

# A Guide to Buying Seedcane

Planting good quality seedcane, of an appropriate variety for your soils and climatic conditions, is the easiest step that can be taken towards improving and maintaining high productivity over many ratoons.

Here are a few easy steps to help you...



## 1 Plan carefully

The very first step is to decide which variety will be the best for your situation. This will depend on your soil type and climatic conditions. Consult your local agricultural advisor for assistance. To ensure you get the seedcane in time, orders must be placed with the supplier **one year** before planting.



## 2 Ask for a certificate

Your Local Pest, Disease and Variety Control Committee has the job of making sure that seedcane producers abide by all the rules pertaining to seedcane production.

Ask your supplier for the **Certified/Approved Seedcane Registration Certificate** signed by your Local Pest, Disease and Variety Committee. A signed certificate will guarantee that the following requirements have been met:

- The seedcane supplier is **registered** with the Local Pest Disease and Variety Committee (LPD&VCC) for your area.

You may only buy from registered suppliers.

- The seedcane that you purchase is either **CERTIFIED** or **APPROVED** seedcane. This means that seedcane has been produced according to the strict rules set by the sugar industry. It will soon be illegal to plant seedcane that is not **CERTIFIED** or **APPROVED** by your Local Pest, Disease and Variety Committee.

- The seedcane will be true-to-type. In other words it will all be the same variety and not mixed with other varieties.

- The seedcane will be healthy, i.e. it would have passed all the necessary pest and disease inspections but also be well-grown with long internodes and stalks that are not thin and dried out.

- The seedcane will be fresh, i.e. it will be within the specified age for your area and will not have been cut and left lying in the field for a long time before it is collected.

CERTIFIED SEEDCANE REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE	
Grower name	Date of application
Grower code	GPS co-ordinates (or map)
Field no.	Variety(s) to be planted
<b>NURSERY ESTABLISHMENT</b>	
Date previous crop established	Previous variety
Use during fallow period	
Date of inspection for volunteers	Clear Re-inspect
	Date for re-inspection
<b>Nucleus seed</b>	
HYT seed	Transplants NovaCane
Source (Grower name and field no. / Transplant nursery / NovaCane facility)	
Seedcane certified	Yes No
<b>Designated field and nucleus seed approved</b> Yes No	
Date	
Signed	

LPO&VCC LETTERHEAD

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Source (Grower name and field no. / Transplant nursery / NovaCane facility)	
Seedcane certified	Yes No
<b>Designated field and nucleus seed approved</b> Yes No	
Date	
Signed	

# 3 Check the certificate

A seedcane certificate is valid for the season in which that cane is cut and only for the period stated on the certificate. In the next season, a seedcane field must undergo the same process of inspection before a new certificate is issued.

Make sure that the seedcane is within the age requirements specified for your area, i.e. 9 – 12 months in the field.

## Page 1



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Website: www.sasri.org.za

### APPROVED SEEDCANE REGISTRATION CERTIFICATE


Grower name	S.Zulu	Date of application	011/09/2017
Grower code	1234567A	GPS co-ordinates (or map)	
Field no	001	Variety to be planted	N54

### NURSERY ESTABLISHMENT

Date previous crop eradicated	Y	Previous variety	N12
Use during fallow period	Greren maure sunhemmp oats		
Date of inspection for volunteers	01/07/18	Clear	Y
		Re-inspect	N
Date for fe-inspection	N/A		

### Nucleus seed

Certified	Y
Source - Grower name	Field no.
B Dladla	03

Designated field and nucleus seed approved	Yes	No
Date	31/08/2018	
Signed	 Biosecurity officer	

The form must carry the official LPD&VCC letterhead for your area. All necessary information must be completed. If anything looks incorrect, consult your Biosecurity Officer.

Check that the correct variety is being supplied.

The form must be signed by your Biosecurity Officer.





in the certificate.  
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in the Coastal and Irrigated regions and 12 -18 months in the Midlands.

## Page 2



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### APPROVED NURSERY

Date planted 15/09/2018

#### Plant crop inspections

Inspection no.	Date	Smut (%)	Mosaic (%)	Off-types (%)	Off-type varieties	Observations
1	30/11/18	0.01	0.00	0.01	N12	Off types to be removed
2	08/01/19	0.00	0.00	0.00	N12	-

#### RSD


Date sampled 01/08/2019 Sample no. 004 Result Nil Positive

#### Eldana inspection

Date sampled 31/08/2019 E/100 1 % SLR 0.5

Plant crop Approved Yes No

Date 15/09/2019

Signed  Biosecurity officer

Date of expiry 15/11/2019

Date harvested

#### First ratoon inspections

Inspection no.	Date	Smut (%)	Mosaic (%)	Off-types (%)	Off-type varieties	Observations
1						
2						

#### RSD

Date sampled Sample no. Result Nil Positive

#### Eldana inspection

Date sampled E/100 % SLR

First ratoon Approved Yes No

Date

Signed

Date of expiry

Date harvested

Check the date planted for seedcane from the plant crop

Take note of the expiry date for seedcane from plant cane.

Check the date that the plant crop was harvested for seedcane from the first ratoon.

Take note of the expiry date for seedcane from first ratoon.

## 4 Examine your seedcane

It is important to look at the seedcane you are going to purchase to see that everything is OK. Look out for the following:

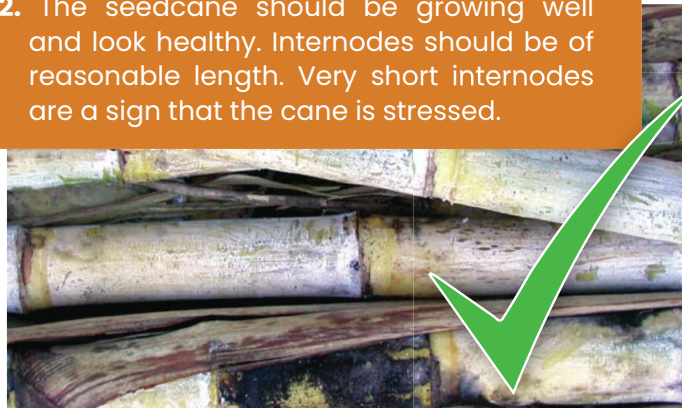
1. Ensure you are looking at the correct variety i.e. the one you ordered. If unsure, confirm this with your Biosecurity Officer .



4. The seedcane should not be flowering.



2. The seedcane should be growing well and look healthy. Internodes should be of reasonable length. Very short internodes are a sign that the cane is stressed.



5. There should be no side-shooting.



3. The buds should look healthy and undamaged.



6. Seedcane should not be ripened. Confirm with the producer that no ripener has been used on the seedcane.



For further assistance, contact your local Pest and Disease Committee. Alternatively, you can also speak to your local SASRI Extension Specialist or SASRI Biosecurity Officer or Technician.



South African Sugarcane Research Institute

 [www.sasri.org.za](http://www.sasri.org.za)

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