

## **Sunflower and peanut emergency : initial development under sugarcane mulch**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The research aimed to evaluate the effect of residual sugarcane mulch on sunflower and peanut plant emergence and initial development. Vases of 4.0 L were disposed in a randomized experimental blocks design, with four replications, in a factorial arrangement of five mulch amounts and three cultivars of each crop. The mulch treatments consisted of four increasing amounts (5, 10, 15 e 20 t ha<sup>-1</sup>) and a tester with no mulch. The sunflower cultivars were the varieties IAC-iarama and Catissol and the hybrid H-358; the peanut cultivars were IAC-Caiapó, Runner 886 and Tatu. The speed emergency index and final percentage, the plant height and shoot dry mass were evaluated. The presence of different levels of sugarcane mulch negatively influences the emergency and initial plant development mainly in peanut but also in sunflower. The negative effects are stronger especially for the runner type of peanut cultivars, while cultivar Tatu was less influenced by the mulch thickness.

**Key-words:** *Arachis hypogaea* L. - *Helianthus annuus* L – mulch - oilcrops - seedling development.