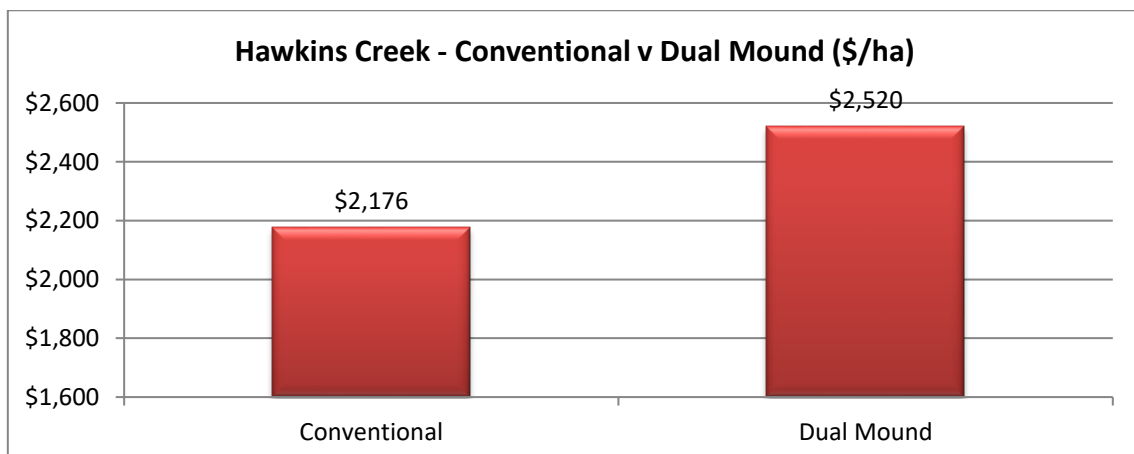
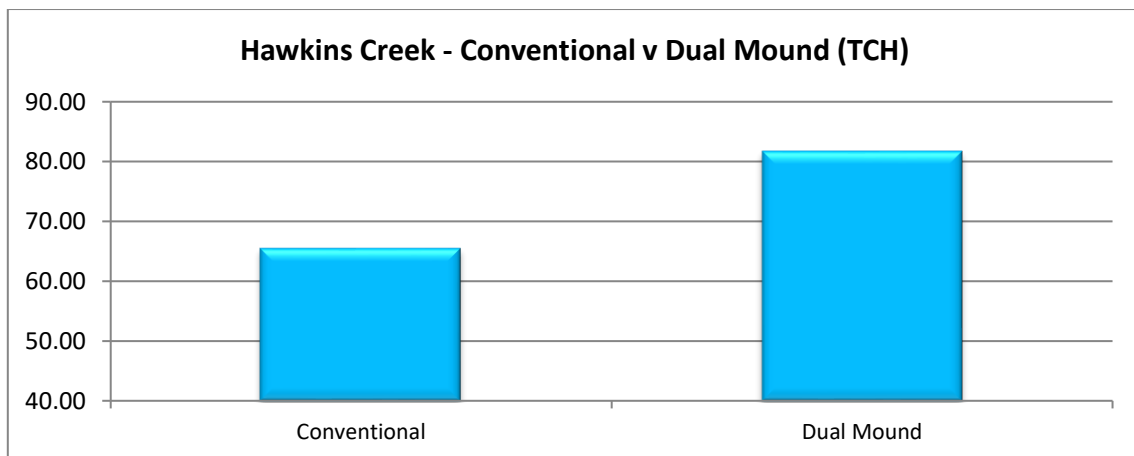
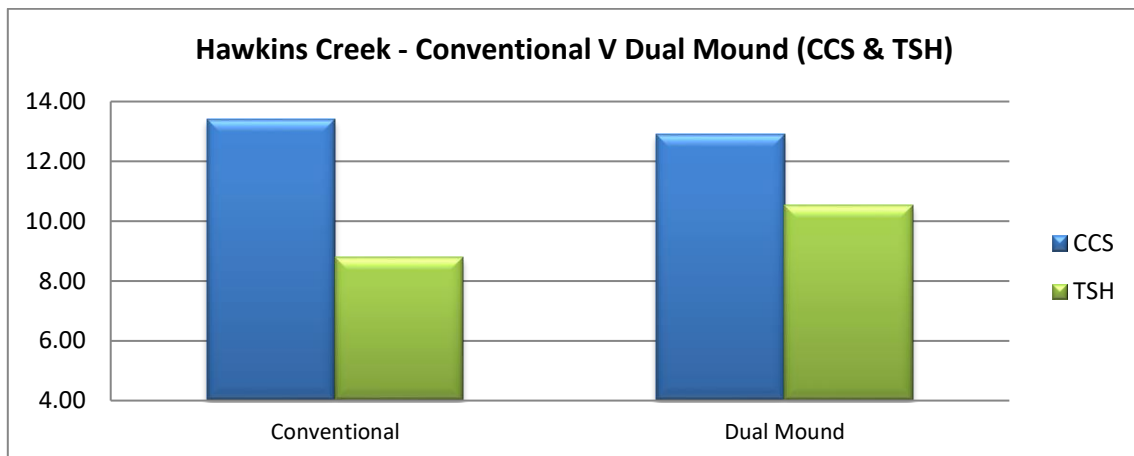


Hawkins Creek Planting System Demonstration Site

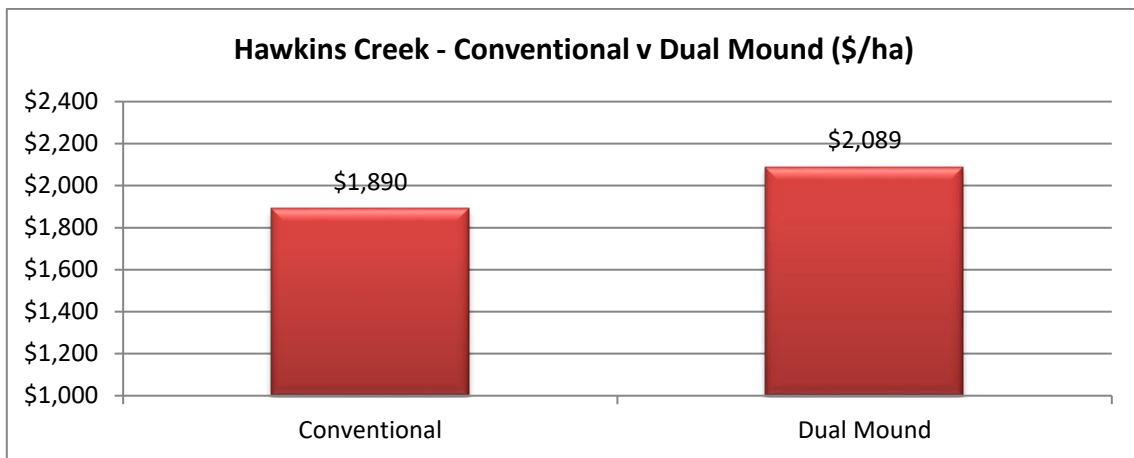
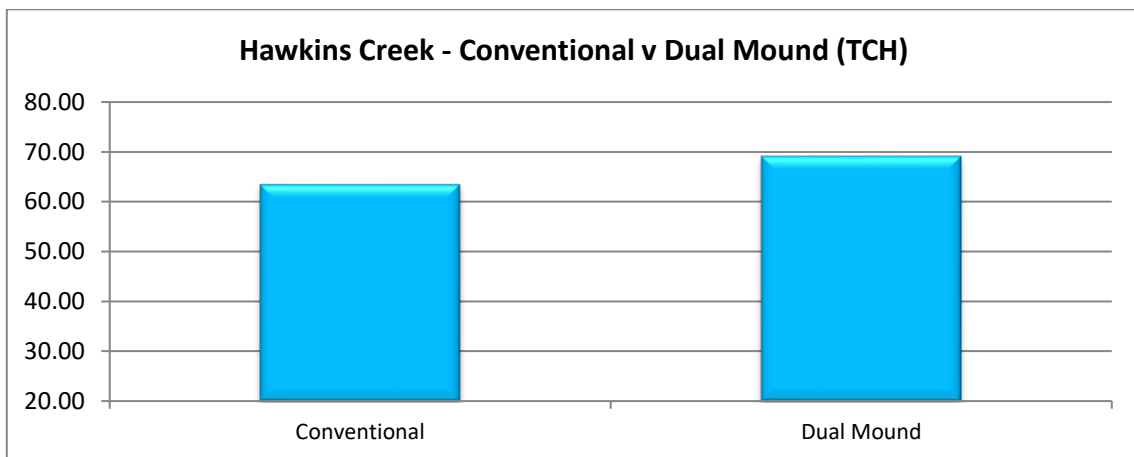
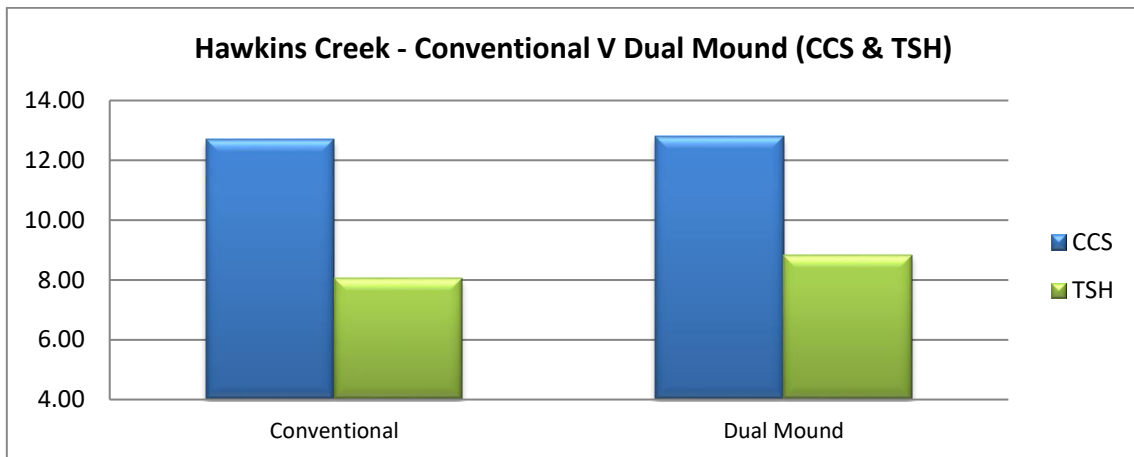
This demonstration site compared conventional furrow planting (1.63m rows) with dual row mound planting (1.8m rows) over 2 years (P & 1R). Assessment of biomass during the crop establishment stage favoured conventional planting. However, as the crop moved into the cane production stage the dual row system continued to show good growth regardless of environmental conditions. Conversely, the conventional system suffered during stress events such as dry and wet periods.

The results highlight the advantages of a mound planting system, particularly on this highly variable, heavy clay environment. Financial assessment (\$/ha) only considers the direct return from crop harvest (\$500/t less \$9.90 harvest/levies). A more detailed assessment would likely show even greater benefit from the mound planting system considering benefits in reduced input costs.

2016 (Plant)



2017 (1st Ratoon)



Plant & 1st Ratoon (\$/ha)

