



Information Sheet

3. VARIETIES

Variety N56 (Released 2013)

Selected at Kearsney research station and tested in three trials in the Gingindlovu area and two trials in the Kearsney area. Results are from the plant, first and second ratoon crops. Recommended for both Hinterland and Coastal areas on a 15 to 18 month harvest cycle.

BEST FEATURES

Good general disease resistance. High RV yields at Kearsney (Hinterland) trials.

LIMITING FEATURES

Lodging.

YIELD AND QUALITY

Tons RV	111% of N39 Kearsney (Hinterland), 98% of N39 (Gingindlovu)
Cane yield	105% of N39 Kearsney, 100% of N39 at Gingindlovu
RV content	100% of N39 at Kearsney, 98% of N39 at Gingindlovu
Fibre content	102% of NCo376
Purity	101% of N12, 105% of N16

Yield and quality data from Kearsney and Gingindlovu under rainfed, harvested on 15 – 18 month cycle.

REACTION TO DISEASES AND PESTS

Smut	Intermediate-resistant
Mosaic	Intermediate-resistant
Brown rust	Resistant
Tawny rust	Unknown
Leaf scald	No incidence recorded
Eldana	Intermediate-resistant

Gumming, Pokkah boeng and brown spot observed at low levels in a some trials.

AGRONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Germination	Average
Stalk Population	High
Stalk Height	Average
Stalk Diameter	Average
Canopy	Good
Flowering	Average
Lodging	Above average
Ratooning	Below Average at Gingindlovu

MILLING CHARACTERISTICS

Colour	Similar colour to N39 and lower than NCo376
Processability	No percolation problems under standard preparation conditions, some reduction could occur when over-prepared.

IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

Habit and General Appearance

N56 is a high population variety with medium stalks, with a fairly erect growing habit. The canopy is uniform and good; the leaves are fairly erect with a slight bend near the tip and are of medium to narrow width. The trash is adhering and abundant.

Leaf

Blade: Dark green; medium to narrow width.

Sheath: Green sheath with bright red blotches present. Abundant soft hairs present.

Collar: Yellow-green collar, darker than sheath.

Auricle: Under-lapping: very distinct, very long, lanceolate.

Overlapping: absent.

Stalk

Internode

The internodes are long and slightly barrel-shaped. They are yellow-green in colour but darker-green on exposure. The internodes have abundant wax bloom on them. The stalk can have a slight zigzag alignment.

Wax band: Narrow.

Bud furrow: None.

Node

Growth ring: Prominent, medium to wide, darker colour than internode.

Root band: Medium width, lighter colour than internode, 3 rows of root primordia.

Sheath scar: Neat, sagging below bud.

Bud: Round and small to medium size; in middle of the root band.

Flange: Small, top half of bud.

