

Information Sheet

Variety N54

Introduction

Recommended for a wide range of growing conditions in the hinterland and midlands region.

Best features

Suitable for humic and sandy soils in hinterland and midlands. Does particularly well in sandy lower potential soils. Can be planted in frost areas due to rapid growth. Good cane and RV yields can be achieved on an annual cycle, even under rainfed conditions. Very rapid germination, erect growth habit and good canopy development. High stalk population.

Limiting features.

Smut susceptible - smut is common in this variety, inspect and rogue young cane regularly. Early lodging has been observed. Sideshoots very easily. Initial observations are that this variety is susceptible to YSA. Eldana is being observed in this variety in midlands regions.

Yield & quality.

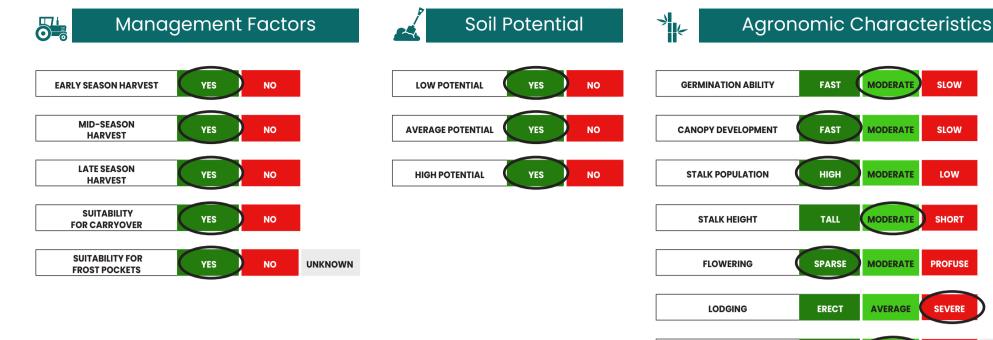


The performance of a variety will vary under different conditions and levels of management. For refined yield and quality information, please consult the SASRI Variety Guide at www.sasri.org.za/varietyguide, where you will be able to rank this variety against others of your choice based on your specific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

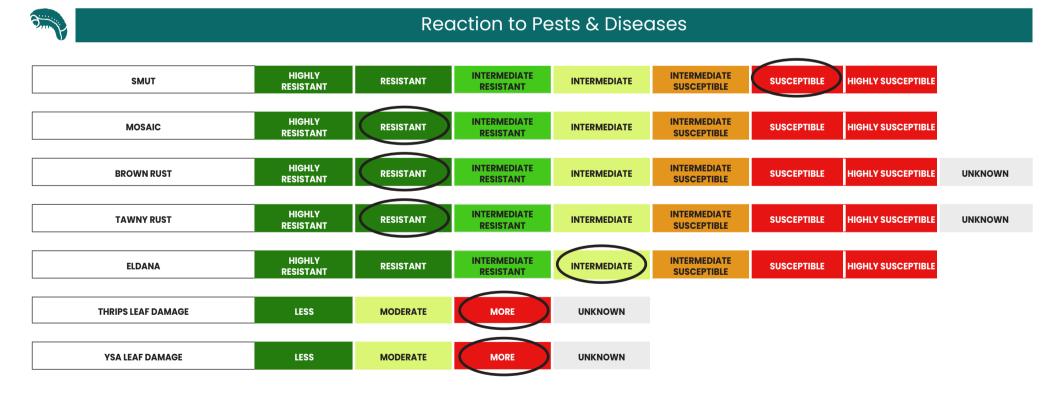


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Varietal Traits N54



Response to Ripeners HIGHLY RECOMMENDED NOT RECOMMENDED RECOMMENDED UNKNOWN ETHEPHON (and generics) RECOMMENDED UNKNOWN FUSILADE (and generics) COMBO ETHEPHON + FUSILADE RECOMMENDED UNKNOWN (and generics) MODDUS RECOMMENDED UNKNOWN HIGHLY RECOMMENDED NOT RECOMMENDED COMBO MODDUS + FUSILADE RECOMMENDED UNKNOWN





SLOW

LOW

SHORT

PROFUSE

POOR

UNKNOWN

UNKNOWN

TOLERANCE TO WATER STRESS

TOLERANCE TO WATER LOGGING

GOOD

GOOD

MODERATE

MODERATE

(and generics)

N54 Identification Guide

Habit and General Appearance

N54 has a medium to high stalk population with medium to thin stalks. It has a fairly erect growth habit with a good canopy. The leaves are of medium width and some bend near the tip.

Leaf

Blade: Medium

Sheath: Green sheath with red blotches sometimes present; fine hairs present. The

sheath adheres strongly (clingy trash).

Collar: Not prominent; greenish brown.

Auricle: Long lanceolate auricle on the underlapping leaf; small broad on

overlapping leaf.

Stalk

Internode

Appearance: N54 has medium to long conoidal (narrow at middle and bulging at

ends) internodes. Older stalks have yellow-green internodes while those of the younger stalks are light green. Areas that have been exposed to the sun are purple. A slight zig-zag alignment is sometimes

observed.

Wax band: Not very distinct, wax layer covers most of the internode,

especially in young cane.

Bud furrow: Very prominent.

Node

Growth ring: Raised (prominent); green when young, yellow when

old.

Root band: Same colour as stalk in older stalks.

Sheath scar: Dipped below bud.

Bud: Squarish pentagonal with wing set high; point of bud

sometimes extends above root band; bud situated

above the sheath scar.

Flange: Present.





January 2024