



Information Sheet

13. VARIETIES

13.46 Variety N61

Parents: 85H0605 x MOH (Males Only of parents from Humic soils).

Selected at Bruyns Hill Research Station and tested at the advanced variety stage in three trials in sandy soils at Glenside Research Station and in off-station trials and three trials in humic soils at Bruyns Hill Research Station and off-station trials from 2007 to 2013. Results are from the plant, first and second ratoon crops.

Recommended for planting in sandy soils on a 20 – 24 month harvesting cycle in the southern high altitude rainfed regions only, including Eston, Noodsberg, Entumeni, Melmoth, Harding and High Flats.

BEST FEATURES

Good general pest and disease resistance. Resistant to mosaic and Intermediate Resistant to eldana. High cane and RV yields in sandy soils.

LIMITING FEATURES

Prone to lodging. Intermediate Susceptible to smut.

YIELD AND QUALITY

Tons RV	126% of N31, 147% of N12 in sandy soils; 114% of N16, 118% of N12; 101% of N37 in humic soils
Cane yield	110% of N31, 133% of N12 in sandy soils; 101% of N16, 106% of N12; 99% of N37 in humic soils
RV content	113% of N31, 110% of N12 in sandy soils; 114% of N16, 110% of N12; 102% of N37 in humic soils
Fibre content	92% of N31; 97% of N16
Purity	102% of N31; 102% of N16

Yield and quality data from humic and sandy soils on a 24 month cutting cycle.

REACTION TO DISEASES AND PESTS

Smut	Intermediate susceptible
Mosaic	Resistant
Rust	Resistant
Leaf scald	Resistant
Eldana	Intermediate resistant

AGRONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

Germination	Good
Stalk Population	Medium, 92% of N31
Stalk Height	Tall (similar to N31)
Stalk diameter	Thick (106% of N31)
Canopy	Good
Flowering	Low
Lodging	Prone to lodging
Ratooning	Good

MILLING CHARACTERISTICS

Colour	Good colour - 69% lower colour than N12 (high colour variety) and 40% lower colour than NCo376 (medium colour variety)
Processability	5% higher percolation rate than NCo376, similar density and DRI values to N12 and NCo376.

N61 has similar processability to NCo376, indicating adequate millability.

IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

HABITAT AND GENERAL APPEARANCE

A medium population variety with thick stalks with an erect growth habit but is prone to lodging. It is a high yielding variety with high RV yields in the sandy soils, it has good germination and good canopy.

LEAF

Blade: Medium width, erect and dark green with no marks

Sheath: Yellow Green

Collar: Yellowish green, very distinctive

Auricle: Small triangular-like, present only on one side

STALK

Internode

The internodes are long and have a cylindrical shape and are yellow green in colour, they sometimes have a purple tinge when exposed to sun.

Wax Band: Not well defined

Bud Furrow: Absent

Node

Growth Ring: Raised or slight protrusion with a distinctive colour.

Root Band: Slightly lighter than the rest of the stalk and it has medium to narrow width 2 rows of primordia

Sheath scar: Protruding and dips below the bud slightly.

Bud: Relatively small ovate shaped bud that is within the growth ring

Flange: Present with brownish colour on the top part of the bud.



Compiled by Marvellous Zhou (*Senior Plant Breeder*)
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