



## GROWING TOMATO IN SUGAR CANE INTERROWS

Varieties *Sirius* and *MST 32/1* are suitable for cultivation in sugar cane interrows. However, as variety *Sirius* has a determinate growth, it should be preferred to *MST 32/1*.

### **Planting distance**

When sugar cane is grown at the normal row spacing of 1.6 m, one row of tomato may be planted in every available interrow of plant and first ratoon cane.

A spacing of 0.4 m within the row is recommended.

### **Method of plantation**

One month old seedlings should be transplanted immediately after cane planting. It is therefore recommended to sow seeds in beds well in advance to ensure that the transplantation of seedlings coincides with cane planting.

Dead seedlings may be replaced one week after transplantation.

### **Fertilization** (*when all cane interrows are planted*)

#### **At planting:**

Complex fertilizer, 13-13-20-2 : 300 kg/ha or 30 g / hole

Factory scums, if available, should be preferred to farmyard manure as the latter may carry weeds.

#### **Top dressing** (*2 - 3 weeks after transplantation*)

Calcium Ammonium Nitrate (CAN) : 110 kg/ha of interrow

### **Irrigation**

The field must be watered before and immediately after transplantation. Unless the soil is kept moist for 5 to 6 days after transplantation, the seedlings will dry out and die.

In the absence of rain, the crop must be irrigated as and when necessary.

### **Weed control**

Sencor 50% at the rate of 0.85 L/ha may be applied over the whole field 10 days after transplanting, provided that the tomato plants are at least 20 cm high.

This Recommendation Sheet complements recommendations on Intercropping given in *Growing Tomato* Adv. Bull. No. 7, MSIRI (1995)