



Information Sheet

13. VARIETIES

13.58 Variety N73

Parents: N25 x 86F0466

Selected at Pongola Research Station and tested at the advanced variety stage in two early season trials (one at Pongola Research Station, one at Mpumalanga Research Station) and three late season trials (one at Pongola Research Station, one on a grower co-operator farm and one at Mpumalanga Research Station) from 2013 to 2017. Results are from the plant, first, second and third ratoon crops.

Recommended for late season planting and harvesting in all soil types on a 12-month cutting cycle in the Northern Irrigated regions: Lowveld, Pongola and Mkuze/Makhatini.

BEST FEATURES

High cane yield and shy flowering.
Good late season variety.
Good resistance to mosaic and rust.

LIMITING FEATURES

Susceptible to eldana. Must not be carried over.
Low RV% particularly in early season crops - variety should be ripened.
High risk in terms of poor millability and could potentially cause flooding in diffusers.

YIELD AND QUALITY

Tons RV	116% of N25, 121% of N41 in irrigated late season trials. 81% of N41, 97% of N25 in irrigated early season trials.
Cane yield	114% of N25, 126% of N41 in late season. 102% of N25, 108% of N41 in early season.
RV content	101% of N25, 94% of N41 in late season. 96% of N25, 76% of N41 in early season.
Fibre content	103% of N25, 93% of N41.
Purity	102% of N25, 95% of N41.

High cane and sugar yield in the late season where it is recommended for harvest at 12 months.

REACTION TO DISEASES AND PESTS

Smut	Intermediate Resistant
Mosaic	Resistant
Brown rust	Resistant
Tawny rust	Resistant
Eldana	Susceptible
Susceptible to eldana. Not recommended for carry over.	

AGRONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Germination	Good
Stalk Population	94% of N25 95% of N41
Stalk Height	97% of N25 90% of N41
Stalk diameter	108% of N25 123% of N41
Canopy	Good
Flowering	Low risk (no flowers)
Lodging	Low to Average
Ratooning	Good

MILLING CHARACTERISTICS

Colour	Once-off testing of a single sample suggests that the colour of this variety is satisfactory: similar to N41 and slightly higher than NCo376 and N25.
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Processability	Once-off testing of a single sample suggests that this variety has a similar density to N25 and is higher than N41 and NCo376. Percolation rate was similar to that of N41 and lower than NCo376. This variety is considered high risk in terms of poor millability and could potentially cause flooding in diffusers.
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IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

Habit and General Appearance

Open growth habit

Leaf

Blade: Medium width blades, upright with tips bending

Sheath: Loosely adhering to the stalk, heavily covered with wax and has slight purple tinge and very hairy

Collar: Distinct, medium width in size

Auricle: Absent but there are hairs on both sides (beard)

Stalk

Internode:

Cylindrical shape with some internodes having a zigzag pattern. Internodes short and thick, tends to crack

Wax Band: Distinct, medium width, young internodes have a thicker layer of wax

Bud Furrow: Present and very distinct

Node:

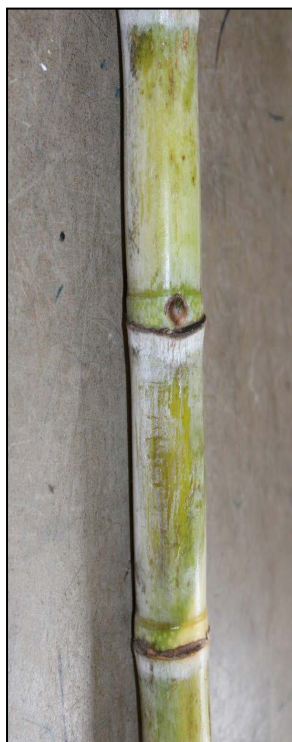
Growth Ring: Distinct in colour but very flat and thin

Root Band: Primordia are slightly raised in older nodes, generally flat in young internodes with dark colour on the centres

Sheath scar: Rough detachment, protruding on the side with the bud and flat on the other side

Bud: Big in size, oval shape and enclosed within the root band

Flange: Very distinct in older buds and less in young buds



Compiled by Marvellous Zhou (Senior Plant Breeder)

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