

## Introduction\_

Recommended for irrigated regions on a wide range of yield potential conditions and can be harvested throughout the season.

### Best features.

Short statured variety that produces moderate to high stalk population. Good yields have been achieved on heavy clay and high potential soils. Some tolerance to waterlogging. Can be harvested all year round but best yields achieved when harvested mid to late season. RV yields shown to improve with rations relative to other varieties. Good disease and pest resistance. Responds well to Fusilade ripener.

## Limiting features.

Can become water stressed during drought conditions when there are water restrictions. Lodging can be severe. Has a pale yellow colour that is not related to N-deficiency. Do not plant on gravel, rocky or shale soils. Under marginal growing conditions cane yield may be excessively reduced when applying Moddus as a chemical ripener despite good RV%. Do not apply "piggy back" ripener treatment. Flowering may be profuse in this variety.

#### Yield & quality.



Varieties

The performance of a variety will vary under different conditions and levels of management. For refined yield and quality information, please consult the SASRI Variety Guide at www.sasri.org.za/varietyguide, where you will be able to rank this variety against others of your choice based on your specific area, irrigation regime, cutting cycle, soil potential and time of harvest.

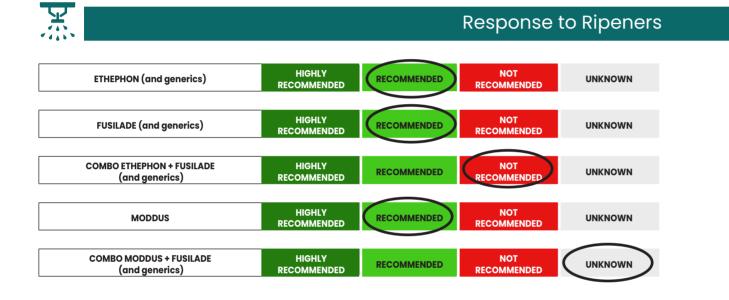






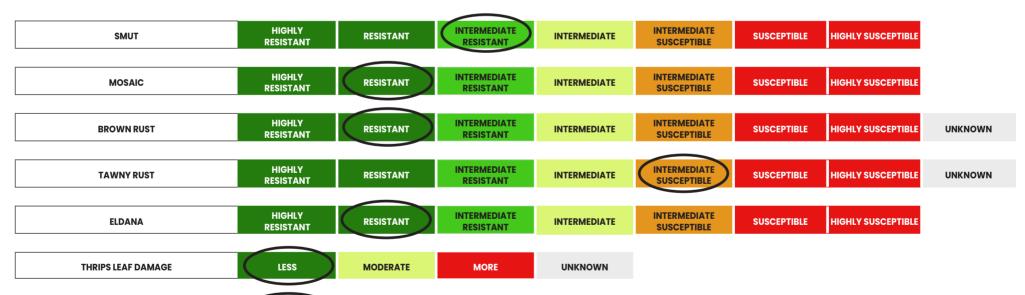
## **Varietal Traits**

Management Factors	Soil Potential	Agronomic Characteristics
EARLY SEASON HARVEST YES NO	LOW POTENTIAL YES NO	GERMINATION ABILITY FAST MODERATE SLOW
MID-SEASON HARVEST YES NO	AVERAGE POTENTIAL YES NO	CANOPY DEVELOPMENT FAST MODERATE SLOW
LATE SEASON HARVEST YES NO	HIGH POTENTIAL YES NO	STALK POPULATION HIGH MODERATE LOW
SUITABILITY FOR CARRYOVER YES NO		STALK HEIGHT TALL MODERATE SHORT
SUITABILITY FOR FROST POCKETS YES NO UNKNOWN		FLOWERING SPARSE MODERATE PROFUSE
		LODGING ERECT AVERAGE SEVERE
		TOLERANCE TO WATER STRESS GOOD MODERATE POOR UNKNOWN
		TOLERANCE TO WATER LOGGING GOOD MODERATE POOR UNKNOWN





#### **Reaction to Pests & Diseases**











# N53 Identification Guide

#### Habit and General Appearance.

N53 is a high population variety with medium stalks, with an erect growing habit. The canopy is uniform and good, with curved leaves of medium to average width.

#### Leaf\_

Blade: Medium to average width. Overlapping leaf absent.

- Sheath: Green sheath with purple blotches sometimes present. Hairs present.
- Collar: Medium to wide, yellow-green collar.
- Auricle: Under-lapping: very distinct, very long, lanceolate; broken off on older leaves.

#### Stalk\_

#### Internode

- Appearance: The internodes are long and cylindrical. 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. Cracks are sometimes present.
- Wax band: Medium width, not well defined.
- Bud furrow: None

#### Node

- Growth ring: Well defined, green.
- Root band: Same colour as stalk, 2 rows of root primordia.
- Sheath scar: Straight
- **Bud:** Round and small to medium size. Generally within the root band.
- Flange: Broad, all around the buds.





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