL, C/N ratio, K, P, Ca, Mg, Exch-H), leaves nutrient (N, K, Ca), Mg and Ca absorption on leaves also sugar cane tonnage per hectare showed the maximum result.

**Keywords:** Dolomite, dry matter, liming, sugarcane, ultisol

### INTRODUCTION

Sugar is one of basic needs of most people all over the world and the demand for sugar shows more increase annually. In addition, sugar is also important for industries. Sugar is currently becoming a problem due to the lack of domestic sugar production, while the demand continues to increase. To meet the domestic sugar demand and reduce sugar import, the production of sugar raw material which is sugarcane should be increased.

The Sugar Group Companies land condition belongs to a dry land (soil taxonomy) with Ultisol soil type. Ultisol is often associated with infertile soil, but in fact it is potential to be used for agricultural land in proper managements which pay attention to the existing problems (constraints). Ultisol can also

be a potential land if the climate is supporting. Ultisol has pH of less than 5.5. The soil pH is determinant in controlling other chemical soil properties and characteristics for soil fertility.

One of efforts in improving sugarcane productivity is by intensification (increasing sugarcane production per unit of land area). The most common intensification methods are good land processing, balanced fertilizing, using superior varieties, selecting proper time for planting and harvesting, and proper weed and pest controlling.

Another problem of intensification is the need of manpower in agriculture which is more difficult to get from time to time, because manpower is more expensive and less available. This manpower is required for land management activities such as for applying fertilizer. New breakthroughs are required to solve

the problems and these include mechanization and efficiency of liming.

Liming in PT. Gula Putih Mataram so far has been practiced manually by broadcasting on the soil surface and using fertilizer sowing. Applied dose uses common guideline for sugarcane fertilizing, so that it is possible to use slot application and the problem of mechanization is overcome. Moreover, considering that calcium is a soil macro nutrient which also affects pH neutralization that takes a role to improve other nutrient uptakes, the slot application into particular depths will stimulate sugarcane rooting. By better rooting, it is expected that soil nutrient uptakes will be more optimal to improve sugarcane productivity. Therefore, the objectives of the present study were (i) to determine optimal doses of dolomite to sugarcane growth and (ii) to determine the right dolomite placement for sugarcane plant growth.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

This research was conducted in sugarcane plantation area of Division IV, block TS 06/03, plot 024TS060 of PT. Gula Putih Mataram, located in Mataram Udik Village, Bandar Mataram Sub

District, Central Lampung Regency, Lampung Province. The experiment was conducted from May 2016 to January 2017. Materials and equipment used were sugarcane germ variety MLR-236, land processing equipment (tractor and its supporting equipment), lime immersion equipment, dolomite, stationaries, scales, roll meter, wooden pegs, ropes, and chemical materials for laboratory analysis.

Land preparation included land processing of stillage, brushing, plough, harrow I and II, track making, ripping, immersed dolomite application by using implementer, and then followed by furrowing when 1 MAA (with TSP 100 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and ZA 100 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>) and irrigation (when there was no rain). After 3 MAA top dressing application used Urea 283 kg ha<sup>-1</sup>. Sugarcane planting by immersing was conducted with double rows planting pattern (1 row contains of two lines). The plot measure for each treatment was 2 rows × 150 m.

This research used completely randomized design with two factors and three blocks for repetitions. The first factor was the dolomite in six doses: without dolomite (K0), 500 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (K1), 1,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (K2), 2,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (K3), 4,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (K4), and 6,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (K5). The second factor was the depth of placement of dolomite application: application in 0–20 cm of

soil depth (R1) and dolomite application in 20–40 cm of soil depth (R2). There were total of

12 combination treatments (6×2). Each treatment was repeated three times so that there were 36 plots (3×12).

Initial data collections in this research were soil physical properties (soil texture), soil chemical properties, and dolomite analysis. Initial soil sampling and 7 MAA soil sampling were conducted in soil layer of 0–20 cm and 20–40 cm. The soil chemical properties analysis included soil pH (pH H<sub>2</sub>O; pH KCl), N, P, K, Ca, Mg, organic-C contents, C/N ratio, Al-exc, H-exc and cation exchange capability (CEC). All analysis activities for soil and nutrient uptakes were conducted in the Agrolab laboratory of PT. Gula Putih Mataram. Leaf nutrient content analysis was conducted at 7 MAA and it included N, P, K, Ca, and Mg content. Other observation parameters were effects on sugarcane performance involving sugarcane population and height from 2 MAA to 7 MAA, wet and dry biomass at 7 MAA and sugarcane weight per hectare at 7 MAA.

These data were analyzed to find out the effects of the independent variables to dependent variable with analysis of variance by using F-test at 5% of trust content, and when there were significant differences between treatments, it was followed by DMRT (Duncan's Multiple Range Test) at 5% of trust content (Gomez and Gomez, 1993). Data analysis was conducted with SAS 9.1.3 Portable software.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The key for symbiotic between mycorrhiza and host plant was the infection capability of the mycorrhiza (Smith *et al.*, 2011). Initial soil analysis is presented in soil had a very low organic matter content Table 1. This table shows that soil (organic-C 0.51 % and 0.38 %) and texture in research location was together with low C/N ratio it showed that dominated by sand fraction (sand 66–68%, the soil organic matter was already at silt 5–6% and clay 26–28%) and this soil decomposed stage, suggesting that this soil texture was categorized as sandy requires organic material addition. Organic clayloam. According to Tambunan (2008) C as energy source in the soil was very sandy soil will have many macro pores. important for soil microorganism, so lack More porous soil will make roots easier to of this will decrease soil microbe population penetrate, and easier for water and air to and diversity which had an important role circulate, but water and air are also easier in transforming

**Table 1.** Soil physical and chemical properties in the research location

Soil Properties	Soil depth			
	0-20 cm		20-40 cm	
	0-20 cm	Grade	20-40 cm	Grade
Texture	Value	Category*	Value	Category*
Sand (%)	68		66	
Silt (%)	5	Clay with sand	6	Clay with sand
Clay (%)	26		28	
pH				
H <sub>2</sub> O	4.67	Acid	4.52	Acid
KCl	4.46	Very acid	4.28	Very acid
Organic materials				
C-Organic (%)	0.51	Very low	0.38	Very low
Total N (%)	0.09	Very low	0.07	Very low
C/N	5.65	Low	5.46	Low
Available P (ppm)	18.44	Very high	4.46	Low
Exch-K (me/100 g soil)	0.03	Very low	0.04	Very low
Exch-Ca (me/100 g soil)	1.01	Very low	1.07	Very low
Exch-Mg (me/100 g soil)	0.22	Very low	0.25	Very low
Exch-Al (me/100g)	0.49		0.34	
Exch-H (me/100g)	0.52		0.51	
Cation Exchange				
Capacity (me/100g)	3.61	Very low	4.97	Very low

\*Criteria based on the Soil Research Office (2005)

**Table 2.** Physical and chemical properties of dolomite used in this research

Water content (%)	CaO (%)	MgO	Mesh 25	Mesh 80
14.34	30.17	16.59	84	51

varying soil nutrients to be depleted. This means that this soil (Santoso *et al.*, 1999). Macro type has low capability in storing water. nutrient elements in the soil were very low Initial soil pH was in acid category with up to 40 cm of soil depth except for the pH of 4.67 and 4.54, respectively for 0 – available P which was very high in 0–20 cm of soil depth. The Ca and Mg content were very low so that dolomite addition was required. The cation-exchange capacity very was low (3.61 % and 4.97 %), so that the ion exchange was very low causing the soil assessment score to be low (Sutanto, 2005).

The water content of dolomite used in this research (Table 2) was higher than what was stipulated in SNI 02-2804-1992 causing the required dose to increase 1 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> of soil. For the material dose, the dolomite used was middle category and this was related to Ca and Mg dissolution speed into the soil.

### Soil chemical properties at 7 MAA

Table 3 showed that the dolomite doses affected significantly in increasing soil acidity pH H<sub>2</sub>O and pH KCl, Mg, Al-exc and H-exc contents, but the soil application depths of dolomite by using lime immersing implementer did not significantly affect these parameters. Concerning organic-C content, total N, C/N ratio, available P, available K, Ca, and CEC, the dolomite doses did not have significant effect, but the dolomite immersion depths showed significant effect to those parameters. In all observed soil chemical properties, there were interactions between doses and dolomite immersion depths.

The lowest pH H<sub>2</sub>O score was in control (K0) with 20–40 cm of soil (R2) depth (KOR<sub>2</sub> score was 3.94) where this was in very acidic category and the highest score was obtained at 6,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> (K5) at 20–40 cm of soil depth (K<sub>5</sub>R<sub>2</sub> score was 5.65) and this was moderate acidic category. 0–20 cm

**Table 3.** Soil physical and chemical properties in the research location

Treatment	pH H <sub>2</sub> O	pH KCl	C Organic	C/N Ratio (%)	N Total	P availableK (ppm)	Ca	Mg me 100 g <sup>-1</sup> soil	CEC	Exch Al	Exch-H	
K0R1	4.92 abc	4.65 ab	1.07 a	10.43 abc	0.10 a	48.64 a	0.09 bc	1.64 ab	0.31 abc	3.87 abc	0.49 a	0.28 b
K0R2	3.94 c	3.85 b	0.58 b	12.14 a	0.05 b	5.56 c	0.03 c	0.40 b	0.15 c	2.14 d	0.51 a	0.17 b
K1R1	5.09 abc	4.80 ab	1.18 a	11.62 a	0.10 a	52.62 a	0.17 a	1.85 ab	0.35 abc	4.26 ab	0.15 ab	0.27 b
K1R2	4.29 bc	4.24 ab	0.52 b	8.21 c	0.06 b	10.78 c	0.04 c	0.92 ab	0.28 bc	2.13 d	0.18 ab	0.36 b
K2R1	5.15 abc	4.89 ab	1.14 a	12.41 a	0.09 a	37.81 ab	0.09 bc	1.91 ab	0.40 abc	4.42 ab	0.03 b	0.29 b
K2R2	4.65 abc	4.39 ab	0.49 b	8.13 c	0.06 b	9.77 c	0.06 bc	1.07 ab	0.30 bc	2.35 cd	0.26 ab	0.40 ab
K3R1	5.21 abc	5.02 ab	1.04 a	10.41 abc	0.10 a	56.50 a	0.13 ab	1.99 ab	0.45 abc	4.93 a	ND b	0.32 b
K3R2	5.04 abc	4.86 ab	0.51 b	11.04 ab	0.05 b	13.95 bc	0.04 c	1.08 ab	0.38 abc	3.33 abcd	0.08 ab	0.43 ab
K4R1	5.23 ab	5.09 ab	1.10 a	10.95 ab	0.10 a	50.32 a	0.09 bc	2.14 a	0.55 ab	4.40 ab	ND b	0.35 b
K4R2	5.10 abc	4.88 ab	0.51 b	8.77 bc	0.06 b	14.23 bc	0.05 c	1.32 ab	0.40 abc	2.80 bcd	ND b	0.55 ab
K5R1	5.42 ab	5.15 ab	1.08 a	12.25 a	0.09 a	58.96 a	0.19 a	2.21 a	0.62 a	4.42 ab	ND b	0.53 ab
K5R2	5.65 a	5.43 a	0.59 b	10.41 abc	0.06 b	12.49 bc	0.04 c	1.81 ab	0.54 ab	2.86 bcd	ND b	0.78 a
R1	5.17 a	4.94 a	1.10 a	11.34 a	0.10 a	50.81 a	0.13 a	1.95 a	0.45 a	4.38 a	0.11 a	0.34 a
R2	4.78 a	4.61 a	0.54 b	9.78 b	0.06 b	11.13 b	0.04 b	1.10 b	0.34 a	2.60 b	0.17 a	0.45 a
K0	4.43 b	4.25 b	0.83 a	11.28 a	0.08 a	27.10 a	0.06 a	1.02 a	0.23 c	3.01 a	0.50 a	0.23 b
K1	4.69 ab	4.52 ab	0.85 a	9.91 a	0.08 a	31.70 a	0.10 a	1.39 a	0.31 bc	3.20 a	0.16 b	0.32 b
K2	4.90 ab	4.64 ab	0.82 a	10.27 a	0.08 a	23.79 a	0.08 a	1.49 a	0.35 bc	3.38 a	0.14 b	0.34 b
K3	5.12 ab	4.94 ab	0.78 a	10.73 a	0.07 a	35.22 a	0.08 a	1.53 a	0.41 abc	4.13 a	0.04 b	0.37 b
K4	5.17 ab	4.97 ab	0.81 a	9.86 a	0.08 a	32.28 a	0.07 a	1.73 a	0.48 ab	3.60 a	ND b	0.45 ab
K5	5.53 a	5.29 a	0.83 a	11.33 a	0.07 a	35.73 a	0.11 a	2.01 a	0.58 a	3.64 a	ND b	0.65 a
Interaction	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

Note: Numbers followed by the same letter in the same column does not differ significantly at duncan's multiple range test (DMRT) and (+) mark indicates there is an interaction to the combination treatment.

dolomite of immersion depth with 6,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> dose can increase pH from 4.92 to 5.42 (0.5 increased). The pH H<sub>2</sub>O in 20–40 cm of immersion depth increased by 1.71 from 3.94 (very acidic) to 5.65 (moderate acidic).

Soil supporting capability to pH in 0–20 cm of depth was higher than 20–40 cm of depth. It was because of higher scores of cation-exchange capability (CEC) and organic-C in those layers.

Foller *et al.* (1981) suggested that smaller dolomite dose provide faster reaction. A very fine size which was 100% passing 100 mesh would provide faster effect compared to 90 % passing 10 mesh. However, fine sizes will be easier to be washed making them not last longer compared to coarser sizes. Finer sizes of dolomite will be more difficult to be immersed by implementer and the price will also increase.

Organic-C content analysis results showed that the dolomite doses did not show significant difference, but immersion depths showed varying significant different scores of organic-C. This was possibly due to the chopping process of sugarcane litter, stump,

and plant (brushing in the land processing) which took an important role in the varying organic-C content in each treatment. Plowing in the land processing also gave an important role in providing organic material content.

Dolomite additional doses did not have significant effect, but dolomite immersion depths had significant effect to total N, available P and K, with higher score at each parameter which was obtained at 0–20 cm of immersion depth. The reason was that the analysis result showed higher scores of pH in 0–20 cm of soil layer depth, so that the soil nutrient availabilities improved and this was supported by higher score of cation-exchange capability in these layers.

Exchangeable calcium in each layer increased along with dolomite dose addition. Calcium in 0–20 cm of depth increased by 0.57 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> soil (K0R1 score was 1.64 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> soil and K5R1 score was 2.21 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> soil) and 1.41 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> gram soil in 20–40 cm of depth (K0 R2 score was 0.40 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> soil with very low category and K5 score was 1.81 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> soil with low category). The calcium

**Table 4.** Leaf nutrient content

Treatment	N (%)	P (%)	K (%)	Ca (%)	Mg (%)
K0R1	1.86 b	0.31 a	1.16 a	0.189 ab	0.12 bc
K0R2	1.89 ab	0.31 a	1.18 a	0.178 b	0.11 c
K1R1	1.88 ab	0.32 a	1.19 a	0.187 ab	0.13 abc
K1R2	2.13 ab	0.32 a	1.21 a	0.180 ab	0.13 abc
K2R1	2.05 ab	0.31 a	1.15 a	0.190 ab	0.13 abc
K2R2	2.03 ab	0.31 a	1.20 a	0.189 ab	0.12 bc
K3R1	2.03 ab	0.31 a	1.17 a	0.192 ab	0.13 abc
K3R2	2.12 ab	0.30 a	1.19 a	0.199 ab	0.14 ab
K4R1	1.96 ab	0.31 a	1.16 a	0.203 ab	0.15 a
K4R2	2.10 ab	0.33 a	1.18 a	0.197 ab	0.13 abc
K5R1	2.05 ab	0.31 a	1.23 a	0.205 a	0.13 abc
K5R2	2.14 a	0.32 a	1.19 a	0.199 ab	0.15 a
R1	1.97 a	0.31 a	1.18 a	0.194 a	0.13 a
R2	2.07 a	0.31 a	1.19 a	0.190 a	0.13 a
K0	1.88 b	0.31 a	1.17 a	0.183 b	0.12 b
K1	2.01 ab	0.32 a	1.20 a	0.184 b	0.13 ab
K2	2.04 ab	0.31 a	1.18 a	0.189 ab	0.13 ab
K3	2.08 a	0.31 a	1.18 a	0.196 ab	0.14 a
K4	2.03 ab	0.32 a	1.17 a	0.200 ab	0.14 a
K5	2.10 a	0.32 a	1.21 a	0.202 a	0.14 a
Interaction	+	-	-	+	+

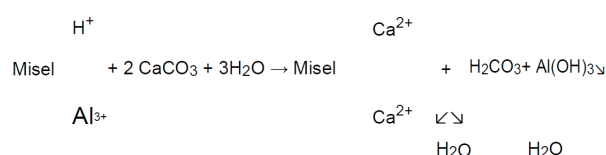
Note: Numbers followed by the same letter in the same column does not differ significantly at Duncan's multiple range test (DMRT) and (+) mark indicates there is an interaction to the combination treatment.

increased in the lower soil layer was higher because sugarcane uptakes in the upper layer was higher and there was fine sized dolomite leaching due to the irrigation and rain.

The analysis results showed that increase of dolomite dose significantly affected the Mg availability, but the dolomite immersion depths did not. Exchangeable Mg at 0-20 cm increased by 0.31 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> soil (from K0R1 score of 0.31 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> soil to K5R1 score of 0.62 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> soil) and H<sup>+</sup>, it increased by 0.39 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> soil at 20–40 cm of depth (from K0R2 score of 0.5 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> soil with very low category to K5R2 score of 0.54 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> soil with low category).

Table 3 shows the analysis of variance of exchangeable Al and exchangeable H in varying dolomite doses which showed significant difference, but dolomite immersion depths did not show significant difference. Table 3 suggests that the higher dolomite dose will decrease Al-exc score into very low and increase H-exc score. This was in accordance with Kamprath's (1967) suggesting that liming of acidic soil decrease aluminum concentration in the soil solution through

deposition of Al<sup>3+</sup> into Al(OH)<sub>3</sub>, by the following reaction.



The Al-exc score in 20–40 cm soil depth was higher because Al-exc would appear when the soil pH was acidic and soil pH scored in 20–40 cm of depth was lower than upper soil layer. 4,000 kg ha dolomite dose (K4) was able to decrease Al-exc 0.50 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> soil (until it was undetected by the instrument). The increasing of H-exc by 0.42 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> soil (from K0 score of 0.23 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> soil to K5 score of 0.65 me 100g<sup>-1</sup> soil) along with the increasing of dolomite dose will cause higher neutralization, so that H-exc will be more improved.

### Leaf nutrient content

Table 4 shows that dolomite addition significantly affected the leaf N content. The highest leaf N of 2.08 % and 2.10 % was obtained at 2,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and

**Table 5.** Observation results on the sugarcane performance at 7 MAA and Ton Cane Hectare (TCH) at 12 MAA

Treatments	Height (cm)	Population (ha)	Wet biomass (ton ha <sup>-1</sup> )				Dry biomass (ton ha <sup>-1</sup> )				TCH (ton ha <sup>-1</sup> )
			Stem	Green leaf	Dry leaf	Root	Stem	Green leaf	Dry leaf	Root	
K0R1	209.17 b	95.85d	63.24 a	17.03 a	4.60 ab	2.97 ab	12.07 a	4.69 a	3.08 a	0.96 a	106.99 a
K0R2	203.00 b	114.95 abc	57.11 a	17.21 a	4.23 ab	3.06 ab	11.18 a	4.61 a	2.54 a	0.99 a	103.63 a
K1R1	211.17 ab	104.50 bcd	54.59 a	16.58 a	4.05 ab	2.97 ab	11.33 a	4.73 a	2.80 a	1.00 a	107.17 a
K1R2	210.00 ab	118.55 ab	55.58 a	17.03 a	4.50 ab	2.57 b	11.06 a	4.71 a	3.06 a	0.87 a	102.30 a
K2R1	213.33 ab	126.45 a	60.81 a	20.18 a	5.22 ab	3.33 ab	12.65 a	5.30 a	3.36 a	0.99 a	115.13 a
K2R2	202.83 b	117.47 ab	61.17 a	18.92 a	3.65 b	3.51 ab	12.22 a	5.13 a	2.23 a	1.08 a	107.47 a
K3R1	213.67 ab	117.83 ab	67.11 a	17.03 a	4.23 ab	3.60 ab	12.82 a	4.58 a	2.56 a	0.99 a	128.49 a
K3R2	206.83 b	96.21 d	59.09 a	21.17 a	4.68 ab	3.69 ab	12.14 a	5.73 a	2.87 a	1.01 a	128.82 a
K4R1	223.00 a	111.70 abcd	58.28 a	20.54 a	4.86 ab	3.78 ab	11.60 a	5.31 a	2.82 a	1.10 a	132.50 a
K4R2	202.50 b	114.77 abc	67.92 a	19.91 a	4.95 ab	3.78 ab	13.59 a	5.37 a	2.92 a	1.17 a	131.93 a
K5R1	209.83 ab	118.91 ab	71.89 a	22.70 a	4.14 ab	4.23 a	13.09 a	5.76 a	2.40 a	1.24 a	164.84 a
K5R2	212.83 ab	112.42 abcd	62.88 a	20.18 a	5.72 a	3.42 ab	12.44 a	5.35 a	3.31 a	1.09 a	143.31 a
R1	213.36 a	112.54 a	62.65 a	19.00 a	4.52 a	3.48 a	12.26 a	5.06 a	2.84 a	1.05 a	125.85 a
R2	206.33 b	112.39 a	60.63 a	19.07 a	4.62 a	3.34 a	12.10 a	5.15 a	2.82 a	1.04 a	119.58 a
K0	206.08 a	105.40 c	60.18 a	17.12 ab	4.41 a	3.02 a	11.63 a	4.65 a	2.81 a	0.98 a	105.31 a
K1	210.58 a	111.52 bc	55.09 a	16.80 b	4.28 a	2.77 a	11.19 a	4.72 a	2.93 a	0.93 a	104.74 a
K2	208.08 a	121.97 a	60.97 a	19.55 ab	4.44 a	3.42 a	12.43 a	5.21 a	2.79 a	1.04 a	111.30 a
K3	210.25 a	107.02 bc	63.10 a	19.10 ab	4.46 a	3.65 a	12.48 a	5.16 a	2.72 a	1.00 a	128.66 a
K4	212.75 a	113.23 bc	63.10 a	20.22 ab	4.91 a	3.78 a	12.60 a	5.34 a	2.87 a	1.13 a	132.21 a
K5	211.33 a	115.67 ab	67.38 a	21.44 a	4.93 a	3.83 a	12.76 a	5.56 a	2.86 a	1.17 a	154.07 a
Interaction	+	+	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-

Note: Numbers followed by the same letter in the same column does not differ significantly at duncan's multiple range test (DMRT) and (+) mark indicates there is an interaction to the combination treatment.

6,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> of dolomite doses. Dolomite dose more than 2,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> would not provide significant effect to leaf nitrogen content.

According to Calcino (1995), the threshold of nitrogen nutrient in sugarcane leaf experienced deficit of 0.18%. The lowest score of nitrogen nutrient content was obtained at the control (without dolomite treatment) with score of 0.188% and this score was above the deficiency score. Along with increasing dolomite dose the nitrogen content increased. For the crop year, it required dolomite addition or other sources of nitrogen so that sugarcane will not undergo nitrogen deficiency.

Table 4 shows that leaf phosphor (P) Content did not differ significantly from the doses and depths of dolomite placement. P content of leaf both in control and treatment contained of sufficient content of more than 0.19%.

Potassium (K) content in the leaf in 7 months after application (MAA) of dolomite showed significant difference between treatments of dolomite doses and depths. Minimum potassium threshold content in

sugarcane before the sugarcane was stated to be deficient of potassium was 1.11%. All treatments showed that the potassium contents were above the threshold of potassium deficiency.

Table 4 shows that varying dolomite doses significantly affected the leaf potassium contents, but dolomite application depths did not significantly affected the leaf potassium contents.

There were interactions between doses and the depths of applications. The best interaction was obtained in the K5R1 treatment with 0.205 % leaf Ca content score. The leaf nutrient contents analysis results showed that treatment K0, K1, K2 and K3 showed Ca deficiency. Minimum leaf Ca content was 0.2 % and these four treatments had Ca content scores under threshold. 4,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> of dolomite addition was required to maintain sugarcane from Ca deficiency.

Table 5 shows that varying dolomite doses significantly affected the leaf Mg contents, but not the dolomite application depths. The lower Mg content was obtained at sugarcane without dolomite treatment.

**Table 6.** Uptake and efficiency of calcium and magnesium in leaf

Treatment	Ca		Mg	
	Uptake	Efficiency	Uptake	Efficiency
K0R1	14.76 a	0 a	9.28 abc	0 b
K0R2	12.72 a	0 a	7.98 c	0 b
K1R1	13.91 a	-0.79 a	9.43 abc	0.31 b
K1R2	13.99 a	1.18 a	9.85 abc	3.75 a
K2R1	16.42 a	0.77 a	11.61 abc	2.33 ab
K2R2	14.01 a	0.60 a	8.54 bc	0.56 ab
K3R1	13.63 a	-0.26 a	9.42 abc	0.07 b
K3R2	17.16 a	1.03 a	12.40 ab	2.21 ab
K4R1	16.44 a	0.19 a	11.96 ab	0.67 ab
K4R2	16.15 a	0.39 a	10.74 abc	0.69 ab
K5R1	16.79 a	0.16 a	10.66 abc	0.23 ab
K5R2	17.27 a	0.35 a	12.82 a	0.81 ab
R1	15.32 a	0.01 a	10.39 a	0.60 a
R2	15.22 a	0.59 a	10.39 a	1.34 a
K0	13.74 a	0 a	8.63 b	0 b
K1	13.95 a	0.20 a	9.64 ab	2.03 a
K2	15.22 a	0.69 a	10.07 ab	1.45 a
K3	15.39 a	0.39 a	10.91 ab	1.14 a
K4	16.29 a	0.30 a	11.35 a	0.68 a
K5	17.03 a	0.26 a	11.74 a	0.52 a
Interaction	-	-	+	+

Note: Numbers followed by the same letter in the same column does not differ significantly at Duncan's multiple range test (DMRT) and (+) mark indicates there is an interaction to the combination treatment.

Dolomite doses from 2,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> to 6,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> showed highest Mg content and there was no significant difference among those three treatments. Dolomite dose above 2,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> did not significantly affect sugarcane leaf Mg content. The deficiency threshold of leaf Mg content was 0.08%. The analysis results of control and treatment groups did not show any Mg deficiency.

### Sugarcane growth

The sugarcane population per hectare in 7 months after application (MAA) of varying dolomite doses had significant difference among treatments. The highest population was obtained at 1,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> of dolomite dose but it was not significantly different with 6,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> dose and it was significantly different without dolomite treatment. The possible reason was that the contents of nitrogen (N), calcium (Ca) and magnesium (Mg) at dolomite dose treatments were higher than without dolomite treatment.

Sugarcane height in 7 months after application (MAA) was presented in Table 5. It is shown that the

highest sugarcane height was obtained at 4,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> dolomite dose with 0–20 cm of application depth compared to without treatment in 20–40 cm of depth.

The measurement results to dry biomass of stem, fresh leaf, dry leaf and root of sugarcane at 7 MAA showed no significant effect among treatments of varying administered dolomite doses to wet biomass of stem, root, and green leaf. There were significant differences for dry sugarcane leaf biomass after application of 4,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> dolomite dose compared to control (without dolomite). In addition, there were interactions between dolomite doses and application of slot depths.

Table 5 shows that dry biomass of dry leaf with 1,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> and 4,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> of dolomite doses showed significant differences compared to control. There were no significant differences on dry biomass of stem, green leaf and root.

Table 5 shows that dolomite dose treatments at 0–20 cm and 20–40 cm of immersion depths showed no difference results from sugarcane TCH scores.

The highest TCH was obtained in 6,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> of dolomite dose (K5) at 154.07 ton ha<sup>-1</sup>, while the lowest TCH was obtained at 500 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> of dolomite dose (K1) with 104.74 ton ha<sup>-1</sup>. 500 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> of dolomite dose showed no difference results compared to control. Increasing dolomite dose would increase TCH score. This was because more dolomite dose would improve soil chemical properties so as to improve soil nutrient uptakes as it was marked with significant differences of sugarcane leaf nutrient scores.

Dolomite dose and immersion and dolomite dose 6,000 kg ha<sup>-1</sup> showed depths of dolomite did not show score of Ca and Mg highest uptake. Mg interaction (Table 6). But treatment of 0-uptake showed interaction and treatment 20 cm of depth (R1) showed score of Ca combination showed significant uptake higher than 20–40 cm of depth (R2) differences

### CONCLUSIONS

The dolomite immersion depths did not show significant effects to N, P, K, Ca and Mg content in leaf. Dolomite addition show significant effects to N content in leaf. Dolomite addition significant effects to K content in leaf.

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