



Storage of sugar cane bagasse

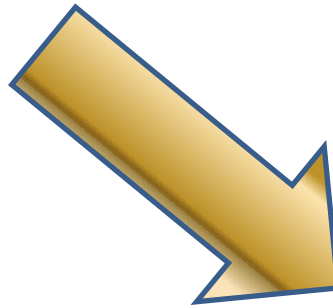
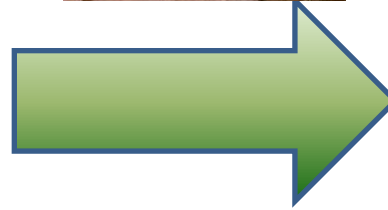
The spontaneous combustion question

Richard Loubser

Content

- Back ground
- Perceived dangers – are they real
- Storage strategies
- Desired outcomes of study

Background



Background Co-generation



Convert excess bagasse into electricity

Background Co-generation

- Sugar cane season +- 40 weeks
- Store for off-crop
- Off crop during wet season
- Need to store bagasse
- Avoid burning coal

Perceived dangers



Storage strategies

- Simple heap
- Heap with tarpaulin
- Pelletise before stacking
 - Bind using natural lignin
- Energy for storage
- Preserve calorific value



Desired outcomes

- When will spontaneous combustion occur?
- Is there a balance between net calorific value and value of stored energy?
- How do we work out limits on stacking height and moisture content?
- Will it help to pelletise the bagasse?