



Information Sheet

3. VARIETIES

Variety N63

Parents: N12 x Co270

Selected at Gingindlovu research station and tested at the advanced variety stage in three trials on coastal long cycle average potential soils (one trial at the Gingindlovu research station and two trials on the off-station farms), and two trials on coastal long cycle high potential soils (one trial at the Kearsney research station and one on the off-station farm). Results are from the plant, first and second ratoon crops.

Recommended for coastal long cutting cycle average potential regions only on a 15 to 18 month cutting cycle.

BEST FEATURES

Good eldana resistance. High cane and RV yields in coastal long cycle average potential environments on a 15 to 18 month cutting cycle.

LIMITING FEATURES

Low RV% content.
Intermediate to smut.

YIELD AND QUALITY

Tons RV	117% of N39, 118% of N12 and N47 in coastal long cycle average potential 90% of N39, 91% of N47 in coastal long cycle high potential
Cane yield	119% of N12, 128% of N39 and N47 in coastal long cycle average potential 109% of N39, 104% of N47 in coastal long cycle high potential
RV content	94% of N39, 101% of N12, 91% of N47 in coastal long cycle average potential 93% of N39, 88% of N47 in coastal long cycle high potential
Fibre content	104% of N39; 107% of N47, 107% of N12
Purity	99% of N39; 98% of N47, Similar to N12

Yield and quality data from coastal long cycle average potential where the variety is recommended for harvest on a 15 to 18 month cutting cycle and coastal long cycle high potential where the variety is not recommended.

REACTION TO DISEASES AND PESTS

Smut	Intermediate
Mosaic	Intermediate Resistant
Brown rust	Intermediate
Tawny rust	Intermediate Resistant
Leaf scald	Not observed
Eldana	Resistant
Inspect regularly for smut and rogue as necessary	

AGRONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Germination	Good
Stalk Population	115% of N39
Stalk Height	91% of N39
Stalk diameter	106% of N39
Canopy	Fast
Flowering	Low
Lodging	Low
Ratooning	Good

MILLING CHARACTERISTICS

Colour	Higher colour than NCo376 (+32%), N39 (+72%) and N58 (+36%).
Processability	Good Processability: Percolation is slightly lower than NCo376 (-10%), similar to N39 (+3%) and N58 (-3%). Density is slightly higher than NCo376 (+13%), N39 (+3%) and N58 (+8%).

IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

Habit and General Appearance

Upright growth structure; poor canopy; thin stalks

Leaf

Blade: Narrow in width; erect and spiky; no markings

Sheath: Medium adherence to the stalk; waxy; fine hairs present; green with dark purplish- tinge

Collar: Not very distinct and same colour as the rest of the stalk; medium size

Auricle: Very distinct and very long; lanceolate; only one side

Stalk

Internode:

Short to medium internodes with conoidal shape (narrow at top of the internode, broad at the bottom); yellow-green in colour; internodes are slightly staggered (slight zig-zag alignment); corky markings present

Wax band: Narrow but distinct

Bud furrow: Present but more pronounced in younger internodes

Node:

Growth ring: Narrow root band; protruding; lighter in colour than the rest of the stalk

Root band: Medium to narrow; primordia are flat and indistinct in older nodes but slightly raised in younger nodes; few primordia and tends to be in 2 rows in younger nodes but 3 rows in older nodes

Sheath scar: Distinct

Bud: Obovate shape; small to medium size

Flange: Small flange, more distinct on older nodes



Compiled by Marvellous Zhou (Senior Plant Breeder)

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