



Information Sheet

2006

13. VARIETIES

13.11 **Variety N24**

INTRODUCTION

N24 should be planted in high potential soils with reliable irrigation as stress can have a marked effect on yield. The sucrose content and yield of N24 is excellent under good irrigation management. This variety is well known for its open growth habit and tendency to lodge. This severe lodging may increase harvesting costs. This variety performs particularly well early in the season.

Origin: SASRI, South Africa

Year of release: 1993 (North)/1996 (South)

Variety Code: 83F2019

Parentage: Q96 x 75F1463

CANE QUALITY & YIELD

Tons RV: Yields in the early season are very good (110%N14). It has inferior yields when stressed (similar to N22). Poor yields obtained when harvested late in the season.

Cane yield: Low (lower than N14, N19, NCo376)

RV content: Very high (118%N14, 110%N19, 121%NCo376)

Fibre content: Low (95%N14, 92%N19, 90%NCo376)

Purity: High

Fibre:sucrose ratio: Low

Non-sucrose:sucrose ratio: Low

AGRONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Germination (speed and reliability): Moderate speed and reliable

Stalk population (at harvest): Medium: 115 000/ha

Stalk mass (at harvest): High

Stalk height (at harvest): Average

Stalk elongation: Rapid

Canopy formation: Slow canopy formation. Canopy tends to be incomplete (open canopy)

Flowering: Rare

Lodging: Severe (can lodge early)

Ratooning ability (speed and reliability): Moderate speed and reliable

REACTION TO DISEASES & PESTS

Smut: Resistant

Mosaic: Resistant

RSD: Susceptible

Rust: Resistant

Leaf scald: Resistant

Red rot: Susceptible

Nematodes: Highly susceptible

Eldana: Intermediate

REACTION TO WATER STRESS

Growth during severe water stress: Poor

Recovery after water stress: Poor

Ratooning after drought: Moderate (recovers well)

Poorly drained soils: Intolerant

Salinity tolerance: Sensitive



Irrigated

NUTRITION

Nitrogen use efficiency: Moderate

RIPENER RECOMMENDATIONS

Fusilade Forte: Ground rigs (250 ml/ha), Aerial (275 ml/ha): Yes

Ethephon (1.5 l/ha): No

Gallant Super: No data

Tandem (Ethephon + Fusilade Forte): No

HARVESTING

Best months: Apr-Oct

BEST FEATURES

N24 has a very high sucrose content. Good yields are obtained under good growing conditions. N24 has good disease resistance.

LIMITING FEATURES

N24 can lodge severely, it has a very open growth habit. Poor payloads are achieved with this variety. Yields under stressed conditions can be poor. N24 is not suitable for highly saline/sodic conditions. Avoid carrying over in severe stress conditions and in areas where eldana is a problem. Sensitive to post-emergence application of Sencor + Diuron.



Identification Guide

HABIT AND GENERAL APPEARANCE

A fairly tall, low population variety with an open growth habit. Canopy light green with long, narrow leaves. Early growth is prostrate.

LEAF

Blade: very long; narrow; erect. Light green, with a noticeably serrated edge. Sometimes red discolouration occurs in the midrib because of damage.

Sheath: green, with purple patch or line at the base of the younger sheaths next to the bud. At the base inside the sheath it is dark purple. Hairs are present, which are moderately spiky.

Collar: narrow; purplish.

Auricle: fairly small.

STALK**Internode**

Light green to green on the younger internodes; on exposure turns slightly purple. Sometimes a white wax overlay is present. Long to very long internodes that are slightly staggered.

Wax band: indistinct in younger internodes; can be fairly distinct in older internodes.

Bud furrow: usually absent.

Node

Growth ring: yellowish-green, sometimes also with purple.

Root band: medium width; yellowish; similar to the internodes.

Sheath scar: does not protrude; often without jagged edges.

Bud: medium sized and circular. Very young buds can be pinkish in colour.

Flange: narrow; slightly wider at the side of the bud.