



# Information Sheet

2006

## 13. VARIETIES

### 13.15 **Variety N28**

#### INTRODUCTION

**N**28 is an erect variety that can be planted on low and high potential soils. It performs better than N19 in heavy waterlogged soils. This variety should preferably be harvested mid-season.

**Origin:** SASRI, South Africa

**Year of release:** 1997

**Variety Code:** 86F3396

**Parentage:** 76F1553 x 69F0179

#### CANE QUALITY & YIELD

**Tons RV:** Yields best when harvested mid-season (106%N14, 112%N19) on good, well drained soils

**Cane yield:** Moderate (lower than N14 and NCo376, but higher than N19)

**RV content:** Moderate (104%N14, 96%N19, 106%NCo376)

**Fibre content:** Low (95%N14, 94%N19, 90%NCo376)

**Purity:** Moderate

**Fibre:sucrose ratio:** Low

**Non-sucrose:sucrose ratio:** Low

#### AGRONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

**Germination (speed and reliability):** Rapid and reliable

**Stalk population (at harvest):** High: 124 000/ha

**Stalk mass (at harvest):** High

**Stalk height (at harvest):** Short to average

**Stalk elongation:** Moderate

**Canopy formation:** Moderate

**Flowering:** Sparse

**Lodging:** Erect

**Ratooning ability (speed and reliability):** Rapid and reliable

#### REACTION TO DISEASES & PESTS

**Smut:** Intermediate

**Mosaic:** Intermediate

**RSD:** Intermediate-susceptible

**Rust:** Resistant

**Leaf scald:** Resistant

**Red rot:** Intermediate

**Nematodes:** Susceptible

**Eldana:** Intermediate-resistant

#### REACTION TO WATER STRESS

**Growth during severe water stress:** Poor - intolerant of drought conditions

**Recovery after water stress:** Poor

**Ratooning after drought:** Moderate

**Poorly drained soils:** Tolerant

**Salinity tolerance:** Moderately 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):** Yes

**Gallant Super:** No data

**Tandem (Ethephon + Fusilade Forte):** No data

**HARVESTING**

**Best months:** Jul-Oct

**BEST FEATURES**

*N28 has erect, straight stalks at harvest (good payloads). It is tolerant of waterlogging.*

**LIMITING FEATURES**

*Yields of N28 are generally poor in comparison to other irrigated varieties. Avoid carrying over in severe stress conditions and in areas where eldana is a problem.*



## Identification Guide

**HABIT AND GENERAL APPEARANCE**

An erect variety that has a fairly high stalk population and a canopy of erect, dark green leaves. The leaf sheath and stalk, when exposed, are purple in colour.

**LEAF**

**Blade:** medium width, erect, dark green, often with a bent leaf tip.

**Sheath:** green, with the edges of the sheath sometimes purplish. A fair amount of wax bloom present. The entire sheath turns to purple on exposure. Sheath is purplish on the inside of the base. A few hairs usually present. Trash comes away easily.

**Collar:** medium to broad, purplish.

**Auricle:** fairly broad and pointed, present on one side only.

**STALK****Internode**

Medium diameter, yellowish-green, often with sooty dark patches. Turns dark purple on exposure where the trash does not cover the stalk. Corky markings sometimes present. Under some growing conditions, cracks or splits can occur.

**Wax band:** narrow to medium, fairly distinct.

**Bud furrow:** absent.

**Node**

**Growth ring:** yellowish-green, can be fairly indistinct. On the lower portion of the stalk, the growth ring is sometimes partly orange in colour.

**Root band:** light yellow, fairly broad.

**Sheath scar:** protruding slightly just below the bud.

**Bud:** small to medium, round, protruding or slightly swollen. Young buds can be brownish in colour.

**Flange:** narrow, sometimes with a purplish colouring at the apex. The flange does not reach the growth ring.