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Ecodesign applied to sugarcane productive chain: cooperative mobilizations

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Resumo

Sugar-cane productive chain presents a strong potential for ecologically maintainable options, which is important in Brazil due to a large number of sugarcane plants existing. Some positive aspects obtained by the Brazilian sugarcane chain during last years are the Genoma project that identified 50 thousand genes present in sugar cane, production of biodegradable plastic, the obtained sugar type white pollen (WHP) that requests less effort in industrial and technology process for using residues of the cane agro-industry in co-generation of electric energy, and so on. All these results in a high social-economic importance of sugar-cane chain to Brazil, but still there is a lack of studies on sustainability issues. In this sense, alternatives towards sustainability by considering a cooperative view are needed including programs for alternative energy sources (i.e. ethanol, biodiesel and biomass), alternative sources of biodegradable packings, and an ecoefficient redesign of the productive chain as a whole.

Keywords: *ecodesign, sugar-cane, alternative energy*
