



Information Sheet

13. VARIETIES

13.51 Variety N66

Parents: 90H0482 x 91H0508

Selected at Bruyns Hill research station and tested at the advanced variety stage in three trials on humic soils (one trial on Bruyns Hill research station and two trials on grower co-operator farms), and three trials on sandy soils (one trial on Glenside research station and two trials on grower co-operator farms). Results are from the plant, first and second ratoon crops.

Recommended for planting in humic soils on a longer cutting cycle of 18 to 24 months in the rainfed high altitude/Midlands regions.

BEST FEATURES

Good eldana, smut and mosaic resistance. High cane and RV yields in humic soils on a longer cutting cycle of 18 to 24 months. Good millability characteristics.

LIMITING FEATURES

Not suitable for planting in sandy soils.

YIELD AND QUALITY

Tons RV	121% of N16, 113% of N12, 106% of N52 in humic soils 97% of N12, 85% of N52 in sandy soils
Cane yield	113% of N16, 110% of N12, 90% of N52 in humic soils 102% of N12, 79% of N52 in sandy soils
RV content	110% of N16, 105% of N12, 119% of N52 in humic soils 101% of N12, 108% of N52 in sandy soils
Fibre content	112% of N12; 119% of N16, 102% of N52
Purity	101% of N12; 103% of N16, 102% of N52

Yield and quality data from Midlands humic soils where the variety is recommended for harvest on a longer cutting cycle of 18 to 24 months.

REACTION TO DISEASES AND PESTS

Smut	Intermediate resistant
Mosaic	Resistant
Brown rust	Intermediate resistant
Tawny rust	Resistant
Eldana	Resistant

AGRONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Germination	Good
Stalk Population	99% of N12
Stalk Height	119% of N12
Stalk diameter	95% of N12
Canopy	Fast
Flowering	Low
Lodging	Average
Ratooning	Good

MILLING CHARACTERISTICS

Colour	Low colour value (< 10 000 ICUMSA), less than NCo376
Processability	Acceptable density (< 300 kg/m ³). Percolation rate not determined.

IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

Habit and General Appearance

Upright growth structure, slightly open growth habit, good population, purplish and waxy leaf sheath are quite distinct.

Leaf

Blade: Erect leaves bending near the tip. Medium width. No markings.

Sheath: Medium adherence to the stalk. Light green colour with a purple tinge. Waxy. Slight short spiny hairs present.

Collar: Darker green than the rest of the leaf, medium width.

Auricle: Present on both sides, has hairs, very short but the underlapping side is bigger.

Stalk

Internode:

Cylindrical in shape, yellow green colour but grey brown when exposed to the sun. There is a slight zigzag alignment. Some corky markings present.

Wax Band: Distinct and narrow, medium wax.

Bud Furrow: Present but short and shallow.

Node:

Growth Ring: Distinct, flat and darker than the rest of the stalk, runs behind the bud.

Root Band: Narrow band, raised primordia with darker centres mostly in 2 rows.

Sheath scar: Distinct, slight protrusion, slight curve below the bud.

Bud: Round in shape, tip extends over the growth ring, younger buds are ovate.

Flange: Narrow and distinct, has a bit darker colour.



Compiled by Marvellous Zhou (Senior Plant Breeder)
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