SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Journal of Experimental Agriculture International
Manuscript Number:	**Ms_JEAI_35691**
Title of the Manuscript:	**Interrelationship patterns among cane yield attributes and physiological traits in sugarcane under normal and water stress conditions**
Type of the Article	**Original research article**

General guideline for Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty'**, provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.
To know the complete guideline for Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	**Author's comment** *(if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)*
Compulsory REVISION comments	In the introduction, the authors should point out the novelties introduced by the research undertaken. In the materials and methods section the authors should describe the environmental conditions defined as "normal water" (E1) and as "water stress" (E2), particularly regarding the quantity/frequency of watering. A conclusion section should be added to the manuscript.	In applied sciences especially in field studies sometimes novelty lack but the application of study like this will help future researchers to refer such studies in planning advance programme. In sugarcane crop being complex and least manipulated genetically, it is difficult to breed for abiotic stresses like water stress and/or alter genetic constitution of clones/ varieties. However, selection of desirable traits and based on their relationship with economic trait will help in adaptation of clone or variety to fluctuating environment conditions so this study was designed becoz till date no drought tolerant sugarcane variety has been recommended for commercial cultivation in the area. So this study will provide a plate form to future sugarcane scientists to evolve/ isolate water stress tolerant varieties of sugarcane in their respective locations by refereeing the results of traits documented in present study. Very scanty research work has been opined on these aspects in sugarcane. For second point, I would say it was a breeding trial to assess the buffering capacity of diverse genetic material of sugarcane to adapt to water stress conditions during critical stages of crop growth. Irrigation was withheld in E2 for 3 weeks but no restriction in E1. As pointed out by esteemed reviewer, quantity and frequency of watering are needed for water management studies (agronomical trials for scheduling of irrigation which was not objective of this study). Here we explore the genetic potential of clones/varieties to cope up with water stress if situation arises without any yield penalty. **Suggestion for addition of conclusion sectioned is welcomed and added.**
Minor REVISION comments	The abbreviations RWC (L13), MNC (L14) (shouldn't it be NMC?) and SLW (L15) should be defined in the abstract. L17 Keywords should be set in alphabetical order. Avoid using words/expressions used in the title as keywords. L58 – L61 Please add bibliographic citations for the "elite", "new introduction" and "ISH" clones.	All comments taken care and marked yellow in the article.

	NMC (L71) and DAP (L75) should be defined. The abbreviations already used in the abstract should be defined again, the first time they appear in the rest of the manuscript. L86, please correct the equation of RWC. It should be "RWC (%) = (Fresh weight - Dry weight)/ (Saturated weight - Dry weight) x 100". L125 and L129, please indicate the software manufacturer and version. Please include "Dewane and Lu (1958)" in the references section. * and ** should be added to table 1 footnote.	
Optional/General comments	The manuscript is globally well written and structured and reveals a considerable amount of experimental work. The interpretations and conclusions are generally justified by the data presented and are consistent with the objectives.	**Thanks for nice words.**