



Information Sheet

2006

13. VARIETIES

13.9 **Variety N22**

INTRODUCTION

N22 should only be planted in high potential soils and with reliable irrigation. Best harvested mid-season and is extremely useful for planting in areas some distance from the mill. Due to its erect habit N22 has good potential for mechanical harvesting.

Origin: SASRI, South Africa

Year of release: 1991

Variety Code: 79F1321

Parentage: 70E0469 x N52/219

CANE QUALITY & YIELD

Tons RV: Slightly better than N14 when cut very early in the season in good irrigated conditions (103%N14 early). Inferior when stressed. Best yields obtained early season, poor yields obtained in the late season.

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

RV content: Highest early in the season. Average is 109%N14, 100%N19, 112%NCo376.

Fibre content: Moderate (99%N14, 94%N19, 94%NCo376)

Purity: High

Fibre:sucrose ratio: Low

Non-sucrose:sucrose ratio: Low

AGRONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Germination (speed and reliability): Rapid and reliable

Stalk population (at harvest): High: 129 000/ha

Stalk mass (at harvest): Medium

Stalk height (at harvest): Average

Stalk elongation: Moderately rapid

Canopy formation: Rapid

Flowering: Sparse

Lodging: Erect

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

REACTION TO DISEASES & PESTS

Smut: Highly resistant

Mosaic: Resistant

RSD: Susceptible to infection, but yield losses are low

Rust: Resistant

Leaf scald: Highly resistant

Eldana: Intermediate-susceptible

REACTION TO WATER STRESS

Growth during severe water stress: Poor

Recovery after water stress: Poor

Ratooning after drought: Poor

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): Yes (marginal gains)

HARVESTING

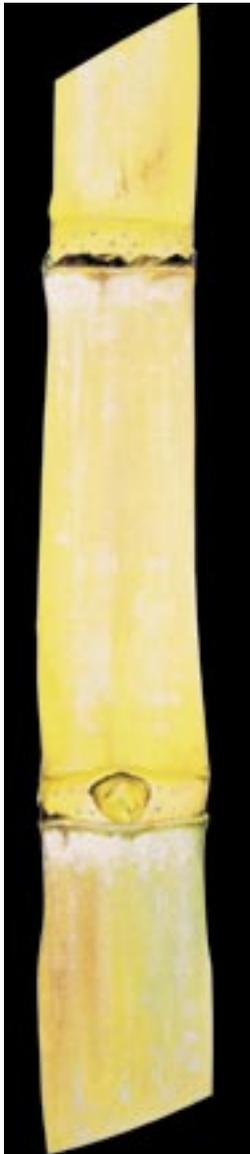
Best months: Apr-Aug

BEST FEATURES

N22 has a good resistance to diseases. It has a high sucrose content. N22 is resistant to lodging and loads well. Good truck weights are achieved with this variety.

LIMITING FEATURES

N22 is highly intolerant of stressed conditions and requires a reliable irrigation system. Avoid carrying over in severe stress conditions and in areas where eldana is a problem. Poor cane yields achieved when harvesting late season.



Identification Guide

HABIT AND GENERAL APPEARANCE

A shortish, erect variety with a fairly low population and a canopy of dark green, erect leaves. A lot of trash present below the canopy in older cane, which gives it an untidy appearance. Leaves are quick to respond to moisture stress, and sometimes have a wilted appearance in the heat of the day.

LEAF

Blade: medium to broad in width; dark green; fairly erect.

Sheath: green at the top, turning to purplish lower down. At the base of the younger sheaths there is a yellowish-green line. However, overall appearance is purplish. Hairs present.

Collar: medium width; indistinct greenish-brown.

Auricle: long, pointed and always present.

STALK**Internode**

Fairly short, thickish internodes which can be slightly staggered; pinkish, sometimes with corky markings, turning purple on exposure. Fair amount of wax bloom.

Wax band: distinct in the young internodes, but blending in with the general wax bloom in older stalks.

Bud furrow: absent.

Node

Growth ring: slightly raised, varying from green to yellow.

Root band: yellowish; medium in width; sometimes narrowing opposite the bud.

Sheath scar: slightly raised opposite the bud.

Bud: medium sized and round.

Flange: narrow to medium; brownish on the older buds.